

Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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For Councillor Information

Report Subject: Brookside Lane, Chipping, lantern removal and subsequent investigation

1. Purpose of the report

For information about the ownership and responsibilities of Brookside, Chipping lights and removal of lanterns.

2. Introduction

County Cllr J Jones was contacted by a resident of Brookside, Chipping, informing him that the lamps from the street lights had been removed by contractors in December 2024, and that they were unsure of the reason. CCllr J Jones looked into the situation and reported back.

3. Current Position and Proposals

CCIIr Jones contacted EHDC who investigated into the ownership of the lights and road in Brookside, Chipping. EHDC logged and assigned the investigation to Ringway January 2025.

Andy Trench responded:

"I have finally found out who owns these lights which is currently Clarion Housing. They were originally owned by East Herts DC, but transferred to Stort Valley Housing Association in 2002, than taken over by the current owners at a later date which I do not have.

I have reported the missing lanterns to Clarion Housing and also informed them of my suspicion that the lanterns may have been stolen as part of the 294 lantern thefts by a Hertfordshire resident over the last year or so. The case reference for my fault report to Clarion is: CAS 3405419J7P9G5, should anybody wish to follow it up. I have requested details of all the lights that EHDC have transferred to alternative owners, so that we can update the Confirm database, but will be updating the units in Brookside, Chipping in the meantime. EHDC have indicated that they will get back to me with the information about any other lights transferred to others within two weeks.

I trust the above is helpful and can be passed back to the residents, for their reassurance."

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CCIIr Jones reported on Thursday 20th February 2025 that he was aware a Clarion maintenance engineer had visited Brookside residents the day before. They are producing a plan of works to replace the lanterns along with a total resurface of Brookside.

4. Financial and Legal Implications

There are no financial or legal implications to the council

Report produced by:	Caroline Scott, Clerk					
Date:	24 February 2025					