

# BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Buckland Parish Council was duly convened and held in the Reading Room on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 8 pm.

**Present:** Councillor Husband (Chairman), Councillors Copeland, Dart, Longstaff and the clerk. Also present part time were District Councillor Paul Potter; PC Dominic Loraine, PCSO Aimee Lucas; PCSO Ivor Williams and parishioners Mary Carr and Alan Pryor.

## 1. **Apologies**

Councillors Day and Horden had tendered apologies, in both cases due to work commitments and Councillor Eisinger had tendered apologies, due to a family commitment.

## 2. **Declarations of interest**

Councillor Copeland declared an interest, as a friend and neighbour, in the planning applications related to Walwyns, Reigate Road.

## 3. **Community Police Report**

PC Loraine delivered a report of six crimes during the period from 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 to 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Three thefts relating to generator cables were reported and one theft of box plants and pots; one communications offence relating to the receipt of abusive emails and calls and a drink driving offence.

PC Loraine advised that any claim for damage caused to the granite setts alongside the village green would be considered a civil matter and need to be taken up directly with the persons responsible for the recent parking of a JCB off the public highway.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.10pm to allow time for questions from and a discussion with parishioners in relation to planning application MO/2010/0847/SCC. The meeting was reconvened 8.30pm. The application is minuted within item 6, as per the Agenda.

## 4. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th May 2010, were approved and duly signed by the Chairman as true and correct.

## 5. **Matters arising**

The clerk's suggestion that a copy of each "Parish Update", published on the Parish pages of the Village website and displayed on the Parish Notice Board since the last Council meeting, be appended to the minutes was accepted.

## 6. Planning and Highways

### Planning

#### **Park Pit and Tapwood Quarry**

Papers relating to planning application MO/2010/0847/SCC, including a paper copy of the planning application, had been received on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010 from Surrey County Council (“SCC”).

The planning application, which relates to operations at Park Pit and Tapwood Quarry proposes:

The continued extraction and processing of silica sand and transportation off site of sand, an amended interim restoration scheme for Park Pit, an amended programme of working for Tapwood Quarry, an amended dust action plan and dust management scheme, an amended groundwater monitoring scheme; and an amended restoration and aftercare scheme at Buckland Pits (Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit) until 31 August 2014 with restoration to water based recreation, woodland and grazing by 31 August 2015 without compliance with Conditions 3, 4, 16, 17, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 42 of planning permission ref: MO/98/1549 dated 27 May 1999; and the installation of a new slurry plant at Tapwood Quarry.

SCC had advised a statutory consultation period of 21 days will apply to this proposal, as set out in the SCC General Development Procedure Order and in the SCC Statement of Community Involvement. The letter received from SCC stated that unless a response is received by 11 August 2010, it will be assumed the Parish Council has no objection to the proposal.

From an initial conversation with the case officer at SCC, the clerk advised that:

- when a planning application is submitted with an Environmental Statement (as has occurred in this instance), the County Planning Authority has a 16 week determination period, which suggests a decision from SCC is unlikely to emerge before the latter part of October;
- notwithstanding the timeline for determination the need for a response within the 21 day consultation period was emphasised;
- there is an acknowledgement that the timetable associated with this application and, in particular the fact that the consultation period is falling within the peak holiday period is unfortunate;
- it is the clerk’s understanding that if, prior to the determination date, Buckland residents raise concerns / ask questions about the application that are not covered by the Parish Council’s initial response, then provided the Council promptly submits such supplementary feedback to SCC the team will consider the points raised as part of their review process.

**Action:** It was agreed that a Planning Committee be formed, to consist of Councillors Husband, Longstaff and Copeland to act under delegated authority of the Council to review planning application MO/2010/0847/SCC; liaise, as considered appropriate, with relevant third parties; to provide an opportunity for local residents to have input to the Council on this application and to submit responses (to include an initial response by 11 August 2010) to the SCC case officer.

### **Three further applications were noted:**

MO/2010/0743/ECL: Certificate of lawfulness for an existing use in respect of the use of the north-east of the property as a residential garden at Walwyns, Reigate Road, Buckland, Surrey. RH3 7BG. **No comment.**

MO/2010/0785/ECL: Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed development in respect of the erection of a summerhouse Walwyns, Reigate Road, Buckland, Surrey. RH3 7BG. **No action to take.**

MO/2010/0881/PLAH: Erection of detached single garage in front of property, following demolition of existing at Bramley Lodge, Reigate Road, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey. RH3 7EB. **No comment.**

### **Two decisions were noted:**

MO/2010/0469/PLAH: Erection of timber framed double garage at Stonecrop, Rectory Lane, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey, RH3 7BL. **Approved with conditions.**

MO/2010/0652/PLAH: Provision of timber decking at rear of Woodlands, Old Road, Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey. RH3 7DU. **Approved with conditions.**

### **Network Rail**

Network Rail had written to inform the Council of their plans to roll out a nationwide Network Communications System to allow direct and continuous communication between drivers and signallers. To ensure 100% coverage Network Rail plan to install a network of communications masts and, to ease installation, require a readily available source of power at each installation site.

Network Rail has proposed a site adjacent to the railway bridge in Lawrence Lane and stated that planning permission is not required as an initiative to increase safety will fall within the definition of a Permitted Development. Notwithstanding, their planners are currently consulting MVDC.

Our District Councillors, who also received advance notification, have distributed copies of the information to residents in Lawrence Lane. The clerk has requested support from the Betchworth and Buckland Society and drawn the proposal to the attention of Betchworth Parish Council, mindful that some Betchworth residents living along Pebble Hill Road may find the mast in their line of sight.

**Action:** Clerk to write a letter to Network Rail to draw attention to the tranquillity of the proposed location, the open lie of the land, the lack of natural screening and the close proximity of the proposed site to local residents and to therefore question whether sufficient consideration has been given to alternative sites in the locality.

### **Highways**

**The Junction between Tranquil Dale and the A25 and encompassing the entrance off Tranquil Dale into the Shell petrol station (“Tranquil Dale Junction”)**

Lorraine Lambert, a resident in Tranquil Dale had asked the Parish Council to consider her request for thought to be given to making the Tranquil Dale Junction safer.

While Surrey Police acknowledge the current configuration of Tranquil Dale Junction is not ideal, they consider it is workable, even for larger vehicles, with an appropriate level of driver diligence.

The Highways team at Surrey County Council had advised that while they are sympathetic to the concerns of residents in Tranquil Dale, there are no plans to review the layout of Tranquil Dale Junction further at this time.

In light of the feedback from Surrey Police and Surrey Highways, the clerk has asked Surrey Highways to review the state of the road surface and road markings at Tranquil Dale Junction.

**Action:** Clerk to reply to Lorraine Lambert to share feedback once a response to the latest request has been received from Surrey Highways.

### **Pebble Hills uphill closure**

EDF has requested a one way closure of Pebble Hill Road in connection with works to further progress the upgrading of the electricity supply to Headley Court. Approval for an uphill closure is expected to be announced shortly in local newspapers.

## **7. Village Amenities**

### **Village Pond**

The driest start to a year for over 60 years, and the recent extended spell of extremely warm, dry weather led to seriously depleted water levels in the pond. The clerk advised that on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July she had approached Graham Tucker, who manages operations at Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit for some assistance. Less than 48 hours later, Graham had responded to our request; arranging a full day's hire of a tanker and driver to transfer water from Park Pit to the pond and funding of the hire charges.

**Action:** Clerk to write to Graham Tucker to express the Council's appreciation for the assistance provided.

The clerk confirmed that on Sunday 3 October 2010, Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers will be available to guide and assist residents in undertaking the annual Pond Clearance and advised that Councillor Horden had initiated preparations for the event.

### **Village Green**

Damage to the granite setts, installed alongside the village green, has recently become apparent. Taking into account input from Surrey Police (refer to above Community Police Report) an approach to the operator of the JCB recently observed parking on the green will need to be made. **Action:** Clerk to contact the operator of the JCB.

### **Bus shelter**

After a short discussion about the relative merits of cedar shingles and clay tiles as materials for re-roofing the bus shelter, it was agreed that quotes obtained should specify cedar shingles. **Action:** Councillor Husband indicated an intention to table quotes for materials and labour at the September meeting.

## 8. Village Plan

Discussion was deferred to the September meeting.

## 9. Finance

### Bank Account

The decision was taken to establish new banking arrangements, with the Dorking branch of HSBC Bank plc. The mandate form for a Community Account was completed and the clerk authorised to deliver the completed form to HSBC. **Action:** Councillors to visit HSBC to complete identity checks as soon as practicable.

The decision was taken to terminate banking arrangements with the Reigate branch of NatWest Bank plc. A letter to the bank was reviewed and approved. **Action:** the clerk to deliver a duly signed copy of the letter to the NatWest.

### Accounts for payment

J R Morris: No: 100001, £650, for grass cutting on the Green. Proposed Councillor Husband; seconded Councillor Longstaff.

Sheena Boyce: No: 100002, Clerk's salary £253.75, expenses £74.22, total £327.97. Proposed Councillor Husband; seconded Councillor Longstaff.

SCAPTC: £79.25, No: 100003, Parish Council membership of the National Association of Local Councils through its Surrey Branch for the remainder of the 2010\_11 financial year. Proposed Councillor Husband; seconded Councillor Longstaff.

SLCC: £168.00, No: 100004, Twelve month membership for the clerk, training pack for newly appointed clerks and a copy of Local Council Administration, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. Proposed Councillor Husband; seconded Councillor Longstaff.

It was agreed that the above payments should be made using cheques drawn on the newly established HSBC Bank Account. Accordingly the Council instructed the Clerk to obtain signatures from any two of Councillors Husband, Longstaff, Copeland and Dart to effect payment of the above approved payments upon receipt of the new chequebook.

## 10. Correspondence

Information concerning the consultation on "The Plan for Waste Management in Surrey", with a link to the consultation portal was circulated to Councillors on 25 May 2010. **Action:** Councillor Husband to submit a response, on behalf of the Council, ahead of the 12 August 2010 deadline.

The Sussex Community Rail Partnerships ("CRP") scheme recently proposed a Redhill to Reading CRP and Shere Parish Council has agreed to co-ordinate the involvement of Parishes along this railway line. Papers setting out a rationale for establishing a CRP had been circulated to councillors and electronic copies of the Sussex CRP Business Plan made available. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with Lesley Childs, the Clerk to Shere Parish Council to register the Council's interest in joining the proposed Redhill to Guildford CRP.

Surrey County Council (“SCC”) has advised that the Surrey Minerals Plan documents have been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination. These documents incorporate feedback gathered following their publication for consultation in November 2009. The Parish Council, having made representations during the consultations, will be advised when the public hearings start. It is currently anticipated that a public hearing into the core strategy will start in October 2010 and into subsequent public hearing into the primary aggregates in early 2011. If both are considered sound SCC will adopt them as soon as possible in 2011.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July, a young film producer filmed a scene for his latest short film project on Buckland Green. The UK Film Council had provided a grant of lottery money to fund the 12 minute drama and a token donation to Parish funds has been received.

Gatwick Area Conservation Committee (“GACC”) has advised their AGM will be held on Friday, 12 November at 7.30 pm at the Gatwick Manor Hotel, Crawley. Mr Henry Smith, the new Member of Parliament for Crawley, and former Leader of West Sussex County Council will be the guest speaker. The Parish Council is invited to send a representative. **Action:** Councillors to advise the Clerk if they plan to attend.

It was noted that SCC had formally advised that Brockham School and the Acorns Infant (Federal) School will amalgamate to form a split site primary school from September 2010.

#### 11. **Reports from Representatives**

It was agreed to defer feedback to the September meeting.

#### 12. **Dates of forthcoming meetings**

The Parish Council confirmed meetings will be held in the Reading Room on the following Monday evenings at 8pm:

- 20 September 2010
- 15 November 2010
- 17 January 2011
- 21 March 2011

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10pm.

**Sheena Boyce, Clerk**

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