



## Buckhorn Weston and Kington Magna Parish Council

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Responsible Financial Officer and Parish Clerk: Mrs Sandra Mackintosh

### **MINUTES OF BUCKHORN WESTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7pm by Zoom virtual meeting**

<b>1</b>	The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed those present to the meeting.
	<b>Present:</b> Roger Gosney (Chairman (RG), Nigel Osborne (NO), Tim Wilton (TW), Ms Phillippa Chapman (PC), Mrs Linda Munster (LM), Matthew Hoskins (MH), Fred Shotter (FS) Plus the following: Members of the Public: 3 In attendance: Parish Clerk - Sandra Mackintosh, Internal Auditor - Pat Read
<b>2</b>	<b>Approval of minutes:</b> The minutes from the previous Buckhorn Weston APM held on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2020, having been previously circulated, were approved, signed and dated by the Chairman.
<b>3</b>	<b>Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council:</b> It was noted that during an unusual and challenging year it has been necessary for the Parish Council to hold several of its meetings virtually. Difficulty in getting responses when required from Dorset Council officers has impacted on the Parish Council's aims however, business carried out by the Parish Council over the last year include the installation of speed restrictions in both Buckhorn Weston and Kington Magna, (the roundels are yet to be installed in fairer weather), and the consideration of several planning applications, most of which have been dealt with although two remain ongoing. Looking ahead to 2021, further improvement works are expected regarding the significant flooding at Filly Brook, the timing of the same being subject to the lifting of lockdown, and an application for speed restrictions between Sandley and Quarr has been submitted and is currently being assessed by Dorset Council. The Parish Council are considering the merits of producing a Neighbourhood Plan covering both villages with the previously produced Parish Plan being a very useful starting point. Once again there has been no increase in the 2021/22 precept request which is thanks to the internal auditor and RFO's tight control of the accounts resulting in the Parish Council's finances and reserves being on track.
<b>4</b>	<b>Reports from Buckhorn Weston Clubs and Organisations</b>
	<b>BW Village Hall</b> – Covid has meant the village hall has been closed for much of the last year. At the beginning of the first lockdown in March 2020, all hirers were immediately contacted and offered refunds as the committee recognised that difficult times were ahead and all refunds requested were promptly issued. With the village hall committee and Parish Council's full support, the Buckhorn Weston Volunteers group was set up to collect and deliver shopping, medical supplies, etc. for those shielding. Requests have diminished over the subsequent lockdowns but the volunteers are still available if needed. In May, the committee were happy to help a food vendor by allowing them to use the village hall car park for a pop-up takeaway service which was enjoyed by many residents. In July, with Covid secure measures implemented, the hall was able to re-open to hirers and, being a facility at the heart of the village, it was considered important to do so. Subsequent lockdowns have meant the closure of the hall again. Subject to business rates and mandatory closure, the facility has been eligible for and awarded several grants during the pandemic. The funding received has been appreciated at a time when there has been no hire income, fund raising events or Glastonbury Festival stewarding donations. One particular grant will provide for the installation of wifi and a new conference system as additional support for those unable

to attend events at the hall. With the easing of restrictions approaching, the Village Hall is looking forward to re-opening its doors and welcoming all hirers back as soon as possible.

**BW Church** – Church services and activities were halted with the lockdown at the end of March. During this, and subsequent lockdowns, the vicar videoed services which were available on Facebook. Observing social distancing, church services resumed twice a month in July as well as being open for private prayer on Thursday mornings. Other than that, the church was kept locked at all times. Without being able to hold the usual Harvest Supper, a Harvest Communion service was held instead with dried goods being sent to the Trussell Trust and as the Christingle service in church was not allowed, the PCC joined with Rupert Dyke’s carol singers to hold a socially distanced carol service in the churchyard with Christingle packs issued and the collection going to the Children’s Society. Three baptisms, one wedding and two funeral services were held with restrictions on numbers. Most fund raising activities came to a halt but the sale of plants continued at Pat’s and the usual Summer and Winter raffles occurred in the churchyard when cakes were sold to order. In the spring a new platform for the bells was installed, the restored bells rehung and rung for the first time and finally the restored clock was put back. The PCC acquired two extra bells, as the existing six didn’t sound as well together as they could, and two of these bells were hung above the others and kept for use as the clock chimes. The PCC are looking for people to ring the bells once this is allowed and if anyone is interested could they please contact Pat Read. Services will be resuming in church from this Sunday.

**Munchkins** - Munchkins had to shut down at the start of the first lockdown and so far it has not been possible to restart, partly due to the restrictions placed on indoor meetings and partly because all those who help run it are 70 or over. It is hoped it will be possible to restart Munchkins sometime later this year but this will depend on whether extra helpers can be found.

**BW Cricket Club** – The club managed to have some games at the back end of the season and a full fixture is planned for this year with sports being allowed to resume shortly but probably with restrictions. At the beginning of the first match in October, a lovely ceremony was held whereby Tony Maynard’s family presented the club with a bell in his memory which will now be rung at the start of play for each match, as it is at Lords. Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club was mentioned in one of Mike Atherton’s articles – an open invitation to the club has been extended to him. Spectators are always welcomed.

**BWVCT** – The BWVCT has remained active in maintaining the Village Green despite the current pandemic and various ‘lockdowns’. The Village Green has been regularly mown and strimmed and a number of dead elms have been taken down and removed. Unfortunately the BWVCT has had to cancel all fundraising events in 2020 and on into 2021 including the popular Burns night supper in January 2021 and ‘Gig on the Green’ 2020. The trustees are planning to hold the Gig on the Green in September 2021, all things being equal. This has put a strain on the charity’s finances particularly as, after 10 years of valiant service, there is now the need to replace the tractor mower which is, literally, falling to bits. An application has been submitted to Virdor for a grant with the result still awaited. It will have been noticed that the see saw had to be removed on safety grounds as the wood was rotting. An attempt has been made to claim under the guarantee given by Wickstead but they are refusing to replace, saying that it is up to their supplier. The trustees intend to take this up with lawyers, hopefully on a pro-bono basis. As ever, the BWVCT are very grateful for the support shown to the Trust by the Parish Council.

**Ladies Group** – In March 2020 the Ladies Group meeting was held as normal not knowing what the future held. Then came the first lockdown. A socially distanced afternoon tea and cakes was managed in September with hopes to do the same in December for Christmas, but sadly the rules had changed by then. With the current rules it is hoped the Ladies Group can recommence after the 17<sup>th</sup> May with the first meeting being the second week of June (Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June), restrictions allowing.

**Senior Citizen’s Luncheon** - Sadly in 2020 the organisers were unable to hold both the April Jumble Sale (where funds are raised for the lunch) and the actual Christmas lunch. The plan for 2021 is to hold a jumble sale on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> October and the lunch on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December, restrictions allowing.

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**Public Discussion:** No comments

Thank you for the reports received. The meeting closed at 7.26pm.  
These minutes are signed as a true and accurate record of events.

	Signed: ..... (Chairman)      Dated:.....
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