



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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

Tel: 01763 289763

e mail: clerk@bucklandandchippingpc.org.uk

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING No 244 OF BUCKLAND AND CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL Held on Monday, 13th May at St Andrew's Church at 8pm

Present:
Cllr J Noades (chair)
Cllr D Hall (DH)
Cllr T Harrington (TH)
Cllr J Kenyon (JK)
Cllr M Ling (ML)

Members of Public : Chris Harrington, Sue Simmons, Janet Noades, Sgnt D Wallace

Clerk: Caroline Jones

The Chairman welcomed councillors and visitors to the Parish Council Meeting No. 244, commencing at 8pm

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Jones.
2. Declarations of Interest – two noted from Cllr Hall for additional invoices for approval at this meeting – E-On for electricity to the kiosks and printing cartridges for the summer event
3. **Police Report**

A review of the last 12 months showed low levels of crime. From 1st April 2012 – 31st March 2013 11 crimes were committed in the area. These ranged from vehicle theft, stolen electric cables, theft of plant (excavator etc), burglary / other (shed/barns) phone and bicycle theft. Buntingford saw a reduction of crime last year of 25.8%.

There have been two critical incidents; fatal motorcycle accident on 24.10.12 and an industrial accident on 09.08.12.

Speed checks continue in the villages where possible, 11 visits have been carried out with 6 prosecutions.

Operation Panther has been successful in helping with behaviour issues in Buntingford. Three official letters are sent to those involved, after this parental and police meetings are arranged.

Operation Stop assists vulnerable people in the community which help by putting in smoke alarms, window locks, hanging old jackets by the door or workman boots outside to make it look like more than one person resides at the residence.

Prevention was very much key within the rural community.

The Chairman thanked Sgnt Wallace for his time.

ACTION

Signed _____ 25.6.13

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ACTION

4. To approve the minutes from the last meeting on 11th March 2013 – proposed and seconded, unanimous vote to sign the minutes as a true record.
RESOLVED That the minutes of 11th March 2013 were agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting and the Chairman was authorise to signed them.

5. **Chairman’s Report** – covered in the Annual Parish Meeting earlier

6. Finance

- 6a. The Statement of Accounts was agreed and signed
- 6b. The bank balance at beginning of April was received at £14,341.23
- 6c. The payments were approved, cheques signed at the end of the meeting
- 6d. The internal auditor, Neville Barnes was approved with a cost of £50

7. Wisbridge Solar Farm

Clerk to write to North Herts DC and request if any payment was agreed by the developer for the solar panel farm view from the local pathway

Clerk

8. Herts Highways

- Entrance to churchyard for footpath ROW sign wooden post collapsed
- Access to Chipping Hall Barns – clerk to report no dropped kerb and spillage of stones onto road
- Pavement North of Chipping Bank is falling – west side Chipping Hill
- Potholes on Barkway Road
- Dropped Kerb at entrance to square

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

9. **Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure** – deferred to next meeting

10. Church

Fees, forms and risk assessments were discussed in length. No formal agreement was approved 6 years ago. A reduction of grass cutting was discussed but not approved. It was proposed and seconded to accept the nominal charge and hold 3 meetings/ year at the Church – **RESOLVED to hold 3 meetings per year at the Church and pay a nominal fee to the CCT**

Clerk

It was proposed and seconded to write to the CCT to agree this plus a 3/5 year no increase of fees – **RESOLVED That the clerk would write to the CCT to request no increase of fees for a period of 3-5 years**

Clerk

Details have been received for two new church signs, no objections received – clerk to write to the CCT to inform them that no concerns / objections were raised

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11. Village Events

These were discussed. Clerk and Cllr Harrington have applied for a grant of £500 for the summer event to be held on 2nd June 2013. The event must be free to receive this grant. Cllr Harrington asked the parish council if some of the NHB funds could be used for this Barn Dance & Hog Roast. It was proposed to reset the budget for events to £1200 and seconded, all in favour – **RESOLVED to set the budget at £1200 from the NHB Grant for Village Events**

12. Neighbourhood Plan

An invitation to discuss further joining Buntingford Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan had been received. Cllr Harrington would be happy to be the parish council's representative. As Cllr Jones was on the original Neighbourhood Plan Committee, it was proposed that he represent Buckland and Chipping Parish Council if he would like to. **Following a vote, second and unanimous vote, it was RESOLVED that Buckland and Chipping would be interested to discuss further joining Buntingford Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan**

13. Website – no report

14. Newsletter

Cllr Ling has stood down as Editor and Cllr Hall has volunteered to take over the editorship. Cllr Harrington thanked Cllr Ling for all her hard work and the Chairman thanked Cllr Ling for all her good work.

15. Buckland Notice board

The site of the Notice Board was discussed at length. It was thought that the notice board was originally sited without agreement with the parish council. The cost would be £150. It was proposed to leave the Notice Board where it was, all agreed – **Following a vote, second and unanimous vote, it was RESOLVED that the Notice Board should remain in its place**

16. The Well

The clerk had information how to get the well listed but was informed by a parishioner that it already had listed status. The clerk to investigate via English Heritage / Visited Buildings.com

17. Sundial

The clerk passed information on the sundial to Cllr Hall. Jonathan Jasper and the CCT have approved the sundial in principal. No commemorative plaque can be put in the church as the CCT don't allow any additional memorials within the church. If Jonathan Jasper can have the measurements and exact location for the sundial he will consult the diocese and parochial meetings to gain approval for this to be sited in the churchyard.

ACTION

clerk

Clerk

Cllr Hall

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18. Members of the Public – no comments received

19. Correspondence Received / Sent

Cllr Hall requested a letter to the Diocese be sent asking if there were any future plans for the cleared land at the Glebe

It was noted that the Annual Return and Tax Payments need to be confirmed by 19th May to ensure no fine of £100

Cllr Hall noted that Cllr Jones had previously had Buckland and Chipping parish council e-mail as contact details on his canvassing material. This had subsequently been removed. He stated that the parish council should be seen as non political and not endorsing any one candidate for the election.

The invitation for the Buntingford Civic Centre Evening was passed to Cllr Hall

20. Referral to next meeting ; The Well, Winter Event, Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure, Highways

21. Dates of Next Meetings agreed :
Tuesday 25th June at the Church at 8pm to approve the Audit
Monday 15th July at the Church at 8pm

The meeting was closed at 9.20pm

ACTION

Clerk

Clerk

Signed _____ 25.6.13

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