

Meeting of Buckland Parish Council
On Monday 9th October 2023
at Buckland Village Hall @ 6.30pm

ATTENDING: Cllr Mr Jon Sainsbury (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Sue Gillingham, Cllr Mrs Fiona Livingston, Cllr Mrs Carole Paternoster, who also acted as Clerk for this meeting

Buckinghamshire Cllr Mike Collins was in attendance.

There were three members of the public in attendance.

23.179 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Nigel Hayward, and from the Clerk, Mrs Jane Lewis.

23.180 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23.181 Open Forum

The three members of the public in attendance raised the following issues:

- Thames Water Booster Station at Buckland Road **23.187**
- Allotment rental **23.189.c**

23.182 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council held on Monday 11th September 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

23.183 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported from Buckinghamshire Council that the redaction of Councillors' personal addresses on their register of interest forms can only take place if it is deemed a 'sensitive issue' by the Monitoring Officer. Members decided not to take this matter further.

The Clerk reported on three applications from other bodies for Wendover Community Board funding.

The Clerk also reported that she had received little feedback from Aston Clinton Parish Council on the current Arla planning application for the storage of liquid nitrogen on site, or on the Thames Water pumping station proposals for a booster station in Buckland.

23.184 Finance

a. Payments were approved and balances agreed.

BACS Payments/Standing Orders September 2023

1/9/2023	Hugo Fox	£23.99
01/09/2023	Draytonmead Solar Panel	£2000
04/09/2023	K Isaaks – Bin Speed Sticker	£195.50
06/09/2023	Cloudy IT	£74.16

11/09/2023	Hugo Fox	£23.99
11/09/2023	Silverspades	£1476.00
12/09/2023	N R Green – Churchyard tap	£150.00
15/09/2023	Bucks Council – Precept Payment	£17128
15/09/2023	Buckingham Nurseries	£1238.40
18/09/2023	Orange Pippin Ltd	£203.70
18/09/2023	J – Lewis – Poppy wreath	£23.98
21/09/2023	SSE	£350.61
27/09/2023	Matt Nicholls – Planting of trees Community Orchard	£2440.00
29/09/2023	Nest Pension	£38.48
29/09/2023	One Com	£60.80
29/09/2023	Clerk Salary	£1027.52

Balances:

Opening Balance	£33686.47
Total Money in	£19128.00
Total Money out	£7327.13
Closing Balance	£45487.34

- b. The Clerk reported that the second payment of the precept for 2023/24 had been received from Buckinghamshire Council.
- c. Members agreed to renew the Electricity Contract with Utility Aid in the sum of £3,040.54, a reduction of 22.9% from the previous year.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Utility Aid

23.185 Remembrance Sunday

A quote for the cleaning and re-lettering of the war memorial in the sum of £1,000 had been received. Members decided not to go ahead with this work now but to look at it again next year. **ACTION: Clerk to notify A Touch of Grace accordingly.**

23.186 Planning Applications/Matters – Planning Application Consultations:

23/01115/APP – CAREYS

This was a repeat application with the tower crane removed, following Buckland Parish Council's previous objection and notification of the proposal to the RAF. This produced an objection to the previous scheme by the MOD. Members decided to offer no objection to the amended application.

23/02840/APP – ARLA - installation of bio-LNG refuelling station:

Members agreed to object to this application on the following grounds: proposed site is on boundary with Lower Buckland road, posing a danger to users if the road and local residents. Detrimental to ecology of this sensitive area. Impact on conservation area and listed buildings; Detrimental to residential amenity. Fails to recognise local distinctiveness with other buildings on the site. Contrary to policies BE2, BE3, BP4, BE9, BP15. Members also raised concerns for public safety following the recent lightning strike and destruction of AD units in Oxfordshire.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Bucks Council of these decisions

Planning surgery: attended by Cllr Paternoster and Clerk on Tuesday 3rd October to discuss Buckinghamshire planning policy for Lower Buckland plots. Bucks Council's Development Management Supervisor and Enforcement Officer attended also. Bucks explained that the use of land without the benefit of planning consent is agricultural and there are no plans for residential or commercial development in that area. Three plots have been the subject of enforcement cases and are now compliant. One enforcement case is still outstanding. The revised Buckland Neighbourhood Plan is only one year old and currently the Beechwood SAC (Special Area of Conservation) based on Ashridge is preventing any further residential development in the area.

Planning Update from Buckinghamshire Council: The county no longer has a five year housing land supply, which means that developers who can prove they have sites ready for immediate development are likely to be given consent, even if not in line with allocations in the Local Plan. Buckland's revised Neighbourhood Plan, one year old, will help prevent further opportunistic development in that Parish, as will the fact that the whole Parish lies within the Beechwood SAC area.

23.187 Consultations and Correspondence

Thames Water Pumping Station: In the Open Forum sessions local residents living close to the proposed site next to Hope Cottages in Buckland Road expressed their concerns at having such a large pumping station close to their properties, affecting their residential amenity. They raised several questions which can only be answered by Thames Water. Therefore, Members decided to arrange a public meeting between Thames Water and local Buckland residents to give Thames Water the opportunity to answer the questions raised directly.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a public meeting in Buckland Village Hall

Buckinghamshire New Highways Toolkit: The Clerk and deputy Clerk had both tried to use this toolkit, without success, and both had notified Bucks Council of their dissatisfaction with this product.

Aston Clinton Society Review of Highways in Aston Clinton & Buckland: The status of this document was unknown. Whilst Members thanked the Society for passing this highways report of roads in Buckland Parish to the Parish Council, they were concerned at some of the 'recommendations for improvement' quoted in the document. It was decided to keep a watching brief on the future of this document.

ACTION: Clerk to report any further developments

Polling Districts and Places Review: no changes for Buckland Parish.

23.188 Roads and Transportation

Updates on:

Tring Hill/ Buckland Wharf – No further developments or information from the highways authority. Members decided to contact the Bucks Council Director in charge of highways, Richard Barker, to ask for an update on future road safety measures for this area.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Richard Barker

Speedwatch Update – Three successful sessions have taken place so far. 7 people have now been trained. Further Speedwatch sessions will take place. The Clerk is arranging for truvelo strips to be placed on Lower Icknield Way where Speedwatch cannot be implemented.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange for truvelo strips to be placed in Lower Icknield Way

23.189 Maintenance of Land Holdings

Burial Ground maintenance: Cllr Gillingham will contact Matt Nicholls to arrange for the hedge in the burial ground to be cut back. This will allow an area to be set out for cremation plots.

Lower Buckland: 50 fruit trees have been ordered to be planted this autumn to complete the community orchard section. The cost of supply and planting of these trees is covered by a grant from the Gib Lane Community Fund for 2022/23. Matt Nicholls will clear the site and plant the trees.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Matt re planting arrangements

Grasskeep, Allotments, Primrose Copse: One member of the public who spoke during the Open Forum session asked for information about renting an allotment. He was advised to contact the Clerk for further details.

Cllr Sainsbury reported that the allotment section of the land had now been cleared; boundary markers have been put in place on Parish Council land adjoining the Limes. The land will now be surveyed. The next stage will be for the new boundary details to be submitted for registration with Land Registry. Some land from the Copse has been lost to The Limes.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Sainsbury re the land survey

23.190 Footpaths and Environment

Complaints have been received from horse riders concerning trees overhanging **Bridleway 1** from College Road North to Buckland. Bucks rights of way officer Alistair McVail has been notified. He has stated that the trees are the responsibility of the adjoining landowner. It is up to Bucks Council to notify the adjoining landowner.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Rights of Way

The bollard is currently in place on **Bridleway 3** from Puttenham. Members queried why landowners in Lower Buckland were not using the right of way adjacent to Bridleway 3 which leads to the Lower Buckland road, as shown in their deeds, instead of using Bridleway 3.

Dog Waste Bin – Buckland Wharf: the dog waste bin on the canal towpath at Buckland Wharf has been removed by the Canal and Rivers Trust due to the cost of emptying. Members of the public have complained about the bin's removal. Members

agreed that Buckland Parish Council should purchase a replacement bin to be sited nearby.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate provision of a replacement bin

23.191 Website, Social Media and Communications

Broadband Update – The Buckland Old School Trust, as owner of the building, will apply to Gigaclear for the Hall to become a community hub. The Trustees had put several questions to Gigaclear, but now these have all been answered satisfactorily, the application will be made by BOST.

23.192 Grants

The Clerk has submitted a Grant Fund application for 5 benches at the Lower Buckland community orchard site. A decision will be made later this month.

23.193 Arla/Olleco

The next Arla/Olleco meeting is due to be held on 18th October. Members reported that there are still bad smells coming from the site.

Members expressed their concern about safety on the site following the recent destruction of three anaerobic digesters in Oxfordshire due to a lightning strike.

ACTION: Councillors to report the above to ARLA/Olleco on 18th October.

23.194 Matters of Report

Cllr Livingston offered to chase Gigaclear to repair the damage caused to the road drains opposite Primrose Cottage earlier this year. Winter rains could cause flooding in this area if the drains are not repaired.

Cllr Gillingham asked for the provision of a salt bin near the A41 bypass bridge.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Bucks Council highways

23.196 Date of next Parish Council Meeting Monday 13th November 2023 at 7.00pm in Buckland Village Hall.

Meeting concluded at 20.00pm

Chairman

Date