



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of the MEETING NO. 230 OF BUCKLAND AND CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL.

Held on Monday 7th November 2011 at 8.00pm

At The Crown Inn Buntingford.

Present: Councillors: J Noades (Chairman) Cllrs T Harrington, D Hall, J Jones. J Kenyon and M Ling.

In attendance the clerk David Smith, 7 members of the public.

- 1.230 To receive apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Mr and Mrs D Bowen. It was reported that Joan Bowen was ill. A letter to be sent.
- 2.230 To receive Members Declarations of Interest. Councillors D Hall and J Jones would be payees.
- 3.230 To approve the minutes of Parish Council meeting 229 19th September 2011 and authorise the Chairman to sign them. Proposed by Cllr Kenyon seconded by Cllr Hall **Agreed**
- 4.230 To consider planning applications received, progress reports & decisions. Duplicated item.
The chairman wished to take item 18 at this point. **Agreed.**
18.230. Members of the public raised the issue of the field to the rear of Chipping Hall Cottages. There were strong rumours in the village that this land would be subject to a change of use, possibly as a certified location for caravans. Cllr Ling reported conversation with the farmer concerned led her to believe that the land was to be used for livestock. Cllr Kenyon had made enquiries with the National Caravanning Club's. His information showed that there were no applications pending. Cllr Jones said if it was to be a certified location it would need a licence. There was also the question of a stile been inserted into the fence leading to concerns that this could establish a right-of-way. The chairman told the members of the public that the Council would be vigilant in this area. The overgrown and narrow footpath from Buckland to Chipping was raised. The chairman reported that this had already been raised with Herts Highways but would be done so again at our next meeting with them in December. Members of the public raised the issue of speeding in the villages, this will be discussed on our agenda. Confusion over naming of some houses in Chipping was raised. This is primarily the responsibility of the Post Office.
- 5.230 Chairman's Report. After considering a quotation for the printing of the advert circulars, it was decided to carry on printing in-house until the existing laser printer cartridges were used The chairman had nothing further to report which would not be covered by the agenda.
- 6.230 Accounts for Payment. Accounts for payment: external audit; clerk salary; PAYE: Wreath for Armistice Day. **Agreed.**
- 7.230 To consider the Budget for 2012/2013. All councillors had not received draft copies of the budget. As there were considerations regarding the installation of flowerbeds which would be discussed under 11.230, **agreed** to defer until the January meeting.
- 8.230 To Report the Conclusion of Audit. **No recommendations.**

- 9.230 Review Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Assessment. **Approved**
- 10.230 To discuss issues relating to the Newsletter. Cllr Ling said that only Cllr Harrington had supplied her with copy for the latest newsletter. She asked for more content from councillors and villagers.
- 11.230 To discuss issues relating to Herts Highways. The chairman reported that himself, Cllr Kenyon and the clerk were meeting with the highways engineer on December 2. He had produced an aide memoir of issues to be raised. If any councillors had anything further to report these could be added. Cllr Hall asked if progress had been made on replacing the village sign on Barkway Lane. The clerk to raise the issue with the highways engineer. The clerk reported the Council have been awarded £700 towards the cost of flower boxes at the North and South entrance to the villages. After discussion it was agreed that we needed written confirmation from Herts Highways as to the layout and installation of flower beds. The clerk to contact The Highways Engineer. The clerk also to obtain further quotes for the installation and maintenance of the beds.
- 12.230 To discuss Speeding issues within the villages. The chairman had discussed the installation of a speed monitoring device with Sgt Wallace. Sgt Wallace had raised various issues which would be to be considered. He has suggested that the parish be put forward for The Speed Watch initiative. This would require volunteers to operate police owned equipment after suitable training. Cllr Kenyon agreed to be the Council's representative. Cllr Kenyon reported that he had written in a private capacity to our MP asking for the number of times the Metropolitan police used the A10 for training purposes.
- 13.230 To consider planning applications received, progress reports & decisions. An application had been received for building works at the Nuthampstead Shooting Range. This could include a significant number of lorry movements along the Barkway Road. The Council were unanimous in objecting to this proposal. The clerk to write stating the reasons for our objection. It was reported the second planning application for The Homestead had been approved.
- 14.230 To Discuss progress on the creation of a Parish Plan Working Party. Cllr Harrington reported that she now had five volunteers for a working party. It was agreed that she should have an initial meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Hall seconded by Cllr Noades, This Council approve the setting up of a Parish Plan Working Party. **Agreed**. The clerk to ascertain if any grants were available.
- 15.230 To discuss the purchase of village signs. Cllr Hall reported progress. The village signs could commemorate the Queens Diamond Jubilee. He was to approach Awards for All for grants. This proposed by Cllr Jones seconded by Cllr Harrington that Cllr Hall progress this matter. **Agreed**
- 16.230 To discuss the arrangements for Armistice Day. The chairman to lay the wreath on behalf of the Council. Later the wreath to be taken to the church for the Christmas service.
- 17.230 To discuss Village Events. Cllr Harrington reported the decision had been taken to cancel the Halloween event due to an apparent lack of volunteers. Cllr Kenyon suggested that we should suggest dates for these events earlier. It was reported that the Village Association have granted £75 for a Children's Christmas party on Sunday, 11 December at St Andrews. Cllr Hall reported that the telephone box in Buckland was now a VIP. There was information on the village, a magazine and book exchange and a suggestion box. Cllr Hall said there were invoices of £40 towards the cost of telephone box refurbishment. Proposed by Cllr Kenyon seconded by Cllr Jones Cllr Hall be reimbursed. **agreed**.
- 18.230 To invite Members of the Public to address the meeting. Taken earlier.
- 19.230 To note correspondence received. The clerk reported that East Herts work to produce new codes of conduct for councillors.
- 20.230 To receive matters for report and or referral to next agenda. After discussion on distribution of papers it was agreed that the clerk should send all papers to councillors one

week before the meeting. The clerk asked that members send return receipts to his e-mails. If councillors had specific items to be added to the agenda they should contact the chairman. The chairman wished the agenda item for members of the public to address the Council to be earlier in the agenda. **Agreed.** Cllr Jones felt that all potential Council decisions should be agendered.

21.230 To agree date of next meeting. January 9th 2012. Agreed. The meeting closed at 10:10 PM

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