

Minutes of the meeting of Buckland and Chipping
Parish Council meeting No. 257
Held on 3rd November 2014 at The Manor House, Buntingford

Present: Councillors D. Hall, J. Jones, J. Kenyon, T. Harrington and M. Trewin.

Also Present: 3 members of public.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8pm.

1. Received apologies of absence:

Apologies from Mrs M. Ling and Sgt D. Wallace.

2. Council members declaration of interest:

2.1 Payments for J. Kenyon / J. Jones / D. Hall.

3. Gates at Rectory Close, Buckland:

3.1. Diocese claim of ownership of rectory close (hearsay) from A10 to church.

HCC still awaiting confirmation of ownership from the diocese.

4. To approve as a true record and authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the parish council meeting No. 256, Monday 1st September 2014.

J. Kenyon proposed / J. Jones seconded – accepted.

5. Chairman's Report:

5.1. Update from CCT ref. grill.

6. Situation regarding appointment of clerk's post – deferred to part 2.

7. Payments:

7.1. Query over ACER cut No. 9 – D. Hall to follow up with C. Jones.

7.2. Payments – J. Kenyon proposed / J. Jones approved. Unanimous agreed.

7.3. Signatories – J. Kenyon, D. Hall, J. Jones and M. Ling now official signatories for BCPC.

7.4. Budget 2015/16: Draft budget discussed and amended, as below, for confirmation at next meeting, January 2015. Precept also to be agreed at that point.

7.4.1 Query over R.A. stats inspect trees – cost unknown. Once land registry confirms ownership, will be able to identify.

7.4.2. Precept: Looking at 0% increase. Anticipate contribution from Solar Farm (Approx. 50% of precept).

7.4.3. Tree survey to be evaluated.

7.4.4. Election 2015/16 (£900 in budget).

7.4.5. By-Election 2014/15 cost not in budget.

7.4.6. Clerk's salary to be considered.

8. Planning:

8.1. No applications received.

9. Issues related to Herts / Highways village inspection:

9.1. Quotes for village furniture / maintenance – J. Jones to ask local tradesmen. T. Harrington to approach 'DA'. Mr Sells not interested in commissioned work.

9.2. Chipping sign – still awaiting repair. J. Jones to again report on-line.

9.3. Salt bins and dog waste bins, have now been sited. J. Jones to arrange collection of dog waste with collection service. J. Jones to also ask for review of usage and how often the bins are emptied.

9.4. Middle Farm, Rectory Close (barns opposite 'well') – issue with asbestos.

Local residents have contacted land agent regarding the issue, who has shown lack of interest. J. Jones, accompanied by Simon Trewin, visited the site on 7th Nov 2014 and failed to find the asbestos mentioned. East Herts Council to be asked to investigate. JK proposed / MT seconded. JK to write letter and JJ to endorse as District Ward members representative.

10. Village Events:

10.1. Bonfire night: BBQ / Food / Fireworks / Steak purchased and supplied. 'Porta loo' ordered. Reflective jackets and first aid kit supplied by J. Jones. Drainpipes and garden forks supplied by D. Hall.

10.2. Remembrance Parade: to be held 19/11/14. D. Hall to represent Buckland and Chipping. J. Jones to provide list of fallen to be sent to D. Hall.

10.3. Remembrance event at St. Andrews: to be held 30/11/14 – grill to be in place at Buckland Church. Additional wreath to be laid on grave of R. Scripps. D. Hall to ask Sonia, stand in Vicar, to hold a ceremony. Refreshments – cheese and wine.

10.4. Christmas Party: 6/12/14 – T. Harrington to check with C. Jones if church is available.

10.5. Sundial: D. Hall to arrange brass plaque and installation. J. Jones to investigate it being securely fitted.

11. Members of the public addressing points to the meeting:

11.1. Beryl Little – having called in to Buntingford Police Station, wanted to know if the access telephone was maintained and reviewed.

12. Correspondence: Discussed insurance for Bonfire Night to ensure all adhered to. One payment by Land Registry to be acknowledged.

13. 'Dementia Friends': to agenda for next meeting to discuss workshop required.

14. Next meeting: Monday January 5th 2015 8pm, at Manor House.

PART 2: Public excluded from meeting. Proposed J. Kenyon / Seconded D. Hall. Approved.

1. Parish Clerk:

1.1. Separation of Clerk's duties – D. Hall and J. Kenyon to consider minute taker / parish administrator.

1.2. J. Jones to pass on details of a clerk from another parish who may be interested in the post.

1.3. J. Jones to ask Jill Jones (Buntingford Town Clerk) for ideas on advertising for a new Buckland and Chipping Parish Council clerk.

1.4. Clerk's contract to remain as per current hours, but pay to be reviewed for the right level of experience and qualifications.

1.5. Retain C. Jones for two further months – review at the next meeting (on existing rate of pay and no more than 8 hours per month).

Meeting close at 10:15pm, 3rd Nov 2014.

Minutes taken by T. Harrington.

Minutes produced by M. Trewin.