

## BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Fiona Richardson, Buckland Parish Council, Village Hall, New Road, Buckland, HP22 5JB  
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### Minutes of the Buckland Parish Council Meeting

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Buckland Village Hall @ 7.00pm

#### Attendees

Cllr Nigel Hayward (Chair)

Cllr Mrs S Gillingham

Cllr Mrs C Paternoster

Cllr Mrs F Livingston

Cllr Jon Sainsbury

Cllr Mike Collins Buckinghamshire Council

#### 22.064 Apologies

Apologies were received from the Clerk, Mrs Fiona Richardson

#### 22.065 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 22.066 Open Forum

No points were raised

#### 22.067 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were signed and agreed.

#### 22.068 Signing of Register of Interests

All Councillors completed and signed these forms.

#### 22.069 Clerk's Report

**MS365:** The migration and set up of MS365 and MSTeams will begin on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tour of the Parish:** The Clerk thanked Cllr Mrs Gillingham for arranging a tour of the Parish for her.

**Comms:** The Clerk had submitted an article for the Wendover Community Board newsletter mentioning the grant received from the Board for the plating of trees at Lower Buckland and also the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations.

**Gigaclear:** have requested a meeting with BPC to introduce potential fibre- to- home wifi to the Parish. They have been offered 6.30pm on 11<sup>th</sup> July. The Clerk is awaiting confirmation of this date from Gigaclear.

## **22.070 Finance**

There are still problems with Lloyds Bank, even though the Council has been informed that the new mandate has been accepted. The March statement from Lloyds Bank had not been received prior to the meeting, therefore it had been impossible to reconcile the bank balances for the meeting. Not all cheque payments have been honoured by Lloyds. The Metro Bank are now using an inter-bank system to transfer the reserves and direct debits, etc. from Lloyds. The Parish Council has been informed that the precept will be paid into the Metro account this week. An accountant, Jane Leathers, has been appointed to complete the financial review by the end of April.

The following payments were approved:

Clerk's salary for March £1,451.40 (bank transfer from Metro account).

A H Gillingham: hire of labour and machinery and purchase of materials for entrance to community orchard at Lower Buckland £600 and £109 (cheque payments).

The external auditors will be PKF Littlejohn, and they require the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 to be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> July.

## **22.071 Planning**

**22/00859/AGN Manor Farm**, Buckland: application for extension to grain store refused due to proximity to RAF Halton. A full application can be submitted.

**16/01040/AOP Aylesbury Woodlands** major development: permission granted. Members expressed their concerns about reserved matters applications, particularly with regard to future traffic implications.

**Thames Water booster stations:** Bucks Council claimed these were pre-applications and therefore confidential. Pre-applications are not given a planning reference number and are not uploaded to the website.

## **22.072 Neighbourhood Plan**

The Neighbourhood Plan is currently undergoing examination with Derek Stebbing as the examiner. The Parish Council is expecting to receive his initial comments and queries within the next two weeks. It is anticipated that a referendum should be held in June or July. Members agreed that there should be publicity about the Plan once the referendum date is known.

## **22.073 Policies and Procedures**

There were no items to discuss.

## **22.074 Consultations**

**NALC** – Issues affecting smaller councils.

Cllrs raised the following concerns to be passed to NALC by the Clerk:

Planning: lack of liaison by LPA with Parish Councils even on large applications. The use of planning consultants as case officers does not work. Want to see continuity of planning decisions and case officers who are familiar with the area. Planning portal needs to be more user friendly.

Principal Councils should offer more input to smaller Councils were required, but must be aware that there is already a lot of expertise and experience within smaller Councils.

**ACTION:** Clerk to pass the above comments to NALC

## **22.075 Roads and Transportation**

Cllrs are continuing to pass on to Buckinghamshire Council via Fix My Street the need for potholes to be filled on the Lower Icknield Way, London Road and Tring Hill. Responses from Buckinghamshire Council are variable.

### **22.076 Maintenance of Land Holdings**

**Burial Ground:** Buckland Landscapes completed the maintenance of the burial ground and churchyard today. Order to be placed for signs to be placed in the churchyard and on the burial ground gate indicating the correct route of the footpath through consecrated ground.

**ACTION:** Cllr Sue Gillingham to order signs

**Lower Buckland:** Cllrs reported that all the trees planted during the winter are coming into leaf. They also commented that clearing the ditch and piping it under the entrance had improved access to the site. It was decided to locate a wildlife pond and marsh area in the top left-hand section of the site near the shrubs. It was agreed to approach companies with regard to installing a well to supply water during the summer months.

**ACTION:** Cllr Sue Gillingham and Clerk to obtain information

### **22.077 Footpaths and Environment**

**FP7 - Footpath next to Cherry Farm:** It was reported that the problem remains with the overflowing cesspit, but the property has been sold recently and it is hoped that the new owner will remedy the situation. Buckinghamshire Council Rights of Way team have done some very good work on the footpath but need to continue it a little further. Cllrs expressed their appreciation of the work done on the footpath and the steps. However, a post was damaged during the procedure which now needs repair. Cllrs decided to send a letter of thanks to Alastair McVail expressing their thanks but mentioning the points raised above.

**ACTION:** Clerk to send letter to Alastair McVail

**FP27 – canal towpath, Aylesbury Arm:** Reports have been received that the canal towpath from College Road North bridge to Buckland bridge and beyond is currently very muddy and dangerous. Cllrs agreed to apply to the Wendover Community Board for funding for the upgrading of this section of towpath from College Road North to Puttenham bridge, with support from Aston Clinton Parish Council and Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting. The Clerk has contacted Canal and Rivers Trust to ask for their consent to this project.

**ACTION:** Clerk to continue to seek approval from Canal and Rivers Trust, and then the support for this project from Aston Clinton Parish Council and Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting

### **22.078 Request from PCC for fingerpost at Peggs Lane**

Members of All Saints PCC had requested consent from the Parish Council for the placing of a fingerpost on the grass verge opposite Peggs Lane showing the direction to the Church and to other places of interest in the Parish. Cllrs pointed out that the grass verge belongs to the Highways Authority and not to the Parish Council. Therefore, the PCC will need to take up the matter with Buckinghamshire Council highways department.

**ACTION:** Clerk to write to Peter Elwin explaining that this does not fall within the remit of the Parish Council, but giving him the contact details of Lewis Minney, the local area highways technician

**22.079 Website**

Work on the website is due to start in May. The Clerk is trying to keep the material up to date.

**22.080 Arla/Olleco**

No change was reported. There is still a drone from the fans, and the release of foul odours, as before. Smells are being reported to the Environment Agency.

**22.081 Parish Council Office**

There was nothing further to report

**22.082 Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

The Chairman stated that there will be only one venue for celebrations and all helpers will be in place before the end of April.

**ACTION:** Chairman to pass to the Clerk the list of helpers by the end of April

**22.083 Matters of Report**

No matters of report were raised

**22.084 Correspondence and circulars**

There were no items under this heading

**22.085 Date of next Parish Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm and Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30pm**

*To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be conducted.*

**22.086 Grasskeep, Primrose Copse and Allotment**

The surveyor's report is still awaited. It was agreed that all contact should now be via the Parish Council's solicitor.

**The meeting closed at 20.30**

Chairman .....

Date .....