BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Fiona Richardson, Buckland Parish Council, Village Hall, New Road, Buckland, HP22 5JB Tel. 01296 630962 email: clerk@bucklandpc.org.uk
www.bucklandpc.org.uk

Minutes of Buckland Parish Council Meeting held on 10th January 2022
at Buckland Village Hall @ 7.00pm

Issue date: 13th January 2022

Attending:-
Cllr Nigel Hayward(Chairman)
Cllr Mrs Sue Gillingham (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Mrs Carole Paternoster
Cllr Mrs Fiona Livingston
Cllr J Sainsbury
Clerk: Mrs Fiona Richardson

22.001 Apologies

There were no apologies.

22.002 Declarations of Interest

Cllr J Sainsbury declared a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application **21/04846/APP**, due to living in a neighbouring property.

22.003 Welcome to New Clerk

The new Clerk Fiona Richardson was introduced and welcomed by all Cllrs.

22.004 Open Forum

Nothing to note.

22.005 Minutes

The draft minutes of the 13th Dec 2021 Parish Council Meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

ACTION: Clerk to contact local area representative to enquire about Dancers End resurfacing – Clerk is still awaiting response from Lewis Minney, LAT

22.006 Clerk's Report

The Clerk has applied for bank account signatory rights. Currently no members of the Parish Council have access to the online bank accounts and as interim solution cheques are being raised to pay invoices. Access to online bank accounts has been requested for Cllr N Hayward and Cllr Mrs C Paternoster who are the current signatories on the bank accounts.

The Clerk, along with the support of the Cllrs is in the process of reviewing all finances, processes, procedures, audit requirements, document storage, paper files, email and website.

The Clerk attended the Buckinghamshire Council Town & Parish Clerk's Forum and updated the Cllrs on a recent update from Dave Roberts, Head of Highways on the current Highways Contract with Ringway Jacobs, which is due to expire on 1st April 2023.

ACTION:.

Reconciliation to be carried out by Buckland Parish Council as soon as online access to bank accounts is enabled.

Clerk to add Queen's platinum jubilee as a recuring agenda item

22.007 Finance

Until access to online bank accounts statements is enabled finance matters are postponed until the next meeting.

22.008 Planning Applications/Matters

21/04846/APP - BUCKLAND
Hunters Lodge Farm Main Road Buckland Buckinghamshire HP22 5HZ
Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of two storey detached dwelling

Cllr Mr J Sainsbury left the room

The Parish Council raised an objection in relation to the cinema room due to its proximity to neighbours and that it will, as a result, seriously affect the residential amenity of the Westwards. The current use of the room is a bedroom.

ACTION: Objection will be submitted by the clerk by 20th January 2022

21/04928/APP – BUCKLAND
The Leas, Buckland, HP22 5HY

Single storey rear extension and first floor front and side extension.

The Parish Council raised an objection in relation to the proximity of the second storey to the neighbouring property, Blenheim Cottage causing loss of light and space, plus two side windows overlooking and reducing privacy to the property's rear garden. The design of the building brings the second storey closer to the public highway, is not in line with the neighbourhood plan and is also within the conservation area.

ACTION: Objection will be submitted by the clerk by the 5th of February 2022

22.009 Neighbourhood Plan

Reg 16 consultation closes on 13th January. An Examiner will then be appointed by Buckinghamshire Council. A referendum is expected to be held in the Spring.

Community involvement in referendum to be discussed at the next meeting once the referendum date is known.

22.010 Policies and Procedures

Buckland PC will be taking the opportunity to review procedures and policies and infrastructure over the coming months.

22.011 Consultations

The Parish Councillors discussed the new Buckinghamshire new Local Plan initial consultation, discussion topics included;

-Housing allocations for 25 thousand additional dwellings to be in a new town, on brownfield sites and existing towns.
-Potential impact of building in or around Buckland, and impacts on flood risk and climate change

-Burden on existing infrastructure.

ACTION: The Clerk to submit PC's response to New Buckinghamshire Local Plan initial consultation online.

22.012 Roads and Transportation

To consider any reports and agree any actions

A local parishioner has raised an issue: Hedges and greenery are spilling into the road from outside properties in some parts of the village impinging on the carriageways and obstructing views of and for road users and pedestrians and putting all in danger. It was agreed that all households whose hedges and greenery are causing an issue should be contacted and asked to ensure their gardens don't have overhang. However, since BPC does not have devolved highway powers this is an action for Buckinghamshire Council.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Lewis Minney and ask him to review the situation and for him to contact residents to address the issue.

The Cllrs reported that there are many large delivery vehicles attempting to turn around in the village and finding this very difficult to do due to parked cars and lack of turning space and are, as a result, causing damage to verge and disruption to driveways.

It was noted that the original designated turning point which is next to the access road to the balancing pond near the A41 bypass bridge is blocked with a concrete trough which prevents turning.

The Buckland Parish Councillors also discussed the incident that took place on 22nd December 2021 on Tring Hill, where a visually impaired person, with a guide dog, tripped over a fallen branch and other debris over the payment and was badly hurt, suffering a head injury. This section of the pavement on Tring Hill has a seriously reduced width due to the fact that Buckinghamshire Council has failed to side it out

although they were reminded about it in September. During a site visit on 7th September with Cllrs Mrs Gillingham, Mrs Paternoster and Lewis Minney, the area LAT, the Parish Councillors had requested that overhanding trees, shrubs and debris blocking the pavement must be removed due to the hazards caused to pedestrians on this 'Walk to School' route between Aston Clinton and Tring. Buckland Parish Council reported the December 2021 incident to Lewis Minney and sent photos but have not received a response. This matter was also logged as an issue with Fix my street and no response has yet been received.

Action: Clerk to contact Lewis Minney to request a site meeting with Parish Councillors to discuss all the above matters.

22.013 Maintenance of Land Holdings

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

a. Burial Ground : Nothing to be done in the burial ground at the moment. Buckland Landscapes have put in a quote for further work but there is a 2k price increase on previous similar invoices. Councillors have found Buckland Landscapes have provided good service to date, but the Cllrs would like to review costs to ensure value for money.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Weston Turville Parish Council for information on the Landscape/grounds maintenance service they use for comparison.

b. Grass Keep, Copse and Allotments

The Parish Council is awaiting a response from its solicitor regarding the boundary dispute with The Limes, before any further action is taken.

c. Lower Buckland

25 Apple trees (heritage varieties) have now been planted. The purchase and planting of these trees are to be funded by a grant from Buckinghamshire Council, acting on behalf of the Forestry Commission. This grant application has to be submitted by 31st January. In addition to these trees, 22 standard native species 'statement' trees have been planted. 10 of these are boundary trees, while the others form a small copse near the entrance to the site. These trees were gifted to the Parish Council by a private individual. The cost of planting these trees is being met by a grant from the Wendover and Villages Community Board.

Queens Jubilee

Buckland Parish Council would like to organise an outdoor event for the Parish. The The Parish Council would like to apply for funding to organise an event for approx. 300 people. The event would require, 8 x 6 seater tables, 3 basic large gazebos and bunting. Buckland Parish council would like to purchase a semi mature oak tree to plant in celebration of the Jubilee.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Michelle Parker, Wendover and Villages Community Board officer, about the Jubilee and what funds we may be able to apply for and how to apply.

22.014 Footpaths and Environment

To receive reports and agree any actions

It has been reported that there is one footpath stile near the A41 that is about to collapse.

ACTION: Cllr Mrs F Livingston to investigate further and ask the Rambling Association if they can help as it thought the stile is on privately owned land.

22.015 Website

Buckland Parish Council will be reviewing the website, email account and office software to ensure it is fit for purpose.

ACTION: Clerk to review current offering and provide a report on findings

22.016 Arla/Olleco

It was reported that odour & fan noise is still occurring, Cllr Mrs Gillingham (Vice Chairman) &Cllr Mrs F Livingston are trying to get a meeting ASAP, along with Aston Clinton PC. No response to date from Olleco. A liaison meeting between Arla/Olleco and neighbouring Parish Councils is scheduled for March, but the Cllrs would prefer to secure a meeting prior and in addition to this. It was noted that it is essential Buckland Parish Council work closely with Aston Clinton Parish Council on this matter.

22.017 Parish Council Office

a. To consider transfer from Halton to Buckland Village Hall
b. To approve work carried out to date and consider future programme

Buckland Parish Council have now moved into the new office in Buckland Village Hall.

The Chairman offered thanks to Cllrs Mrs Paternoster and Sainsbury and recognised their invaluable input in setting up and equipping the parish office at Buckland. Feedback from local residents on the location of the office has been positive. Thanks were also given to Cllrs Mrs Gillingham and Cllr Mrs Livingston for their valued assistance with the removal of documents from Halton to Buckland, the provision of a ‘free’ filing cabinet, signage and letterbox for the office and also for liaising with Buckland Landscapes over the provision and planting of the trees at Lower Buckland.

It was noted that current parish files and documentation were in an unorganised state making it difficult to hand over to a new clerk. Moving forward it is recommended that information and infrastructure is well organised, robust and transparent and regularly reviewed.

Keys to the new office were issued to all councillors and Signed for.

ACTION:
To fit a Key box in the office Cllr J Sainsbury has offered to carry out this work.

To make additional copies of the noticeboard keys. Either Cllr J Sainsbury or Cllr Mrs C Paternoster

Clerk to update all suppliers and key contacts with the new office contact details.

Engage the Clerk from Weston Turville Parish Council to mentor and assist Fiona Richardson in her new Role.

Chairman, once Bank access is enabled, to carry out a reconciliation

22.018 Matters of Report

For Councillors to report any additional issues not included on the agenda. Any decisions will need to be included on the next agenda.

It was noted that the Community Board funds are being reduced by Buckinghamshire Council from 400k to 111k. Limited funds will now be available for further grants.

22.019 Correspondence and circulars

See list on page 2. Circulars will be available at the meeting but will not be discussed unless required.

BALC – Meeting online 26th Jan Performance update on planning and enforcement.

ACTION: Cllr Mrs C Paternoster will attend the BALC Meeting.

ACTION: The Clerk will provide a quarterly update to appear in Village life.

ACTION: A photo of lower Buckland, when the trees have leaves on, to be sent by the clerk to Richard Vincent to be printed in the next edition of Village life

22.020 Date of next Parish Council Meeting 14th February 2022 at 7.00pm in Buckland Village Hall

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Fiona Richardson Clerk to Buckland Parish Council