



BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Newsletter No 7

Hopefully by the time this letter is delivered to residents there will be some signs of Spring!

The winter months are a busy time for Parish Councils. It is a period where the council reviews financial progress for the year and sets budgets for the upcoming financial year. The council receives its "Precept" from Buckinghamshire Council. Over the last two years Buckland Parish Council have had to make larger precept requests to bolster reserves. We are pleased to say we are now in a better position and have made a precept request in line with inflation. Many residents often ask what the precept is spent on within the parish, and who is responsible for what – is it Buckinghamshire Council (BC) or Buckland Parish Council (BPC)?

BPC are an elected body with discretionary powers and rights, all of which impact on the local community. BPC oversee areas such as the Burial Ground, Community Orchard, Street lights, Salt Bins, Dog Waste bins. BPC take on jobs such as verge grass cutting to enhance the community. Another big area of the role of BPC is planning. As a statutory consultee, Parish Councils must be notified by the Local Planning Authority of any planning applications for the area. Any comments submitted by the Parish Council to the local planning authority must be considered by the planning case officer when determining the application.

Many residents believe that BPC are responsible for everything in the parish such as pot holes, signage etc and this is not the case. They fall under the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council. For example, BPC have paid for salt bins in the parish but the filling of these is the responsibility of BC; whilst BPC is responsible for the lights in the parish, they are not responsible for the lights on main roads - all very confusing! BPC will always petition BC to fix things such as broken lights, potholes etc but the work is out of our hands and can be very frustrating as it can take a long time to get sorted. Recent examples have been the broken lights at Buckland Wharf where we were continually chasing BC to fix them as BPC felt this was a safety issue on what is already a dangerous stretch of road. Another example has been the village gate sign at Buckland Wharf. This was reported in December 2024. BPC have just had this fixed out of BPC funds as no indication of repair has been given by BC despite many attempts to sort.

A gentle reminder of Fix My Street website where residents can report issues such as pot holes, fly tipping, broken street lights etc www.fixmystreet.com If you do not have internet access you can always contact the Parish Clerk who can report issues.

BPC are currently looking at installing a new salt bin opposite the entrance to New Road. Recent bad weather saw the area become a skating rink for residents.

Planning

Cllr Carole Paternoster attended a meeting where Buckinghamshire Council presented the proposed Local Plan. This sets out Buckinghamshire Council's plan for the next 20 years. National planning requirements mean BC must plan for around 95,500 new homes over the next twenty years. This is significantly higher than required for previous Local Plans.

As part of the current consultation process BC have created an interactive map, which you can enlarge and then look at the sites which have been submitted for your area together with the comments as to whether they are suitable or not for development. One word of warning: sites which have been submitted have not necessarily been submitted by the landowner, they may have been submitted by developers or others with an eye to getting planning consent in the future. Some sites within Buckland have been submitted and found to be unsuitable for various reasons. However, if the number of dwellings required by the Government is increased substantially, then these sites may need to be re-evaluated. Of concern are the two sites off College Road North in Aston Clinton which extend from current built development to the bypass and to the Buckland boundary and have been found suitable for another 1,244 dwellings. This includes the current application for 93 houses off Chapel Drive. The proposal for a new town at Cheddington is also included, although BC admit that there is no current infrastructure for such a large development, apart from the railway station.

The draft local plan and interactive map can be viewed on the Buckinghamshire Council website : - www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/local-planning/buckinghamshire-local-plan/

If you would like to comment on these plans, please follow the link on the website. BC are requesting comments by 16th March. Buckland Parish Council will be discussing the local plan at their meeting on Monday 9th March.

ARLA/Olleco liaison

Members of BPC attended a meeting at Olleco in December to view the facility and also discuss measures in place to contain any odours. This was an informative discussion for both parties. Olleco were keen to point out that the odours can come from many sites, and all local sites that may cause an odour receive the reports and are required to assess them. There does seem to have been a reduction recently in smells, however if you notice any smells, please can you report them to <https://www.gov.uk/report-environmental-problem> or call 0800 80 70 60. These are details for the Environmental Agency. If you are also able to let BPC know and include the reference number, it would be appreciated.

Speeding in the Parish

BPC continue to try and reduce the issues created by speeding vehicles within the parish. A copy of our most recent letter to the Director of Highways at Buckinghamshire Council can be found on our website. We are also in the process of trying to get some road signs for Buckland Road to remind drivers of the 30mph speed limit.

Your Local Councillors



In this newsletter we are introducing Cllr Carole Paternoster.

I was asked to join BPC in 1978, while living in Buckland Road. I have lived in the Parish for most of my life and grew up with a deep interest in our local community, while seeing lots of changes over the years. My interest in the Parish Council led to me serving as a District Councillor for 22 years, focussing on Planning. Carole has been involved in many projects within the Parish such as the Burial Ground and the Community Orchard.

Community Litter Pick

BPC are looking to organise a community litter pick on the morning of Saturday 21st March. If you would like to help towards this please contact our clerk Jane Lewis



**JOIN US FOR
COMMUNITY
LITTER PICK**



21.03.2026

MEET AT 9.45AM

More details on meet up nearer the time

- Help keep our village clean, safe, and beautiful for everyone!
- All volunteers welcome – individuals, families, and groups
- High-vis jacket – please wear if you have one
- Thick gloves recommended
- Bags and litter pickers provided
- (You are welcome to bring your own equipment)



Please let us know if your coming along to help
Email: Clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk

WE NEED YOUR HELP SPONSOR A BRICK Help save our churchyard wall

The wall adjoining Church Leys belongs to All Saints and is in danger of collapse. To keep everyone safe and protect the church grounds, the wall must be rebuilt this summer.

SPONSOR A BRICK £10 EACH

You can help by sponsoring one or more bricks at £10 per brick.

WHAT'S NEEDED

Total cost: approximately £11000
Already raised: £4000 (with generous support from Buckland Parish Council, Gib Lane and others)

Still to raise: £7000 by April

You can either do so by cash to any PCC member or by bank transfer* or please contact the Treasurer, Kate Ecklett at kate@buckland-pc.gov.uk or 07830 828820 to please your donation.

*NatWest Aylesburg, Buckland PCC, Sort code 60-08-31
Account No: 04863933



THANK YOU FROM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Everyone who sponsors a brick will be listed on a special "thank you" notice in the church porch in May – unless you prefer to remain anonymous. Every brick really does make a difference.

Diary Date: Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 13th April @ 6pm – Find out what's going on in your community

Website details: buckland-pc.gov.uk

Facebook: Buckland Parish Council

Contact details: Tel: 01296 630962 email: clerk@buckland-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Office is located upstairs in Buckland Village Hall. The clerk is generally in the office on a Monday and Thursday between 9am and 2pm. If you wish to talk to the clerk please make an appointment or use the doorbell at the entrance. The hall door is locked when the hall is not in use by hirers.