

Meeting of Buckland Parish Council
On Monday 10th March 2025
at Buckland Village Hall @ 7.00 pm

Present: Cllr Jon Sainsbury (Vice Chair), Cllr Carole Paternoster, Cllr Heather McKenna, Buckinghamshire Cllr Mike Collins, Mrs Jane Lewis (Clerk).

There were two members of the public in attendance.

25.33 Apologies: Cllr Fiona Livingston, Buckinghamshire Cllr Steve Bowles

25.34 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

25.35 Open Forum

A member of the public updated the Council on the issues relating to access to Monks Court. Both properties have now switched to oil for fuel, and switched sewage removal companies who can provide smaller vehicles. The issue remains regarding access for fire engines in case of emergency. Dacorum Borough Council have requested a report from the Fire Service.

25.36 Resignation of Chair

The Clerk reported that Cllr Nigel Hayward had resigned from BPC with immediate effect on 18th February 2025. Buckland Parish Council thanked Nigel for all his efforts over the many years he served a Parish Councillor.

25.37 Appointment of Interim Chair

Following the resignation of the Chair a interim Chair Cllr Jon Sainsbury was appointed. Proposed by Cllr Paternoster and seconded by Cllr McKenna. Cllr Sainsbury will serve as Chair until the Elections in May 2025. BPC thanked Cllr Sainsbury for taking on this role.

25.38 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th February 2025 were agreed and signed by the chair Cllr Sainsbury.

25.40 Clerk's Report

- The verge by Church farm has now been cleared.
- Speedwatch – TVP have given a three-month extension to loan of equipment. The clerk has started advertising group and trying to recruit more volunteers.
- Human waste is regularly deposited on Buckland Road. This has been reported to Environmental Health.
- Several complaints about speeding vehicles on Buckland Road have been received. Speedwatch session held on 6th March was very effective as all vehicles except one slowed down.
- Parking by the verge on the corner of Buckland Road is becoming an issue. Residents in adjacent properties are struggling to get out of their driveways on occasions. **ACTION: Clerk to contact highways to investigate cost of possible signage**
- Drugs paraphernalia is regularly being found at Lower Buckland near ARLA. This has been reported to TVP who are increasing drive-bys through the parish.
- Annual Parish Meeting is being held in April.

- Electoral forms will be distributed to Councilors in coming days. Cllrs must return them to Buckinghamshire Council between 18th March and 2nd April.

25.41 Finance

- Payments and bank balances for February 2025 were approved.

Opening Balance	£43667.43
Receipts	£500
Payments	£2196.10
Closing Balance	£41971.33

3/2/25	M Nicholls	£335
6/2/25	Cloudy IT	£192
7/2/25	Buckinghamshire Council (Noticeboards)	£500
10/2/25	Hugo Fox	£23.99
13/2/25	E Sharp	£60
20/2/25	Balc	£90
20/2/25	Postage	£29.75
27/2/25	Balc	£95
28/2/25	One Com	£35.94
28/2/25	BOST	£250

- Council agreed to remove Nigel Hayward from bank mandate following his resignation from the council.
- The council agreed to add Cllr Fiona Livingston and Cllr Heather McKenna to the bank mandate with Metro Bank. Proposed by Cllr Paternoster, Seconded by Cllr Sainsbury.

25.42 Planning Applications/Matters

- 25/00178/APP for 9 dwellings off Chapel Drive, Aston Clinton HP22 5EU – BPC to object to this application due the effect on the Aston Clinton Neighbourhood plan and being contrary to the Aston Clinton Settlement Boundary.
- Application for approval of details subject to condition 5 (emissions) of planning approval ref:24/03319/APP - Arla Foods Ltd Aylesbury Dairy Samian Way Aston Clinton Buckinghamshire HP22 5WJ – No mention of the effect of emissions on Buckland residents has been made in application. Council to object.
- Application for approval of details subject to condition 3 (biodiversity features) of planning approval ref:21/04846/APP - Hunters Lodge Farm Main Road Buckland Buckinghamshire HP22 5HZ – BPC has no objections.
- Update on Planning forum Cllr Paternoster reported that the online access system for planning will be moving to a new system called Bucks One Uniform. All users will have to register with the new system and set up new searches. The planning portal will be inaccessible for six weeks whilst the switch over takes place. Buckinghamshire Council were unable to provide information as to how planning applications will be processed during this time. There was also no information relating to what will happen to all historical data on applications including comments on planning matters.
- There was no further update on the Beechwood SAC at the meeting.

25.43 Consultations and Correspondence

- Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) public consultation available until 11:59pm on Monday 24th March.

- Road Safety and 20mph Statutory Speed Limits – Mursley Parish Council **ACTION: To be discussed at April meeting.**

25.44 Roads and Transportation

- Monks Court Access – It was noted that the new temporary bollard that had replaced the concrete bollard has been removed and thrown in the ditch.
- Buckland Road – Truvello Strips – Cllr Steve Broadbent has replied saying that highways officers are looking at possible traffic calming measures.
- Tring Hill and Buckland Wharf update – A reply has been received from Buckinghamshire Council following the request for traffic calming measures at Buckland Wharf and on the junction to the Upper Icknield Way. The VAS sign on Tring hill will be repaired in next three months. Buckinghamshire Council have said that there are no plans to re-introduce the slip lane as this is part of outdated measures for roads. The Highway Authority have not made promises regarding any improvements at the Tring Hill junction associated with RAF Halton; however, this area will be assessed in further detail when they are consulted on the RAF Halton planning application. The request for road markings, BC do not currently have funds available to carry out isolated changes to road markings; however, they will review the condition of the existing 30mph roundel and, if appropriate, add it to a maintenance list. If Buckland Parish Council is unable to fund the changes requested, they can add these for consideration to the development of the capital funded road marking programme. The programme for 2025-26 has already been set so this would be included for consideration for 2026-27. **ACTION: Clerk to contact ACPC Clerk to VAS data from Wenwell Close area. Clerk to contact local MP to arrange meeting to discuss this.**

25.45 Maintenance of Land Holdings

To receive reports and agree any actions relating to the Parish Council's Land Holdings:

- Community Orchard – 275 hedging plants were planted in Community Orchard with parish volunteers and Chiltern Society volunteers. Matt Nicholls has now planted all trees donated by Aston Clinton, Drayton Beauchamp and Buckland Horticultural Society. Wildflower seed will be sown later in March.
- Buckland Burial Ground/All Saints Churchyard – hedging has been planted along Green Lane. BPC reviewed current burial ground regulations and amended wording relating to any meeting held by BPC to discuss potential burials. It was also agreed that wording should be included stating that headstones and memorials must be installed by stonemasons and not individual families. Proposed Cllr Sainsbury Seconded Cllr McKenna.

25.46 Devolution update/Grass Cutting Contract

BPC agreed to go ahead with grass cutting service provided by Amersham Council. Council asked for new quotes to be supplied following discussions with All Saints Church on wildflower meadow. **ACTION: Clerk to contact suppliers.**

25.47 Footpaths and Environment

To receive reports and agree any actions:

- Roadside Hedgerows – Hedges have now been cut and tidied by landowners and council.
- Footpaths – Buckinghamshire Council have offered to supply new gate for installation in lower Buckland.

25.48 BOST update

BOST held a successful meeting with residents of New Road and surrounding properties. Clerk has written to BOST Chair notifying them of Cllr Hayward resignation. Clerk reported that BOST were considering renting out Parish Office to residents for meetings. BPC were not happy with this idea and asked for this to be relayed to BOST.

25.49 Arla/Olleco

- Increased number of smells occurring over recent weeks. **ACTION: Cllr Sainsbury to contact ARLA to establish when next ARAL meeting is.**

25.50 Matters of Report

Buckinghamshire Cllr Mike Collins reported that Wendover Community Board Budget has been cut drastically for the coming financial year. Anyone applying for funds must ensure all due diligence checks have been carried out.

25.51 Circulars

25.52 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Buckland Parish Council will be held on Monday 14th April 2025.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.