



# Buckland & Chipping Parish Council

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## MINUTES OF BUCKLAND & CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING No. 289

Monday 5th November 2018, 7.30pm at The Manor House, Buntingford

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

- Public: Police Sgt Duncan Wallace, 5 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**

### 289.01 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: None (all present)
2. Other apologies: None

### 289.02 Declarations of Interest and dispensations

1. **Interests:** Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Noy both declared non-pecuniary interests in planning application 3/18/1984/FUL, (agenda item 289.08.1) both having properties adjacent to Chipping House.
2. **Receipt of written requests for dispensations:** Both Cllr Kenyon and Noy submitted requests that were adjudged to be unnecessary since they declared their interest was not pecuniary.
3. **Consideration of requests for dispensations:** None

### 289.03 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 287 held on 3rd September 2018

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 287 held on 3rd September 2018 as a true and accurate record.**

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

*(Clerk's note: Parish Council Meeting 288 was cancelled and therefore there are no Minutes).*

**JK/Clerk**

**289.04 Casual Vacancy:** It was noted that a Buckland parishioner has expressed interest, but because there is now less than 6 months to the election on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and with only two more meetings in the interim, the parishioner has said they will attend to observe the next two meetings before standing for election in May.

### 289.05 Police Report

Sgt Wallace said that since the beginning of October, only two parish incidents have been reported, on 6th October and 1st November, both related to hare coursing.

Regarding the report of a drone being flown across properties in Buckland, it has not yet been possible to identify who it belongs to. A consultation into existing legislation covering the flying of privately owned drones is looking at current issues. It was noted that an article on the subject appeared in the latest Parish Council Newsletter. Ongoing concerns about recent vandalism are also being followed up, but positive identification of the perpetrators and evidence is needed. Sgt Wallace will report back at the next PC meeting.

The Chairman thanked Sgt Wallace, who then left the meeting at 7.50pm

### 289.06 Chairman's report

The Chairman reported that the bonfire and fireworks display the previous evening had gone really well, although attendance was slightly down on last year. Bar costs had been fully covered and a small amount of stock remained. The bonfire site had now been cleared.

He also noted that he is honoured to be laying the Parish Council wreath at the Remembrance Day service at Buntingford War Memorial on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

## Finance

## 1. Accounts

<b>Accounts summary 1 August to 30 September</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Opening bank balance 1st August</b>	<b>17,410.57</b>
Income 1 August to 30 September	2,050.00
Expenditure 1 August to 30 September	<u>2,831.55</u>
Available balance (cashbook)	16,629.02
Plus unrepresented cheque 848	<u>118.80</u>
<b>Bank balance reconciled 30th September</b>	<b><u>16,747.82</u></b>

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept and approve the August to September Accounts Statements.**

Clerk

## 2. Budget vs Actual performance to 30th September

The Clerk's report showed that finances are on course and year-end projections are within budget. The expenditure forecast for the year is anticipated to be less than budgeted due to GDPR and related administration costs being lower than expected. Also, income for the year is anticipated to be higher than budgeted due to the reinstatement of the New Homes Bonus, among other things. The overall outcome is that the bank balance at end of the financial year is potentially £16,400 against a budget balance of £13,200. Push Energy has not yet paid but has promised to make the final Solar Farm payment by the end of next week.

Clerk

## 3. Approval and signing of cheques for payment

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
20/9	Clerk	Salary July/August/Sept	474.99	847	LGA 1972 ss112, 151; LA 2011 s41
20/9	HMRC	PAYE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, July-Sept	118.80	848	LGA 1972 ss112, 151; LA 2011 s41
20/9	Clerk reimburse	TEN for 5 <sup>th</sup> October	21.00	849	LGA 1972 s145
20/9	Clerk – Petty cash	To Cllr Kenyon: BBQ coals	20.00	850	LGA 1972 s145
19/10	Cash	Advance for fireworks	325.00	851	LGA 1972 s145
5/11	Clerk reimburse	Ink cartridges	59.94	852	LGA 1972 s111
5/11	ICO	Data Protection fee	40.00	853	LGA 1972 s111
5/11	British Legion	Poppy wreath	25.00	854	LGA 1972 s137
5/11	S Hall	Litterpick Oct/Nov	150.00	855	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
5/11	M Webb	Bus shelters & kiosks 5/6 Sept/October	80.00	856	LG(MP)A 1953 s4 PCA 1957 s1
5/11	Clerk	Mileage etc Sept/Oct	24.75	857	LGA 1972 s112
5/11	1st Glass Services	Bus shelter repair #1	90.00	858	LG(MP)A 1953 s4 PCA 1957 s1
5/11	Clerk Petty cash	Petty cash Sept/Oct	14.96	859	LGA 1972 s111
5/11	Acer (S Edwards)	Grass cuts 9 to 14	1,000.00	860	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
5/11	EHC	Dog bin empty 2018/19	793.54	861	OSA 1906 ss9, 10
5/11	J Kenyon reimburse	Fireworks expenses	50.44	862	LGA 1972 s145
6/11	1st Glass Services	Bus shelter repair #2	90.00	863	LG(MP)A 1953 s4 PCA 1957 s1
		<b>Recoverable VAT included</b>	<b>157.25</b>		

It was noted that the first bus shelter glass invoice covered only one window, but that a second window was also replaced. It was agreed to sign an additional cheque for that and also to arrange for the company to replace a third smashed pane in the bus shelter opposite, which Cllr Jones said he had not been made aware of. Cllr Jones agreed to arrange for that glass to also be replaced. The Clerk said he would send the second cheque to the glass company as soon as he received the invoice. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the signing of the cheques as presented, including the second payment to 1st Glass Services, and also to make a third payment as and when the other bus shelter glass is replaced.** Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

JJ  
Clerk

<b>289.08</b>	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>1. New Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>3/18/1984/FUL Chipping House.</b> Erection of 2 no. four bed dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding various aspects of the application and the Chairman asked each councillor to give their views. Opinions were expressed about inappropriate design and materials, not conforming to the Neighbourhood and District Plan Policies, not meeting local housing needs, and concerns about the site access and the egress visibility splay on to the A10, and also Flood Plain 2 issues. Other opinions were that there were not sufficiently adequate reasons for opposing the plans. It was proposed and seconded that an objection to the application be submitted primarily because it failed to meet the requisite Planning Policies. The vote failed by 2:3. It was then proposed, seconded and by a vote of 3:2 it was <b>RESOLVED to make no objections, but to raise concerns about the site access and that any Flood Plain 2 risks are mitigated if permission is granted.</b></p> <p>The applicants were present and said they had already taken steps to improve the proposed site access.</p> <p><b>2. Decision Notices: None</b></p> <p><b>3. Other planning matters</b></p> <p>It was noted that the 2018 East Herts District Plan was formally (and thankfully) adopted by EHC at an Extraordinary Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> October.</p>	Clerk
<b>289.09</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b> – as per the agenda, for information only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rod Taylor: re condition of Chipping Milestone (289.13.1)</li> <li>• John O’Conner GM Ltd: Offering pest control services, if required</li> <li>• EHC: Peer Review process 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> December: <i>Cllr Jones noted that he will attend the Review</i></li> <li>• EHC: Rural Planning Enforcement Briefing - 25 October</li> <li>• HAPTC: Crucial dates following parish council elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019: <i>Noted</i></li> <li>• Further report of drone over Buckland</li> </ul>	
<b>289.10</b>	<p><b>Action Plan</b></p> <p><b>1. Water wheel:</b> Still with Land Registry and is being chased by LCPAS.</p> <p><b>2. Buckland kiosk refurbishment:</b> The Chairman said he would look through the small ads to find a local tradesman.</p>	Clerk JK
<b>289.11</b>	<p><b>Events</b></p> <p><b>Bonfire and Fireworks night, 4<sup>th</sup> November:</b> Report</p> <p>The Chairman said it had been a very successful evening, although the numbers were slightly down on last year. The bar takings of £90 exactly balanced with the outlay and there remained a few items of stock.</p> <p>There was a request that in future residents not be permitted to bring their own rockets because cheap ones could fail to go off properly and thereby present a danger. It was agreed to adopt this as a policy for the future.</p>	JN
<b>289.12</b>	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p><b>40mph signs painted on road between villages, and missing repeaters:</b> Cllr Jones said he has arranged with Highways for speed signs to be painted on the road and for missing repeater signs to be replaced, all in the next financial year.</p>	JJ
<b>289.13</b>	<p><b>Parish matters</b></p> <p><b>1. Chipping Milestone:</b> It was agreed that the Clerk check with Rod Taylor to see if a replacement milestone can be obtained or if the existing one can be suitably repaired. Also, that Cllr Jones to seek Highways permission for it to be relocated on the verge somewhere near the notice board.</p> <p><b>2. Vandalism in Buckland:</b> Bus stop repairs are in hand as considered in 289.07.3 above, and the police are aware as discussed during the police report in 289.05 above.</p> <p><b>3. Churchyard:</b> The Chairman reported that he is discussing with the Vicar where the compost heap might be suitably relocated.</p> <p><b>4. Public Rights of Way in the Parish and definitive map:</b> The Chairman asked that it be agreed to go on the January agenda for a working party in March to tidy Back Lane and</p>	Clerk JJ JK JK/Clerk

around the pond area. The possibility was discussed of arranging the working party to meet on 20th January to plant bulbs along Back Lane, and to advertise for volunteers.

5. **Other matters:** Cllr Jones said he had three parishioners wanting to attend the Christmas Dinner Party on 15<sup>th</sup> December. Volunteers were needed to help on the day. **ALL**

**289.14 Matters received too late for the agenda**

The East Herts consultation on the Extension and Variation of Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 – Dog Control Measures (PSPOs) was considered, but deemed not to be relevant to the Parish and the PC would therefore not participate in the consultation.

*At 9.09pm it was RESOLVED to suspend the meeting for public comments*

Mr & Mrs Turner said they would like to promote faster internet by looking at the feasibility of bringing fibre into Chipping because it currently only goes to Chipping Cabinet 3 and does not extend to Cabinet 3.1 which serves the village. There was a discussion about this and success would be dependent upon how many households would sign up for it. It was noted that a central wi-fi antenna was another possible option. Mr & Mrs Turner said they would prepare costings to find the number of households needed to make the proposition viable (possibly 50?), the idea being to find an interim solution until BT eventually comes through. They agreed to write to the Chairman with an outline that could be printed in the January newsletter. **JK**

The owners of Chipping House said they had already taken steps to resolve the unsatisfactory entrance to their proposed development, as discussed at 289.08.1. They also invited councillors to look round the site (by appointment) to get a better feel of the plans. They also reiterated the point made earlier about the public not bring their own rockets to the fireworks night. **ALL**

*The meeting was restored to order at 9.23pm*

**289.15 Items for future agendas:**

- Agree the 2019/20 Budget and Precept: January meeting **ALL/Clerk**
- A working party in March to tidy Back Lane and around the pond area, and for a working party to meet on 20th January to plant bulbs along Back Lane **JK/JM**
- Revisions to Governance policy documents **JK**
- Emergency Plan update **JK/Clerk**

**289.16 1. Calendar of Meetings for 2019**

It was agreed to add the election date of 2<sup>nd</sup> May and take the Calendar only as far as 13<sup>th</sup> May since the then newly elected Council might wish to make different arrangements. **Clerk**

**2. Date and time of the next meetings**

**Monday 14th January 2019\***, 7.30pm at the Manor House, Buntingford **ALL/Clerk**

**Monday 4th March**, 7.30pm at the Manor House, Buntingford

\*Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Harrington both offered apologies in advance that they will not be available to attend the January 14th Meeting **Clerk JK/TH**

**3. January Newsletter**

1. **Editor:** Cllr Makewell. **JM**
2. **Deadlines:** (i) final copy to editor 24th December; OK Press for printing 3rd January **JM/Clerk**  
(ii) Printed copies by 4th January for distribution **Clerk/ALL**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.35pm.

**Signed**.....**Dated**.....