

BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Annual Meeting of Buckland Parish Council
Monday 15th May 2023
at Buckland Village Hall @ 6.30pm

Attending:-

Cllr Mr N Hayward (Chair) Cllr Mrs C Paternoster Cllr Mr J Sainsbury
Cllr Mrs S Gillingham
Clerk: Mrs J Lewis

There were two members of the public in attendance.

23.081 Election of Chairman for 2023-24

Cllr Nigel Hayward was nominated and seconded for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year. There were no further nominations and Cllr Hayward was unanimously elected Chairman. He then took the chair.

23.082 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Jon Sainsbury was nominated and seconded for the position of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Sainsbury was elected unanimously.

23.083 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Fiona Livingston.

23.084 Declarations of interest

Cllr Sue Gillingham declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item:

23.094 Planning Applications

- **23/01334/AOP** The Orchard, Lower Icknield Way, 3 dwellings

23.085 Open Forum

Residents of Buckland have expressed concern at the use of the Bridleway between Puttenham and Buckland by vehicles, contrary to its designation as a bridleway. Residents in Buckland village have complained about the number and speed of vehicles currently using this link to Puttenham. Due to safety fears, horse riders have been unable to use this normally quiet and safe road single track road. Buckinghamshire Council are aware of the situation.

A member of the public present at the meeting explained to Councillors the reasons they will be raising an objection to planning application 23/01334/AOP The Orchard, Lower Icknield Way.

23.086 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th April 2023 were agreed by the council and signed by the Chairman.

23.087 Allocation of responsibility for:-

- a. Deputy Clerk – Cllr Carole Paternoster
- b. Burial ground – Cllr Nigel Hayward
- c. Environmental services – Cllr Jon Sainsbury
- d. Footpaths, bridleways, rights of way – Cllr Fiona Livingston
- e. Lower Buckland and Community Orchard/nature reserve – Cllr Sue Gillingham

- f. Planning – Cllr Carole Paternoster
- g. Primrose Copse, Grasskeep, Allotments – Cllr Jon Sainsbury and Cllr Carole Paternoster
- h. Remembrance Sunday – Cllr Nigel Hayward
- i. Roads, ditches and drains – Cllr Fiona Livingston
- j. Finance – Cllr Jon Sainsbury and Clerk Mrs Jane Lewis

23.088 Appointment to External Bodies:

- a. Arla Liaison Group – All councillors
- b. BOST – Cllr Nigel Hayward and Cllr Carole Paternoster
- c. Wendover Community Board – Cllr Carole Paternoster

23.089 Review of Banking Arrangements:

A list of payments made to third parties via direct debit and standing orders was approved.

Bank signatories are: the Clerk, Cllrs Hayward, Sainsbury and Paternoster

23.090 Annual Governance and Accounts Return 2022-23:

Members considered and were satisfied with the effectiveness of internal control that has been in place during the year under review

Members resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement

Members considered the Accounting Statements for 2022/23

Members approved the Accounting Statements for 2022/23

The Chairman signed the appropriate documents

Dates for public inspection of accounts (6 weeks) from 5th June to 14th July 2023 were approved.

23.091 Review of Policies:

The following policies were reviewed and agreed. They are displayed on the BPC website.

- a. Standing Orders
- b. Code of Conduct
- c. Communications Policy
- d. Data Protection and Privacy Policy
- e. Data Protection Policy
- f. Environmental Policy
- g. Equality and Diversity Policy
- h. Financial Regulations
- i. Health and Safety Policy
- j. Information Security Policy
- k. Privacy Policy
- l. Risk Assessment
- m. Social Media Policy

23.092 Finance

BACS Payments/Standing Orders April 2023

06/04/23	Cloudy IT	£63.96
11/04/23	BAS	£91.20

12/04/23	Nest Pensions	£38.48
14/04/23	Balc Subscription	£128.25
14/04/23	Jane Lewis – Amazon Office Equipment	£100.48
14/04/23	Hugo Fox	£23.99
14/04/23	Jane Lewis SLCC Training	£144.00
17/04/23	N Power	£31.85
17/04/23	N Power	£289.24
17/04/23	Castle Water	£104.25
21/04/23	J Sainsbury (Coronation drinks)	£335.64
28/04/23	One Com	£52.56
28/04/23	Nest Pensions	£38.48
28/04/23	Silverspade Landscapes	£2424.00
28/04/23	Clerk Salary - April	£1027.52

14/04/23	Bucks Precept Payment	£17128
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Balances

Opening Balance		£38503.60
Money Out		£4893.90
Money In	£17128	
Closing Balance		£50737.70

The above payments and bank balances were agreed and approved

a. Non-payment of funeral costs

The Clerk reported that the payment of £600 for a double grave in the burial ground had still not been received from the funeral director.

ACTION: Clerk to send final letter to Metcalfe's asking for payment within seven days. Failure to pay will result in legal action and review of burial procedures for Metcalfe's.

b. Appointment of external accountant

The council discussed the possible appointment of external accountants to handle the financial statements.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate

23.093 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on Land West of Main Road Buckland: Enforcement ref: NC/22/00346/COU: the case officer has fully investigated and recommended that the case is closed. A senior officer/manager has reviewed the officer's recommendation and agrees with it. The breach in this case has been resolved and as such, no breach of planning control is now occurring.

The Clerk reported that village notice boards were falling into disrepair. The council agreed to review the possible installation of new noticeboards.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate costs and report back to council.

23.094 Planning Applications/Matters

- **23/01334/AOP** The Orchard, Lower Icknield Way, 3 dwellings

As the applicant, Cllr Sue Gillingham left the meeting before any discussion took place on this item.

Following a debate, the following points were made:

The application constitutes backland development, not infill, so is contrary to Buckland Neighbourhood Plan policy BP6

The density, layout and space around buildings fails to observe the requirement of local distinctiveness and is contrary to BP4 and BP6.

There is insufficient parking available on site. Contrary to BP11. Garages are excluded because they can be converted using PDRs.

It was agreed to register an objection to this application for the following reason: the application is contrary to VALP policies BE2 and BE4, and also to Buckland Neighbourhood Plan policies BP4, BP6, BP11.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Buckinghamshire Council accordingly.

Cllr Gillingham returned to the meeting.

- **23/01115/APP** Samian Way, Aston Clinton, plant and construction equipment including tower crane

Following discussion of this application it was decided that BPC should object for the following reasons:

- It is contrary to VALP policy BE2 regarding the design of new development. This application will have a negative effect on important views and skylines on this gateway site into Aylesbury. It is out of proportion with other development in the area. The tower crane will be higher than the Arla silos even when stowed.

- It is contrary to VALP policy BE3. The height of the tower crane, noise and lighting from the site will have a negative effect on the amenity of local residents, including our residents in Buckland.

- It is contrary to VALP policy NE3. The height of the crane will have a negative effect on views into and out of the Chilterns AONB, only 2 km from the site.

There will be a danger to aircraft using Halton airfield.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Buckinghamshire Council accordingly

Enforcement notices Lower Buckland – Enforcement notices have now been actioned for plots 1 and 2, however there are remaining structures on other plots.

ACTION: Clerk to review planning portal for updates.

23.095 Consultations

To agree Parish Council's response to

- Local Plan for Buckinghamshire consultation – Cllr Paternoster to review.

23.096 Roads and Transportation

The data provided by the truelo strips has now been received and is being analysed.

Buckland Wharf residents have enquired about setting up a Speed watch at Buckland Wharf

ACTION: Clerk to investigate Speed watch for Buckland Wharf.

Truelo strips have been placed on two sections on Buckland Road near Hope Cottages.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate purpose.

23.097 Maintenance of Land Holdings

Burial Ground: is now being maintained every other week by one operative. Contractor will be reminded of Church 750th anniversary in June.

An area needs to be identified and cleared for future cremation plots. Cllr Hayward and Cllr Paternoster will review along with Rector Sally Bottomer.

Lower Buckland – increased traffic due to removal of bollards on the bridleway by local developer in Puttenham. Bollards and padlocks need to be replaced as soon as possible.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up this up

Grass keep Copse and Allotments grazing licence review is due.

ACTION: Clerk to notify current tenant of the tenancy end-date and then advertise availability for the following 11-month period.

23.098 Footpaths and Environment

A report has been received of a damaged bridge in Lower Buckland near Draytonmead Farm. Cllr Sue Gillingham will investigate.

23.099 Website, Social Media and Communications

Clerk to promote website on village Facebook page in coming weeks

23.100 Arla/Olleco

Odours have started to appear again with warm weather. These are being noted by Clerk and councillors. Cllrs will address this matter with ARLA at the next meeting on 14th June.

23.101 Scout Hall

Correspondence had been received regarding Aston Clinton Scout Hall and refusal of Bucks Council to allow access over land to the proposed hall. BPC agreed to send letter of support for the building of the Scout Hall to Cllr Martin Tett, Leader, Buckinghamshire Council, since access to the site is currently being blocked due to a covenant on the grass verge.

23.102 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.

About 150 people had attended the Coronation event run by the Parish Council on 8th May. Feedback from those attending had been very positive.

23.103 Correspondence and circulars

None

23.104 To agree Parish Council meeting dates for 2023-24

The following dates were agreed:

2023

June 12th

July 10th

August 14th

September 11th

October 9th

November 13th

December 11th

2024

January 10th

February 12th

March 11th

April 8th Annual Parish Meeting 6.30pm Parish Council Meeting 7pm

May 13th Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

23.105 Date of next Parish Council Meeting 12th June 2023 at 7.00pm in Buckland Village Hall.

23.106 Confidential Item: *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.*

Grass Keep, Primrose Copse and Allotment

The decision taken was to engage a surveyor to mark out the allotment land subsequent to fencing the site.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.