

# **BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

## **3 YEAR PLAN**

### **WHAT IS A 3 YEAR PLAN?**

It is a statement of intention by Buckland Parish Council (BPC) for the parish, setting out its role and responsibilities in the community, its short and medium-term objectives and key responsibilities.

### **WHY A 3 YEAR PLAN?**

Having an agreed strategy will provide a framework for BPC to operate in, enabling it to work in a consistent and co-ordinated way. At the same time, the 3 Year Plan will help the local community to have a better understanding of what the Parish Council does and also to clarify what it doesn't do; in other words, to explain what responsibilities fall under the remit of other bodies such as Buckinghamshire Unitary Council. It is a living document which the Parish Council will update regularly, enabling it to track and monitor its progress against the key priorities. The Plan will be available on the Parish Council's website to enable parishioners to monitor progress.

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE PLAN**

It is hoped that communication and awareness of BPC's plan will allow the parish community to engage in its implementation. With that engagement the plan can be adapted to the requirements of the community as new initiatives, ideas and projects are proposed, costed and put forward for adoption, within the Parish Council's remit.

### **BUCKLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Buckland Neighbourhood Plan (revised in 2022), which sets out planning policies for our Parish, gives our vision for Buckland in 2033:

*'To maintain a thriving community where the parish grows while keeping the character of its distinct zones. Local businesses and facilities will have the freedom to grow and develop in accordance with local needs. They will make a positive impact on the Parish, its residents, environment and resources. The parish will retain its sense of community by carefully managing change and protecting its environment, setting, heritage and surrounding countryside from unsustainable developments.'*

## **PROPOSED PARISH PROJECTS**

The following are projects identified in the Neighbourhood Plan that any future section 106 or Community Infrastructure Levy monies should be used towards, subject to meeting the required tests:

- Formation and maintenance of a Community Orchard, wildflower meadow and nature reserve at Lower Buckland to return lost biodiversity to the area
- Renovation of Primrose Copse to provide a community leisure facility with nature trails, etc. in partnership with external conservation bodies.
- Increased planting on the section of bunding along the Aston Clinton bypass to improve the visual and noise aspect of the road should funding become available
- Increased planting between the industrial area to the north of the A41 bypass and the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal when funding or other opportunities become available
- Measures to reduce the speed of traffic and improve highways safety in all parts of the Parish, including initiatives such as Speedwatch
- Support the upgrading of infrastructure, including broadband, within the Parish
- Seek to influence the reduction of pollution from industrial areas
- Support for the restoration of the Wendover Arm of the Grand Union Canal at Buckland Wharf
- To maintain the rural environment and biodiversity throughout the Parish
- To review and update the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan as required
- To upgrade the streetlights throughout the parish to LED

## **AIMS OF BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

- To implement the policies of the Buckland Neighbourhood Plan
- To be proactive with agreed short and longer term goals
- To understand the needs of residents and to support and address those needs within the resources and powers available
- To give value for money and prudent financial control for the services and facilities provided by the Parish Council for all Buckland Parish residents
- To seek external funding as appropriate
- To preserve open spaces for the enjoyment of all
- To encourage the conservation and enhancement of our natural environment throughout all areas of the Parish

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council's duties and powers include:

**Burial Authority:** burials, records, regulations and fees for the administration and maintenance of the Burial Ground

**Street Lighting:** The Parish Council owns and maintains the streetlights within the Parish which are located on public roads. Seek improvements where appropriate.

**Planning:** to draw up and keep under review the Buckland Neighbourhood Plan  
As a statutory consultee to be consulted by the Local Planning Authority on all planning applications within the Parish, with responses based on material planning considerations, in line with current planning policy

**Environmental Issues:**

- Provision of litter bins
- Provision and maintenance of dog bins

**Allotments:** to provide land for use as allotments if requested

**Bus shelters:** to provide and maintain bus shelters as required

**War memorial:** to maintain the war memorial and make provision for Remembrance Sunday

**Highways matters:**

- To report any highways issues to the highways authority, Buckinghamshire Council, and continue to follow up with Bucks Council officers as necessary for an early resolution
- Request and pursue the highway authority to install traffic calming measures where required

**Buckland Community Speedwatch:** to liaise with Thames Valley Police and continue to hold Speedwatch sessions on roads throughout the Parish in order to deter speeding and make our roads safer for all users

**Land:**

- To inspect annually and maintain Parish Council owned land throughout the Parish.
- To ensure the annual let of the grass keep on the former allotment site at Tring Hill

**Finance:**

- To ensure prudent financial control
- To set an annual precept in order to maintain Parish Council services as required
- To seek external funding as appropriate

**Rights of Way:** monitor the maintenance of footpaths, bridleways and stiles and report any issues to the Rights of Way officer at Buckinghamshire Council

## **CURRENT SHORT TO MID TERM OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**

**Burial Ground:** to prepare a section of the Burial Ground for cremated remains once All Saints churchyard is closed

### **Community Orchard and Nature Reserve, Lower Buckland:**

- to apply for grants and other funding to continue the planting of trees, shrubs, and wild flowers on this land
- to provide access and seating for residents to enjoy the environmental improvements offered by this site at Lower Buckland

### **Primrose Copse, Tring Hill:**

To ensure the integrity of boundaries and seek partnership with local conservation bodies to improve environmental management and access to the area

### **Communication:**

- Website: ensure this remain up to date with information for residents and also other interested parties. The website contains details of Buckland Parish Council's meeting dates, policies, etc. as well as being an online means of communicating with the Clerk
- Social Media: to ensure that information regarding the Parish Council is also available via this means
- Ensure Parish Council noticeboards are kept up to date
- Undertake individual letter drops as required

### **Heritage:**

Support the heritage assets throughout the Parish as identified in the Neighbourhood Plan.

February 2024