

BUCKLAND NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, 12 June 2012 at 8.00 pm in the Parish Room

Present: Chair - Nicki Barker, Mark Hammick, Rodney Cuff, John Baker, Lin Townsend, Chris Osmond, Andy Foot
Clerk: Vanessa Wellstead (VW)

Item	Detail	Action
1.	Apologies: Trevor Marpole, Mark Needham County Councillor: Jill Haynes District Councillor: Jacqui Cuff	
2.	Declarations of Interest: 1. Cllr Baker re: Court Farm item 3.2 Cllr Baker re: Land at Overdale item 5.2 Cllr Cuff re: Invoice item 6.1	
3.	Democratic Half Hour 1. Charlie Gorton was not present at the meeting but had sent an email to the Parish Council to ask why they had not organised an event for the Jubilee and also why more was not done to encourage people to attend meetings. Cllr Marpole had sent an email back to address these issues explaining that the Parish Council do not usually organise village events and with regard to attendance at Parish meetings he pointed out that notices are put up in the village and often the date is advertised in the LVN. The Parish Council would be very happy for more local people to attend meetings. Mr Gorton had also asked for copies of the Parish Council accounts for the last four years which the clerk had duly given to him. 2. Cllr Baker wished to provide the Parish Council with an update on the whole farm planning application for Court Farm. The application was due to be brought before the Development Control Committee on the 21 June 2012 and unfortunately had been recommended for refusal. The Parish Council felt very strongly that after 12 months of negotiations between all parties involved, a solution should have been found to the protracted planning issues at Court Farm. The Councillors agreed to write a letter to the Chairman of the Development Control Committee to declare their support of a solution to the planning situation at Court Farm despite the recommendation of the Case Officer. <i>Proposed MH Seconded RC AIF</i> <i>Parish Clerk to send email to Chairman prior to committee meeting.</i> <i>N.B. Since the Parish Council meeting the recommendation was changed from refusal to deferral.</i>	
4.	Minutes of Last Meeting held 15th May : Passed Agreed & Signed	
5.	Planning Applications: 1. 1/D/12/000540 Lyons Head Farmhouse, Cosmore Agricultural Building <i>Letter for info</i> 2. 1/D/11/000751 Land at Overdale, Buckland Newton Dwelling <i>Letter for Info</i> 3. 1/D/12/000381 Gayle, Woolfords Water, Buckland Newton Demolish garage and erect two storey side extension. Variation to implemented approval 1/N/03/001628 to increase width of two storey extension. <i>Approval of Planning Permission</i>	

4.	<p>1/D/12/000596 The Rectory, Buckland Newton Demolish existing building and erect replacement dwelling in accordance with previous application 1/D/10/002078 <i>Parish Council – Support Application</i></p>	
6.	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>1. Following invoice agreed for payment Rodney Cuff £565.00 Noticeboard/Cycle Rack and Grass Cutting <i>Proposed CO Seconded AF AIF</i></p> <p>2. Annual Audit for year ending 31st March 2012 agreed and signed. <i>Proposed RC Seconded JB AIF</i></p> <p>3. Parish Clerk to arrange transfer of £1300 from the current a/c to the reserve a/c to replenish some of Sir William Aykroyd’s legacy funds used for the path and the Parish Room refurbishment. <i>Proposed AF Seconded LT AIF</i></p> <p>4. Please see attached explanation of the Parish Council’s finances.</p>	
7.	<p>Play Area/Recreation Ground</p> <p>1. ROSPA carried out an inspection of the children’s play area in May and will be sending a report in the next couple of weeks.</p>	
8.	<p>Post Office</p> <p>1. The Parish Clerk had sent a further email to Laura Tarling at the Post Office regarding the ongoing issues with the Outreach Service.</p>	
9.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>1. The Working Group has compiled a questionnaire which will be distributed later in the year with the first public consultation planned for September. The Parish Council is happy for the Working Group to take the Neighbourhood Plan through to the next stage of consultation. <i>Proposed AF Seconded CO AIF</i></p> <p>2. The Parish Councillors expressed their appreciation for all the work carried out by John Baker, as team leader, and all the other active members of the Community Plan Working Group.</p>	
10.	<p>Highways</p> <p>1. Several broken fingerposts had been noticed around the Parish. Cllr Foot pointed out that the AONB could be a source of timber and lettering should the Parish Council be required to organize a repair.</p> <p>2. A stretch of road between Sharnhill Green and Brockhampton is badly subsiding and needs repairing.</p> <p>3. The drains need clearing in Locketts Lane and Hilling Lane. <i>Parish Clerk to report to Highways</i></p>	
11.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>1. Audit Commission Consultation – <i>Parish Council happy to stay with BDO</i></p> <p>2. WDDC – Gambling Policy</p> <p>3. WDDC – Local Plan Draft Consultation – <i>To be discussed at July’s meeting</i></p> <p>4. Dorset Area Community Partnership – Lengthsman Scheme – <i>The Parish Council agreed that as all the suggested works are currently carried out by other parties, there is no need to employ the services of a lengthsman.</i></p>	

<p>12.</p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	<p>Other Matters/Items for Agenda of Next Meeting</p> <p>A new Code of Conduct has been drawn up, an example of which was in the DAPTC newsletter. The Parish Council felt that it applied more to District and County Councils and agreed to keep the existing Code of Conduct.</p> <p><i>Since the meeting the Parish Clerk has spoken to DAPTC who advised the Parish Council to adopt the new Code of Conduct as some of the items on the existing one do not comply with new regulations. To be included on the agenda for the July meeting.</i></p> <p>Cllr Foot to look into the current situation concerning Hountwell Pump.</p> <p>Due to a change in personal circumstances, Vanessa Wellstead has resigned as Parish Clerk but offered to stay on until the end of September to allow the Parish Council time to find a suitable replacement.</p> <p><i>Advert to be put in LVN</i></p>	

Next Meeting Thursday, 12th July 2012 at 8:00pm, Parish Room

The meeting was concluded at 9.40 pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Explanations of BNPC's Finances and important role Sir William Aykroyd's Legacy plays in keeping the Precept at a fixed level.

BNPC faces a number of unavoidable and routine expenses each year. These amount to approximately £5800 and are covered by the Precept raised via Council Tax. Routine expenses include:

Water Rates

Electricity

Upkeep and annual inspection of the Children's Play Area

Maintenance: fences/hedges/bus shelter

Grass cutting of the Parish Field and Pound (now excludes the Churchyard)

Public Liability and buildings Insurance

DAPTC Subscription

Audit Fees

Clerk's Salary.

For all capital projects and unforeseen expenses the council has the choice of either finding external funding/grants or raising the Precept. The Council has chosen the former route as it has a determination not to raise the Precept.

Just over a decade ago Sir William Aykroyd bequeathed a legacy of £10,000 to the Parish Council. A decision was made at that time that this bequest should be used prudently and not frittered away. It would be used strictly to enable projects that would make a significant difference to parishioners or provide a long term benefit to the village. To date its role has been invaluable in providing support funding that enabled us to acquire grants to renovate the Parish rooms for Outreach Post Office use and as a top up to the grant for the footpath across the playing field. We aim to replenish this legacy at the end of each financial year if there are funds available to enable us to do this.

Major projects over the last 4 years:

2008-2009	Refurbishment of Parish Rooms for use as an Outreach P.O.	£4,716
2009 – 2010	Footpath across Playing Field + Kissing Gate	£7,530
2010 – 2011	New Childrens Play Area	£49,619
2011 – 2012	New Gate Playing Field + repair Gate	£924
	2 Notice Boards	£720