



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING No 248

BUCKLAND AND CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday, 11th November at The Manor House at 8pm

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

Others Present: Sergeant Duncan Wallace

Clerk: Caroline Jones

The Chairman welcomed all to the Parish Council Meeting No. 248, commencing at 8pm

1. Apologies

None received.

2. Declarations of Interest

Personal : DH declared an interest in Finance for reimbursement (events)

3. Police

Sgt Wallace reported that crime in the area was good and there were no recorded crimes from 1st September. There was a fire at The Old Rectory on 5th October and a report of intruders on 8th October but were unsubstantiated. There had been a tree and wire down in the storm.

There was a RTA in Chipping yesterday involving 4 vehicles with slight injury to persons. The Rural area has been suffering from a spate of burglary incidents involving garages and sheds. A great deal of property has been recovered and suspects arrested. An open meeting is organised at the weekend for victims to come along and view the recovered items. 4x4 theft was prevalent, particularly with Land Rover Defenders. One Land Rover had been taken at Dassals and another vehicle locally.

In Buntingford September saw an 18.8% reduction for crime for the same time last year. The main area of focus is crime prevention in rural areas.

Cllr Jones asked if there have been any hare coursing incidents. Sgt Wallace reported that there had been some 2am patrols and surveillance cameras in place. There had been 24 reports of Hare Coursing in East Herts from 1st August.

Cllr Jones asked for an update on the A507 to Cottered, there had been another accident over the weekend. Sgt Wallace reported that Traffic Management had been involved and various meetings had taken place. There had been mud on the road but it wasn't linked to the accident.

4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting No. 247 – 9th September 2013

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 9th September had previously been circulated and following a proposal, second and unanimous vote it was **RESOLVED that the minutes of Parish Council meeting 9th September 2013 be approved.** The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked DH for laying the wreath. Bonfire night went very well, although the bonfire took some time to get going. The BBQ has gone missing. The 40mph sign at Chipping has blown off in the gale. It has been found but it is damaged and a new complete sign has been ordered.

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6. PLANNING

6.1 None received

6.2 Briars Mead in Sandon Lane – council had no comments – no decision yet

6.3 3/07/2027 Chipping Hall Barns – EHDC reply was copied to Highways. Clerk was asked to write to Glynn Day stating that a dropped kerb should have been in place before the properties were occupied – as is required for all residential property developments

clerk

7. FINANCE

7.1 The bank statement was received showing a current balance of £17,910 – following a proposal and second, the financial statement was unanimously accepted. JJ questioned the ink usage, referred to Newsletter Item.

7.2 Payments due were agreed. Following a proposal, second and unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS plus additional wreath payment of £25**

7.3 To review the cost of CiLCA for the clerks training @ £370 – clerk to do it 1to1 with Jill Jones clerk to arrange suitable dates for this from January 2014.

clerk

7.4 To review the draft Budget – put £100 in for Election. May be able to take out the £200 for hedge. JJ questions the Events £1500 allocation. Precept currently set the same as 2013-14.

7.5 To receive the Audit complete with one comment – that the Asset Register needs updating for 2014 – not on Agenda – refer to January. HAPTC sub for 2014 is £135.50.

clerk

8. HIGHWAYS

8.1 no new to report

8.2 Outstanding are

8.2.1 Drop Kerb at The Square, Chipping – following this being reported to highways and raised with our county councillor 2 years ago nothing has happened. Clerk to write to both Rose Cheswright and Highways

Clerk

8.2.2 Potholes at Chipping Hall Barns, Outside the Countryman – not done – JJ to let clerk know if the manhole cover has been done

JJ

8.2.3 Farm Entrance potholes at Buckland – DH will inspect and let the clerk know

DH

8.2.4 There is a step into the old dairy at the farm entrance, query raised if it should have markings around it. The step/ramp protrudes into the road, DH to inspect.

DH

8.2.5 DH requested gritting at the Christmas Barn Shop as it gets very slippery on the hill. Clerk to request a salt bin there or a salt bag drop and at JJ's property at the bridge.

clerk

9. A10 SLOW DOWN SIGNS

A new quotation has been received, a grant application made to the Police Commissioners and communication from Herts Highways received. The chairman read out the e-mail from Rosemary Chatindo. Following the information received from Herts Highways, it was clear that the stretch of road wouldn't meet the criteria and the parish council decided to withdrawn the grant application. Duncan will do speed checks where possible in the villages.

clerk

10. COMMON LAND

LR10 search and maps from Land Registry have been requested which can take up to 10 weeks, deferred to next meeting. Trees in both Daw's Lane and Church Lane need assessing. DH asks if the PC is responsible to ensure that the trees need work – regardless of whose responsibility. Notices are still up in Daw's Lane. Chairman suggested asking if Suzanne knows about the fallen tree, and if she can look at the 2 Ash Trees in Daw's Lane. DH to speak to Suzanne.

DH

11. FLY TIPPING

Sign is in place but it is disappointing as it's plastic and keeps blowing round in the wind and not a permanent sign like on the A10. Clerk to notify Cottered PC that the sign has been erected and that B&C are disappointed that they only got one sign.

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12. EVENTS

Date for the Church Christmas Party was proposed 2-4pm on 21st December; there had been no confirmation of the date from the vicar, waiting on the date confirmation to produce the newsletter. £50 budget to go towards Xmas gifts. Carol Service date not known. DH to add Newsletter Xmas Message from the Chairman.

The firework night went well. Event should be held in 2014, all agreed.

It was suggested that the Summer Event be approved now for 2014 – a Hog Roast – if it was paid for it would cost £10/head. Deferred to January and budget setting.

A PC Christmas Meal is to be organised. Wed 11th December 8pm for 8.30pm was suggested – The Swan Tea Room, Hare Street, Zaffarino's or The Wine Bar – clerk to look into menus.

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A meeting is arranged for next Wednesday to produce members for the forum. Jason Noy had suggested a possible open day showing the community what is planned in Chipping and he and 2 or 3 others may be interested in joining the forum. The District Plan will now be available in January 2014.

14. SUPERFAST BROADBAND

JJ is on the Buntingford Forum. Businesses have brought their concerns to BTC regarding the speed of broadband in the area. Herts CC had a meeting at Buntingford. JJ reported that the town is in the rollout scheme. Feeds in from Puckeridge where there is currently a technical and funding issue which is being worked on. Herts CC are confident that fibre optic should be possible locally in 2015.

15. WEBSITE

To date there have been 5271 hits. Photographs from the Remembrance Service have been loaded with Cllr Hall laying the wreath. Clerk to send minutes in pdf.

16. BRITISH LEGION MEMORIAL SERVICE

The chairman thanked DH for laying the wreath and reported that there was a short 10 minute service today. JJ photographed it for the mercury.

17. NEWSLETTER

JK had requested prices from Alan Sharpe for printing a batch of Newsletter Adverts.

18. MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC None

19. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED the correspondence list was circulated for info only

20. ITEMS FOR REFERRAL

To accept the Audit, Chipping Hall Barns access, Events, Jubilee Commemorative Plaque, Common Land and Daw's Lane, Neighbourhood Plan feedback, Fly Tipping Signs, Pond / Moat Project by Mallions, Centenary Recasting Gravestones at Buckland (Rob Script), Green Belt Review

East Herts had a meeting on renovating war memorials. Any war memorials / church memorials needing attention should be photographed and supplied for a renovation grant. B&C memorials in St Andrews and the Memorial in Buntingford.

21. NEXT MEETING will be held at The Crown at 8pm on Monday 20TH January 2014

The chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm

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