

Minutes of a meeting of the **BUCKLAND MONACHORUM PARISH COUNCIL** held at **YELVERTON WAR MEMORIAL HALL** on **TUESDAY** the **24TH MARCH 2015** at **7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs R Cheadle (RC) (Chairman), S Challiss (SC) (Vice-Chairman), S Britton (SB), V Bolitho (VB), D Butland (DB) M Davis (MD), M Fowler (MF), L Larkin (LL), L Norton (LN), L Wood (LW), S Woollacott (SW)

In Attendance: Two residents of Crapstone (WDBC 'Our Plan' proposal for Yelverton Business Park)
Mrs D Ashton (Parish Clerk)

098/15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** None

099/15 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Challiss declared a non-pecuniary interest in any discussion relating to Yelverton Business Park during the WDBC 'Our Plan Consultation item as she was a neighbour of the business park.

100/15 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH FEB 2015**

There was a typo on p898 which should read as 'Not many sites have come forward in the parish to support a higher rate of development'. It was **AGREED** to correct the typo and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 2015.

101/15 **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF THE 25TH FEB AND 11TH MAR 2015** It was **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 25th February and 11th March 2015 without amendment.

102/15 **FINANCE**

The Clerk circulated a finance report to Members which included the recent bank reconciliation - **NOTED**. Cllr Cheadle had checked the latest bank transaction information and signed the bank reconciliation.

a) Payments and Receipts

It was **AGREED** to approve the following payments:

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Net £</u>
DD	NPower	Xmas tree lights supply - Mar 2015 monthly payment	5.00
DD	PWLB	Crapstone field loan	1,977.27
DD	PWLB	Cemetery extension loan	1,745.25
102007	Perfect Pastures	Yelv grounds maintenance Feb 2015	381.71
102008	MRB Gardening Services	BM grounds maintenance Feb 2015	1,000.00
102009	Clearbrook VH	Hall hire 25/02/2015	10.00
102010	Green Scheme	BM play area new log train	1,150.00
102011	DCC LGPS	Employee pension	205.42
102012	HMRC	NI contributions	30.46
102013	D Ashton	Clerk's net salary	721.61
102013	D Ashton	Council admin	146.71

Receipts (£) since the last meeting - **NOTED**:

Current a/c:	26/02/15	DC	1,181.81	HMRC VAT refund 01/10/2014 to 31/01/2015
	27/02/15	CHEQUE	500.00	ExRoB only - plot E5-11
Savings a/c:	26/02/15	CASH	93.00	Crapstone field rent - Mar 2015
	27/02/15	DC	1,504.50	DCC Highways - grass-cutting Yelv verges x 4
	05/03/15	DC	1,400.00	DCC PRoW - 2015-2016 P3 Grant
	06/03/15	DC	5.63	Interest
	26/02/15	CASH	93.00	Crapstone field rent - Mar 2015

b) Audit update:

- The Annual Return 2015 form has been received from the external auditor. Council needs to complete and approve sections 1 and 2 at the April 2015 meeting.

- The internal audit will take place on 2nd June 2015. The Internal auditor will complete section 4 of the Annual Return.
- The Annual Return with completed sections 1, 2 and 4 must be returned to the external auditor by 8th June 2015. The external auditor completes section 3.
- Statutory audit notices notifying parishioners of their rights will be posted in a public place within the parish in accordance with the external auditors' requirements.

103/15 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Butland reported the following:

- DALC meeting - items discussed included planning matters, local transport and a new awards scheme for local councils.
- The next Southern Parish Links Committee (SPLC) is on 26th March 2015 where WD TAP Fund applications will be discussed including BMPC's Lengthsman Project application. Gulworthy and Bere Ferrers PC have also submitted an application for a similar project. Council **AGREED** it was appropriate for this project to be supported at the SPLC meeting.
- No update on any WD TAP Fund Cllr training programme for 2015-2016.

104/15 WDBC 'OUR PLAN' CONSULTATION (ends 13th April 2015)

Members discussed this at length including discussion on the parish bus services and the many representations received from Crapstone residents on the proposal concerning Yelverton Business Park. Cllrs Challiss and Cheadle also reported on the WDBC public consultation event they attended.

Council **AGREED** to submit a response on the following four points:

1. **Neighbourhood Planning:**

A Buckland Monachorum parish Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is in the process of being prepared. As evidence is gathered on various parish aspects and strategies formulated to deal with them, there may be occasions where these contradict policies written into 'Our Plan'. It is not clear how such variances will be reconciled. Our Plan needs to set out the relationship between NPs and 'Our Plan' - the current wording (in 'Our Plan') that the two 'will sit alongside each other' fails to articulate their relationship.

2. **Yelverton Business Park:**

The statement that land at Crapstone 'is allocated for the expansion of the existing industrial estate' illustrates the concern expressed above. The NP is conducting an evidence gathering exercise to understand whether there is justification for expansion of the current business park. This may conclude that such expansion is either unwarranted or better placed elsewhere. 'Our Plan' fails to explain how such a variance will be managed.

3. **Managing Development without Boundaries:**

Council is concerned that the proposal that states that small developments will be considered on a 'case by case' basis yet 'must consider the cumulative impact of such development' is too ambiguous. An alternative approach, to retain settlement boundaries but extend them in a properly considered manner, would prevent such ambiguity and would allow local services to be developed alongside managed expansion.

4. **Transport Infrastructure:**

Although 'Our Plan' recognises the importance of good public services serving rural communities, this appears not to be reflected in the provision of such services within the parish where bus services to and from remote villages are being cut. The Parish Council would like to see a specific policy aimed at maintaining good transport links in isolated communities which link up with arterial routes rather than replicate these routes. An example illustrates the current situation - the Milton Combe to Yelverton / Buckland to Yelverton services are being cut yet services from these villages to Tavistock continue to be run when there are perfectly adequate services from Yelverton to Tavistock.

105/15 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP)

The Parish Ramble on 22nd March 2015 had been a success - 45 parishioners attended and the feedback from those attending will be used as evidence in the NP. The next event is the Housing Drop-in Day on 28th March 2015.

Not all of the second NP grant received in 2014-2015 has been spent by the deadline of 31st March 2015 which means the remaining monies need to be returned to the grant provider. There are two further evidence gathering projects which the NP group plans to carry out - a study on Yelverton Business Park to help determine if expansion is necessary and a study on surface water run-off which may affect Milton Combe and Buckland Monachorum village should land at Crapstone ever be developed.

106/15 DEVON ASSOCIATION FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY (DARE) - FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT UPDATE

The application to DARE for a grant to fund a community energy scheme feasibility study has been successful - the grant is in the region of £20k. DARE will also be at the Annual Parish Meeting to do a presentation on community energy schemes.

Cllr Fowler advised that St Andrew's school may be interested in being part of a community energy scheme - a solar panel would help reduce the costs of heating the school swimming pool.

Members discussed whether the might be an opportunity to include a biomass heating system to support the new development at Briar Tor.

107/15 BUS SERVICE 55/56

Members discussed at length the parish wide problem of public transport. Parishioners and Cllrs felt a 'figure of eight' bus service through the parish to Yelverton would be the best solution rather than parish bus services going to Tavistock.

108/15 PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARDS

Cllr Britton reported that the Clearbrook noticeboard has reached the point where it needs to be replaced - the pin board has deteriorated and is difficult to lock. It had been repaired once before several years ago but is beyond repair now. A like-for-like replacement will cost in the region of £200 to £300 - it was **AGREED** to purchase a new noticeboard from the capital budget. The Clerk will investigate whether a grant is available to support the funding of a new one.

109/15 BMPC COMMUNICATIONS

- The Parish Council's Facebook page continues to do well.
- Agreed articles for the next edition of Moorlinks:
 - Community Energy - Council obtaining a grant to fund a feasibility study into whether a community energy scheme would be possible in the parish.
 - Plastic in the cemetery.
 - Neighbourhood Plan update.
- It was **AGREED** for Miscellany to be published in October/November 2015. No comments have been received from parishioners on the once-a-year publication. A status report for the Neighbourhood Plan will be prepared for this edition.

110/15 GENERAL PURPOSES

- a) **Dog Fouling:** The spray continues to be a success - use of the spray appears to be well supported and there has been a marked difference. It was **AGREED** to purchase another six cans of spray (in a different colour is possible).
- b) **Grounds Maintenance:** The existing contractor has sent an update on his final work under the 2014-2105 Buckland Monachorum Grounds Maintenance Contract. The new contractor is due to inspect the areas at the beginning of April to determine when to schedule in his first cut. It was **AGREED** to arrange a General Purposes site meeting with the new contractor once he has started and to also look at the other large hedge in the old part of the cemetery.
- c) **Yelverton Roundabout Tree:** Clerk to check is quote from Mike Broughton of £120 includes root removal. Clerk to also check with DCC Highways on whether they will permit removal of the tree - no permission is required from DNPA.
- d) **Parish Meadow Picnic Benches:** £40 was raised at the last Buckland Monachorum Village Hall coffee morning (£25 donated by Dartmoor Bakery who had a table there and £15 from a 'count the bean' run by Cllr Woollacott). The Buckland Monachorum Playgroup is planning to have a fund-raising 'toddle-in egg and spoon' race in the Parish Meadow at some point to help raise money for the benches. For two recycled plastic benches from Green Scheme, the cost will be £800. When the community has raised money for one bench, BMPC will be able to apply for a grant to purchase the other bench. The Summer Fair will provide another fundraising opportunity.

e) Play park matters and inspections:

- Inspection forms have been sent out to Cllrs as per the rota. There were no items of concern from Cllrs who had carried out an inspection since the last meeting.
- Cllr Cheadle reported that Council is able to apply for another 'Awards for All' grant but it has to be for a different project. For Buckland Monachorum play area, that would mean play kit for a different age group. A quote from Green Scheme for kit (skateboarding) suitable for older children (10/11+ yo) had been received - £6000. Members discussed what other items should be included. Cllr Cheadle will ask Green Scheme to prepare another quote which included a recycled plastic rainbow picnic bench and a MUGA to replace the old goalpost.

f) Cemetery:

- i) Interments and memorial works - as listed in the table of monies received since the last meeting.
- ii) Cemetery extension - no matters to discuss.
- iii) Green burials - nothing further to report.

111/15 YELVERTON PATHS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Cllr Woollacott reported that the traffic island at Yelverton roundabout on Dousland Road is in the process of being upgraded. The path network to be installed as part of the Briar Tor development is an ongoing matter.

112/15 HIGHWAY MATTERS AND REPORTS OF MINOR REPAIRS

Cllr Larkin is liaising with Buckland Abbey and Devon County Council with regard to the drain outside Buckland Abbey.

113/15 REPORT ON PARISH PATHS (P3) AND OTHER FOOTPATH MATTERS

There a number of footpath diversions in place at the moment. No other problems to report.

114/15 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

The following list of correspondence was **NOTED**:

- 1) WDBC Notice of local elections (to go up around the parish on 25th March)
- 2) WDBC Southern Parishes Link Committee Agenda and Notes
- 3) DNPA TC and PC 11th March Workshop notes and follow-up letter
- 4) Devon Communities Together - Village Green newsletter summer 2015
- 5) D&C Police and Crime Commissioner monthly report
- 6) National Plant Monitoring Survey
- 7) DALC Newsletter Mar 2015
- 8) Various e-newsletters

The majority of the correspondence listed above, where e-mails have been received, are forwarded to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.

115/15 ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

- Cllr Fowler reported an increase in speeding cars and motorcycles on the A386.
- There is an event in Tavistock for the public to meet parliamentary candidates.

116/15 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Litter picking, cycling and signage at Yelverton Roundabout.

117/15 FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Wed 8th Apr: Planning Committee meeting at 6.45pm followed by the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** at 7.30pm at Clearbrook Village Hall
- Tues 28th Apr: Planning Committee meeting at 7.00pm followed by a meeting of Full Council at 7.30pm at Yelverton War Memorial Hall (Committee Room) - **LAST MEETING OF COUNCIL PRIOR TO PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS**
- Tues 19th May: **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** at 7.00pm at Clearbrook Village Hall - **FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWLY ELECTED PARISH COUNCIL** - this meeting will **INCLUDE** consideration of any planning applications received since the 28th April meeting).

The meeting closed at 8.55pm