BUCKLAND FILLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Community Day Centre, West Heanton

Thursday 13th January 2022, 7.30pm

Present, Cllr Pett (Chair) Cllr Bond (Vic Chair) Cllr Balsdon, Cllr Salter, Selina Woollacott (Clerk)

1. Apologies, PSCO Baker, District Cllr Wiseman, County Cllr Saywell, Cllr Nethacott.

2. Declarations of interest

2.1) Councillors are reminded of the need to keep their Register of Members' Interests forms up to date.

2.2) To declare interests in matters on the agenda. None.

3. Open Session for members of the public to speak.

3.1) Discussion of matters raised by members of the public. No members of the public present.

4. Reports

4.1) Report from County Councillor,

DCC Update from Cllr Andrew Saywell

Dear Councillors – sorry I cannot be with you this evening. It was relatively 'quiet' over the Christmas period so a short report this month.

Covid update

The national picture is one of an increasing number of people testing positive. In Devon we are below the national average with 1,132 per 100,000 infections (1,695 for England).

This wave is adopting a similar pattern as the previous wave, starting in London then going North East/West then coming down the South West so we will be 2-3 weeks behind the peak of London.

The good thing for us is it gives more time to get people vaccinated! Rates are going up in all Devon Districts and being driven in younger working adults (20-39yrs). The Public Health Team expect to see a rise in school age children now they are back at school so a rise in rates will continue over the coming weeks.

Hospital rates however are only slowly rising with 179 within Devon, and in North Devon just 7 patients at the start of this week, which has remained fairly stable.

The key public health messages remain the same; get vaccinated, lateral flow test regularly, hands face space.

There is now a change in policy, if you have no symptoms and test positive via LFT you need to isolate, you do not get a PCR anymore. If you test negative on day 5 and day 6 you no longer need to isolate.

If you have symptoms, then you need to isolate and get a PCR test.

Non Covid Matters

Budget Preparations – The main work this coming month is around Budget preparation for the next financial year. The Cabinet has set target budgets and draft budgets will shortly be going to the Scrutiny Committees for examination and feedback. There will be an uplift in overall funding for Children's and Adult Social Care services, along with a small increase for Highways, but it is likely to be a tight budget overall. Final approval will take place in February.

4.2) Report from Councillor Wiseman, No report.

4.3) Report from PCSO Baker. PCSO Baker sent a report, Councillors asked for more information. The report has 1 recorded crime for 01/11/2021 - 31/12/2021 listed as All Other Theft Offences. Clerk to ask for more information.

5. Approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2021. Minutes were sent out to all Councillors prior to the meeting. All Councillors agreed the minutes are correct. Minutes signed by Cllr Pett.

6. Urgent matters raised by the Chairperson which are not included in the agenda. The road at West Lodge is getting very bad due to surface water flowing down the hill. The drains and ditch need looking at. Clerk to take photos and report.

7. Finance

7.1) Bank Account Balance, At the 5th January 2022 the account balance is £11,971.30 all chq written out have been presented. £1,000 of this amount is for the bench.

7.2) Chq for the Clerk, £59.99 Microsoft 365 1 year subscription. All Councillors agreed, chq signed.

7.3) Citizen Advice grant request. Clerk read out the letter from the Citizen Advice, Councillors agreed it is a very good service and agreed to grant £500 the same as last year. Chq written and signed.

7.4) Little Bears Pre School grant request. Clerk read out the letter from Little Bears Pre School. The Pre School replaced part of their outside area roof last year and are planning to replace the other roof this year. The total cost is £1,420 the Pre School is asking for a Grant of £150 towards the cost. They are getting a Grant of £1,000 from Shebbear Parish Council and the remaining amount they will fundraise for. The Councillors discussed how it has been and still is hard to fundraise with Covid. It was proposed the Parish Council grant £400 as the Pre School is the only one in the area now that the Shebbear College Pre School has closed. Plus it is the only local Pre School to take Children from 2 years old. All Councillors agreed to £400. Chq written and signed.

8.Set budget and Precept. Last year Precept was £3,065 which was £50.01 per Band D property. Due to the increase in properties the Precept can be £3,137 which will be £50.02 per Band D property. Councillors agreed that due to the Parish Councils bank balance being healthy and that £3,137 will cover all the outgoings on the budget to not increase the Precept. All Councillors agreed to set the Precept at £3,137. Councillors checked the budget which was put together from previous years spending and predicted spending for the year 2022 - 2023. All Councillors agreed to the budget.

9. Update on installing the bench on the road between the Glebe and Parson Cottage. The contractor completed the Street Work Licence Course in December. The contractor is waiting for the certificate and certificate number so I (Clerk) can complete the DCC Highways paperwork. Once DCC has the paperwork it can be upto 28 working days for an answer.

10. Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Clerk emailed the Village Hall Committee and Ms Deane asking if there are any plans to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee in Buckland Filleigh. The Village Hall said that they are planning to have a joint event with the Church. Maybe a tea party. The Church and Village Hall committees are meeting to discuss. Ms Deane feels it would be nice to arrange a memento for everyone to mark the occasion. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should help financially towards an event and maybe a memento for parishioners. Clerk to communicate with the Committees and Ms Deane. Councillors like the idea of lighting a Beacon for the Queen's Jubilee, Clerk to look into this as she has seen information about beacons and to update Councillors at the next meeting.

11. Review of Planning Applications in Buckland Filleigh and adjoining parishes,
The Parish Council was asked to comment on 1/1321/2021/FUL Duck Pool Cottage Workshop, Sheepwash. Conversion of Existing Outbuilding (Workshop) to Holiday cottage.The Parish Council commented no objection.

11a) Planning granted permission. None.

12. Footpaths and Roads

12.1) Clerk's update on large puddle on the road near Buckland House, drains at Horseshoes, bridge and Galmington road. The large puddle due to the road surface not allowing the water to run into the next drain is in the hands of Highways no update on this issue. I (Clerk) have taken photos and reported the erosion on the side of the road coming down to Horseshoes bridge from Heanton. Also asked that the drains and road from Buckland House down to Horseshoes bridge be cleaned out and the drains and gullies at Horseshoes bridge. At Galmington I have taken photos of potholes and reported them. Since the last meeting a few potholes have been filled but the road surface is getting worse. Clerk

to keep an eye on these issues and to take photos and report any new potholes or erosion. Clerk was asked by Councillors to look at the manhole cover on the Horseshoe bridge to Filleigh moor Gate road.

12.2) P3 forms. Mrs Balsdon has been checking the footpaths, she will report to the Clerk by the 1st February any issues she finds on the footpaths. Councillors agreed to the Clerk completing the P3 paperwork and applying for funds, for any work Mrs Balsdon suggests needs doing. At the time of the meeting a dog gate on one of the footpaths may need work done on it to make it easier to use.

13. Correspondence email to councillors prior to the meeting.
Updates from DCC and Devon Covid Vaccine updates.
Thank you from the Devon Record Office for the grant.

14. Matters for inclusion in the next meeting.
The next meeting will be 10th March 2022. Beacon for Queen Jubilee.

Meeting Closed 8.20pm

Selina Woollacott, Buckland Filleigh Parish Clerk.
Email: bucklandfilleighparishclerk@gmail.com Telephone: 01409 281280