



Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

Clerk: Colin Marks

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MINUTES OF BUCKLAND & CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING No. 287

Monday 3rd September 2018, 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church. Buckland

PRESENT: Cllr Jeff Kenyon (JK) Chairman; Cllr Teresa Harrington (TH); Cllr Jason Noy (JN)
Cllr Jennifer Makewell (JM)

- Public: 3 members of the public
 - Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to Buckland & Chipping Parish Council
- The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

ACTION

287.01 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: Cllr Jeff Jones (other councillor duties)
2. Other apologies: Sgt Duncan Wallace – on leave

287.02 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

1. **Interests:** None
2. **Receipt of written requests for dispensations:** None
3. **Consideration of requests for dispensations:** None

287.03 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 286 held on 16th July 2018

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 286 held on 16th July 2018 as a true and accurate record.**

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

JK/Clerk

287.04 Casual Vacancy: It was noted that there have been no applications for the remaining vacancy.

287.05 Police Report

The Chairman read a report sent by Sgt Duncan Wallace:

Since 1st July there have been 4 reported crimes in the parish

04/07/18 – Assault at the fishing lake, offenders unidentified

07/07/18 – Theft of pedal cycle, suspects identified but we are encountering evidential difficulty

07/08/18 – Malicious Communications offence, suspect contacted by person he met in Malaysia

19/08/18 – Damage sustained to Bus shelter and Signpost

There was also a significant Road Traffic Collision in Chipping which remains under investigation.

The Parish Council noted that the fishing lake is actually in Therfield Parish, and that vandalism damage also included incidents in Dawes Lane.

287.06 Chairman's report

The Chairman read a message sent via the website by a parishioner concerned that a drone with video equipment is being flown over his property, contrary to FAA rules, and which could compromise his security. It appears to be coming from the Whitely Lane area. The parishioner has been recommended to report his concerns to the police, and that the Parish Council would do likewise. It was also suggested that something be written in the next Newsletter.

Clerk/JK

287.07 Finance

1. Accounts

Accounts summary 1 to 31 July 2018

£

Opening bank balance 1st July

18,595.58

Income 1 to 31 July

909.00

Expenditure 1 to 31 July

1,330.98

18,173.60

Minus presented June cheques 828 and 829

763.03

Bank balance reconciled 31st July

17,410.57

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept and approve the March and April Accounts Statements.**

Clerk

2. Budget vs Actual performance to 31 August

The Clerk's report was received. There are no untoward concerns. The final Solar Farm payment has not yet been received from Push Energy. The Clerk to pursue.

Clerk

3. Approval and signing of cheques for payment

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
3/9	Clerk (Amazon)	Reimburse N/Board keys	6.46	838	LGA 1972 s142
3/9	M Webb	Bus shelters & kiosks 4/6	80.00	839	LG(MP)A 1953 s4 PCA 1957 s1
3/9	S Hall	Litterpick August/Sept	150.00	840	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
3/9	Clerk Petty cash	Petty cash July/August	51.06	841	LGA 1972 s111
3/9	Clerk	Mileage etc July/August	22.46	842	LGA 1972 s112
3/9	J Jones reimburse	Highway mirror	144.78	843	LGA 1972 s137
3/9	Clerk reimburse	2 x TEN Notices	42.00	844	LGA 1972 s145
3/9	S Edwards- ACER	Grass cuts 5-8 of 12	800.00	845	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
3/9	P Brownless	Litterpick Chipping 17/18	900.00	846	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
		Recoverable VAT included	24.13		

The Clerk was asked to check whether the broken glass in the bus shelters is covered by insurance. The Clerk confirmed that if it is, there is a £100 excess on the policy. Cllr Jones has requested a quote for replacing the glass but this has not yet been received. It was **RESOLVED to proceed with the repairs if the net cost to the Parish Council is less than £200. If it is not insured and the cost is higher, it was agreed to reconsider what action to take.** It was confirmed that the vandalism damage presents no danger to the public.

Clerk

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the signing of the cheques as presented.** Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

Clerk/JK

287.08

PLANNING

1. New Planning Applications: NONE

2. Decision Notices:

3/18/1217/HH Pelican Cottage, Chipping: Convert part of outbuilding to residential annex. **GRANTED**

3. Other planning matters:

It was noted that the Parish Council had received an email from Aston Parish Council requesting support for the call-in of the new District Plan, due to be formally adopted by EHDC on 11 September. It was agreed not to respond since any further delay in the adoption of the Plan at this late stage would not be in the interests of the Parish, nor of the wider community.

287.09

Correspondence – as per the agenda, for information only

- EHC: re Dog bin contract arrangements (287.13.2)
- Milestone Society: re condition of Chipping Milestone (287.13.3)
- Parishioner: re Dawes Lane vandalism (287.13.6) and Back Lane lack of verge maintenance (287.13.5)
- Buckland litter picker: clearing debris in Dawes Lane, churchyard compost heap and plastic issues (287.13.6&7)
- County Cllr: Anstey Quarry – ongoing HCC Enforcement action

287.10

Action Plan

- 1. Water wheel:** Still with Land Registry and is being chased by LCPAS. It was noted that the surrounding grass is being maintained by a parishioner, for which the Council is grateful.
- 2. Buckland kiosk refurbishment:** The Chairman said he has been unsuccessful in trying to find someone to do the work. It was agreed to get quotes for it to be done professionally.

Clerk

Clerk

287.11

Events

- 1. Summer event:** Cllr Noy reported that it been impossible to get key elements in place: The ferret racing company do not do Saturdays and all the bands contacted have bookings. Two

alternatives were considered: Either move the date to a Friday or have it as a fete format. Following a discussion it was **RESOLVED to postpone the event to Friday 5th October, subject to the ferrets and a band being available.**

Cllr Noy will organise, including pricing, and with Cllr Harrington create a flyer for distribution over the 8th/9th September weekend.

The Clerk to apply for a new Temporary Event Notice (TEN) licence.

JN/TH
Clerk

2. Fireworks night, Sunday 4th November. It was noted that Simon Trewin has offered to set off the fireworks, as previously.

- It was agreed to advertise that attendees could bring their own rockets for setting off by the event, but that no other type of fireworks would be allowed to be added.
- £200 grant to be applied for by the Clerk
- BBQ to be organised by Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Harrington.
- Cllr Noy to organise the gazebo, lighting and bar
- Bonfire and risk assessment by Cllr Jones

JK
Clerk
JK/TH
JN
JJ

287.12 Highways

- 1. 40mph signs painted on road between villages:** No further news.
- 2. Replacement of missing mirror opposite Brookside:** Done.
- 3. Anstey Quarry:** Cllr Jones had reported that work at the quarry has now been closed down due to breaches of the licence parameters.

JJ
JJ

287.13 Parish matters

- 1. Notice Boards:** The Clerk had purchased two extra keys and these were given to Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Harrington, one for Chipping and one for Buckland.
- 2. Dog Bins:** The East Herts has confirmed that it does not provide poo bags for dog owners. A usage report was provided based on the contractor's round sheets covering February to August 2018. The report was that each of the four bins are consistently about a quarter full.
- 3. Chipping Milestone condition:** No report. Clerk to check again with Rod Taylor.
- 4. State of footway in Chipping:** Cllr Kenyon reported that the footway condition has improved and there is no need for further action at this time.
- 5. Back Lane – lack of verge maintenance.** It was noted that this is an ongoing problem but that it is very low priority and unlikely to receive attention. The Chairman to discuss with the parishioner.
- 6. Vandalism in Buckland:** Reported to the police and insurance claim to be considered, as noted in Agenda items 287.05 and 287.08.3 above.
A parishioner present said there has been an escalation of incidents, including a fire at a casual labourers' caravan on nearby farm land. Police to be informed by the Clerk.
Cllr Noy said he had CCTV footage of two teenage intruders at his barns recorded at the same time as the vandalism incidents. Police to be informed.
The Chairman thanked litter picker Sue Hall for clearing up the dangerous broken crockery that had been smashed in Dawes Lane.
- 7. Churchyard:** Litterpicker Sue Hall raised the issue of plastic and floral wrapping being discarded on the compost heap (which she removes). She asked whether the compost heap could be relocated and a sign asking for plastic not to be left with the compost. It was agreed that the Chairman and Sue Hall would arrange to meet on site with Rev Ruth Pyke to consider the options.
- 8. Public Rights of Way in the Parish:** There is confusion between the PRoW map on the HCC website and a Buckland FP map provided by PRoW Officer, Julian Thornton. It was agreed to ask Julian Thornton if he could join the site visit discussed on the previous agenda item.

JK/TH
Clerk
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Clerk
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JK/Clerk

287.14 Matters received too late for the agenda:

- **Daffodils for village entrances:** It was agreed that it would be good to have daffodils planted at the northern entrance to Buckland but that the only practical way of doing it would be with a mechanical digger. The landowner who maintains the grass might not be in agreement, or willing to loan the digger, because of damage to the grass. The alternative

is to plant bulbs around the water wheel and at the entrance to Chipping. The Clerk to contact Mr Hodge about using his digger. Clerk

- **Winter salt.** It was agreed that the Clerk order up to 50 bags of salt for storage at Chipping Hall barns. *Clerk's note: 34 bags of salt subsequently ordered by Cllr Jones for delivery to the salt bin opposite The Countryman.*
- **Beds & Herts Bike and Hike.** Churchwarden Karin Weston sent a late request for helpers to greet event participants at the church on 8th September. Cllr Makewell said she would volunteer and make arrangements with Karin. She also gave information about the Choral Evensong service on 2nd September, the Taize service on 28th October, and the Carol Service on 22nd December, all at St Andrew's.

It was agreed not to suspend the meeting for public comments

287.15 Items for future agendas: As listed on the agenda:

- Chipping Milestone restoration
- Revisions to Governance policy documents
- Emergency Plan update
- Pond working party programme:

Clerk
TH/Clerk
JK
JK

287.16 1. Date and time of the next meetings

Monday 5th November, 7.30pm at The Manor House, Buntingford

Monday 16th January 2019, 7.30pm at the Manor House, Buntingford

2. November Newsletter

1. **Editor:** Cllr Makewell. Following a request from Cllr Harrington, the Chairman said he would ask his IT contact if a simple newsletter template could be created that could be used with different PC operating systems.
2. **Deadlines:** (i) final copy to editor 17th October; OK Press for printing 24th October
(ii) Printed copies by 26th October for distribution

JM
JK
ALL/JM
Clerk

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.28pm.

Signed.....Dated.....