



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

Clerk: Caroline Jones – Barnside, Hare Street Buntingford SG9 0AD

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING No. 240

Buckland and Chipping Parish Council

Held on Monday, 7th January at The Crown, Buntingford 8pm

Present: Cllr J Noades (chair)
Cllr J Jones
Cllr T Harrington
Cllr J Kenyon
Cllr M Ling

Members of Public : none in attendance

Clerk: Caroline Jones

The Chairman welcomed councillors to parish council meeting no. 240. Meeting commenced 8pm.

- 1.240 To receive apologies for absence** – Cllr D Hall.
- 2.240 Disclosure of Members’ Interests** - none received.
- 3.240 Police Report** – none – bypass was shut at 5pm today due to a possible incident on the A10 by Aspenden Tip.
- 4.240 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 12th November 2012** circulated to members to be signed as a correct record, Cllr Kenyon proposed they be signed as correct, Cllr Ling seconded. **RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting and were duly signed.**
- 5.240 Chairman’s report** – nothing to report.
- 6.240 Receive Bank Balance & Payments Due**
Clerks financial records balance to the latest statement from Barclays. Clerk needs details of the Remembrance Wreath. Dave Lewis confirmed the cost is £18 – parish council agreed to pay £25. Cheque signing deferred to end of the meeting.
- 7.240 Agree Budget for 2013-14**
Concerns were raised over the Tax base letter received from EHDC, £-16.57
A query was raised over the amount for the training budget; the clerk confirmed that the CiLCA would need to be paid for now, £200. It was agreed that the CiLCA be budgeted for and deferred to later in the year / January 2014. Training to be retained at £450. The budget should include £100 for questionnaires for the Parish Plan – to be added. Clerk to added £100 Parish Paln and £300 events, additional £7 wreath.
Resolved to keep £450 for training, add £100 for Parish Plan, Events to be £300 and additional £7 for Remeberance Wreath proposed by JK and seconded by JJ, all agreed (see note in 8.240 grass cutting *)
- 8.240 Agree and Sign the Precept**
The Precept was to be £4030 less £100 making £3932.

ACTION

clerk (2)



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ACTION

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

A Discussion followed to revisit the budget to agree the costs of grass cutting to go up to £2,500 – proposed by JK, seconded by JJ, all agreed.

RESOLVED TO INCREASE THE BUDGET OF GRASS CUTTING TO £2,500 *

With a total expenditure of £7,613 an increase of Precept was recommended (£1347 deficit £6210 is the total bottom line figure). A Sub-committee was agreed to put grass cutting out to tender; JK and JJ to present to the next meeting.

clerk

JK/JJ

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

Decision on the precept to remain the same figure as last year.

RESOLVED TO SET THE PRECEPT AT £4,132 PROPOSED JK, SENCENDED JJ, all in favour

Precept form signed by chairman, 2 councillors and the clerk.

9.240 Consider Planning Applications & Receive details on Decisions

- a) No news on Wisbridge Farm Solar Panels 12/02365/1
- b) Chipping Hall Barns – information has been received from planning regarding the dropped kerb and access. The access has been reinstated, the contractor took out gravel and has laid tarmac in. There is a vast improvement but there is a lump in the channel that should not be there. Add to the Highways Inspection and report at next meeting.
- c) No update on Mission House.

10.240 Newsletter

Note to be added to next newsletter on how to report vehicles parked on verges
 Material required for next newsletter
 Clerk to note that adverts were not printed with the last newsletter
 Clerk to check the default on printer, change to A4
 Clerk to advise when school holidays are for printing purposes

Clerk

clerk

11.240 Herts Highways

Herts highways no issues – one bad pothole has been filled
 Highways Inspection – set for 10.30am 12th February meet at the Countryman Pub
 Request of Whitely Lane inspection
 Collapse of a section of tarmac south of bus stop, 20yards south of bus stop – clerk to report – outside Chipping Hall Farm (Highways ref. 201004993096)
 Query of some work undertaken outside Cllr Hall’s property – there was a puddle of water and a bad state of repair. Possible Viola’s work. Clerk to ask Cllr Hall for information and report if necessary.

clerk✓

12.240 Thames Water

No problems to report, this will now come off next Agenda.

13.240 Standing Orders Review

The chairman asked if an e-mail copy of the Agenda would now be acceptable.
 Concerns were raised that an e-mail may not be received. Clerk to send by e-mail for the next meeting requesting an Auto Response, all councillors to respond to trial.

clerk

14.240 Website

Nothing to report. The website received 500 hits in the past 2 months.



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15.240 Healthwatch Update

TH reported on the health and wellbeing workshop held at The Priory, Ware. Paperwork from the meeting was passed to the clerk to arrange this to be shared with the councillor – it may be interest as it links to the Parish Plan, add to next Agenda. Clerk to go back to original e-mail and check why the parish council were invited; was this to encourage sharing of information with the parish?

ACTION

Clerk (2)

16.240 Code of Conduct

TH reported on the Code of Conduct workshop. The new Code of Conduct has been adopted. All councillors need to be clear what interests have been included in the Pecuniary Interest. Query as to the parish council's Complaints Procedure? JJ to look into this. JJ confirmed that the Code of Conduct is on the website. TH asked what the Procedure for Breach of Code of Conduct was. JJ explained and will look into producing a procedure that can be followed.

JJ

JJ

17.240 Village Events / Insurance

The council agreed that events should be held, clerk confirmed that parish council insurance covers events (if it is organised and run by the parish council and that outside stall holders must provide own insurance). Fees for use of the church are confirmed as £25/day and £5/hour. It had been previously agreed there would be no charge for the parish council, clerk to reinvestigate fees (2007) and check with DH. It was agreed that potential village events for the year could be Diamond Jubilee of the Queen's Coronation. Barn Dance or Hog Roast – may be a fee to individuals. An organising committee should be set up (currently JH, DH). Fireworks event was suggested and the scarecrow event was popular before; people put up scarecrows along the A10. TH to put something in the newsletter.

clerk

TH

18.240 Kenya

The pdf of Hannah Nolan's trip to Kenya was included in the newsletter and will be added to the parish website, clerk to send pdf to JJ. Clerk to write to Hannah.

clerk

19.240 Diamond Jubilee Plaque

Awaiting permission from the church. Sundial or plaque (note this approx. cost of £200 is not in the budget). Sundial may be put in without permission from the CCT. JJ to get firm costing, the unveiling of a plaque could be linked into an event. JK suggested June 2nd for an event.

JJ

20.240 Invite Members of Public to speak – none present

21.240 Note Correspondence Received

22.240 Report / Referral

A query was raised about a light at the lorry park. This falls under Therfield and North Herts Environmental Services.

23.240 REFERRAL FOR NEXT MEETING :

Healthwatch, Highways, Code of Conduct Procedure, Complaints Procedure, Sundial JJ / JN will try to cut down the amount on the agenda.

24.240 DATE OF NEXT MEETING : 11th March – last one at the pub for the year. 8pm.

clerk book✓

Meeting closed at 9.55pm and the chairman sent his best wishes for the New Year.