



Annual Parish Assembly

25th May 2021

Agenda

- **Apologies**
- **Approve Minutes of Buckden Parish Assembly held on 9th June 2020**
- **Report by Parish Council Chairman to include finance CU**
- **Neighbourhood Plan, Current Planning Developments AHJ**
- **Community Infrastructure Levy how to benefit the village AHJ**
- **Flooding Update and Emergency Plan CU/AHJ**
- **Open Forum**
- **A chance to meet:**
 - **Your County Councillor**
 - **District Councillor**
 - **Village Hall Chair**
 - **Parish Council Chair**



Annual Report 2021

What do we do?

What have we achieved this year?

What next?

Introduction

- **15 Councillors**
- **Parish Clerk**
- **3 Part Time Handymen**
- **Two Planning Committees**
- **Ten Advisory Groups**

Large Scale Planning Committee

Achievements

- **Monitored cumulative impact on Buckden of all large-scale developments**
- **Silver Street on hold for 9 months whilst issues addressed**
- **Challenged the development re: safety of the roundabout and flooding concerns**



What next?

- Challenge large scale developments in line with Neighbourhood Plan Policies
- Lobby for additional safety and flooding measures for Lucks Lane attenuation ponds
- Highlight the need for adequate provision of drainage

Planning Committee

Achievements

- Made recommendations to HDC about 60 planning and 11 TPO applications
- Assessed applications against HDC Local Plan
- Contributed to two pre-application consultations



What next?

- Monitor planning against policies in the Neighbourhood Plan
- Support planning-related activities in the Community Action Plan
- Continue to review all Buckden planning applications and respond within stipulated time scales;

Neighbourhood Plan Group

Achievements

- Produced a Neighbourhood Plan specific to Buckden's needs
- Plan approved by HDC, Inspector and residents
- The village has influence over the type of developments
- Developers must comply with the policies in the Plan
- We receive the maximum funding when houses are built in the village



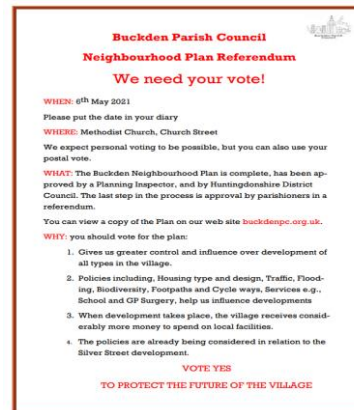
Buckden Neighbourhood Development
Plan 2020 – 2036

November 2020

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL
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What next?

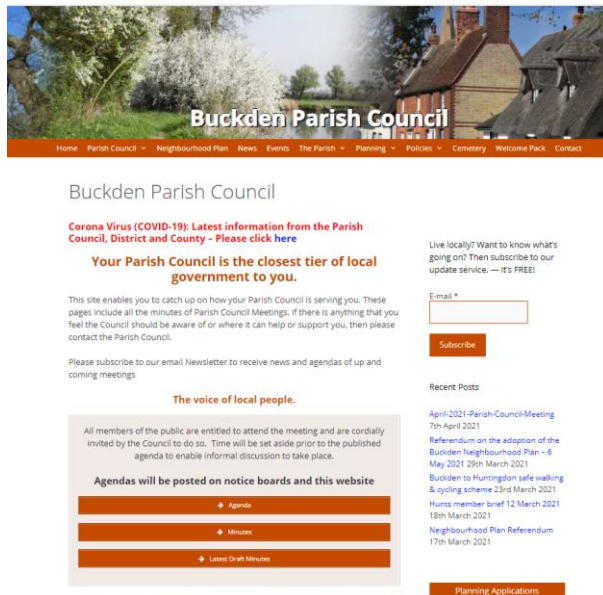
- Monitor implementation of the Plan
- The policies in the plan will be used to ensure that only appropriate development takes place



Communications Group

Achievements

- Created new website
- Created Facebook site
- Signed up 100+ residents to newsletter
- All Council meetings continued remotely throughout lockdown
- Monthly updates for residents in the Roundabout
- Developed Community Action Plan



What next?

- Consult with residents to agree priorities for spending funds from developments
- Manage implementation of Community Action Plan
- Work with Village Hall Trust to enable people to join meetings in the Village Hall remotely
- Increase the number of residents that receive regular communication from BPC

Highways and Sustainable Transport

Achievements

- Ensured Highways England linked new cycle way to Mere Lane
- Supported the School streets initiative for Buckden Primary School
- Awarded funds to improve speed management on Mill Road
- Speed management devices on Perry Road
- Secured funding to construct new footpath across the Green?
- Cleared back overhanging shrubbery with a team of volunteers (pre lockdown).



What next?

- Improve Cycle way from Buckden to Hinchingsbrooke
- Continue to implement Local Walking and Cycling infrastructure Plan
- Implement speed management scheme on Mill Road
- Work with School and Community on a School Street
- Secure better access throughout the Village for those with mobility issues –pavement levels/cross falls, blocked dropped kerbs etc

Rights of Way and Trees Group

Achievements

- Tree strategy written, approved and implemented
- Ouse Valley Way cleared
- Updated leaflet for a walk round Historic Buckden
- Information on footpaths more accessible - website, Facebook and leaflets



What next?

- The group will become Green Space and Biodiversity Group with a wider remit
- Establish tree walk, with “talking trees”
- Produce series of leaflets on “greening” Buckden
- Work with residents and landowners to plant more trees
- Have a new public right of way designated
- Create a footpath working group
- Make information more accessible eg QR codes
- Encourage use of footpaths and bridleways as alternative means of transport

Allotments Group

Achievements

- Full occupancy of plots
- £1000 grant for improvements to communal areas
- Revised allotment booklet
- Supported allotment holders through Lockdown
- Recruited two non-Parish Council allotment holders onto Advisory Group



What next?

- Upgrade Communal Area
- Increase social activities; e.g. Summer BBQ
- Increase communication via monthly Newsletter
- Protect allotments when new build begins
- Encourage green activities; e.g. Composting, reduced use of peat

General Purposes & Cemetery Group

Achievements

- Maintained all services during lockdown
- Cemetery and Church Yard maintained to a very standard
- Managed all cemetery arrangements throughout lockdown
- Managed the play facilities - ensured Health and safety checks were carried out and remedial work done



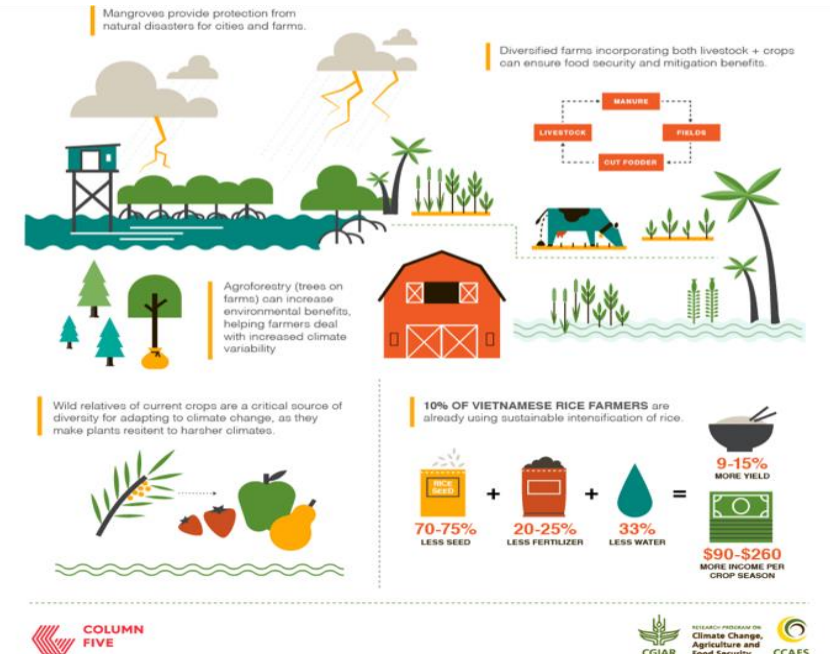
What next?

- Complete cemetery mapping
- Improve the village green
- Create a wildflower/meadow area in the Churchyard
- With St Mary's church enlarge interment of ashes plot.

Climate Change Mitigation Group

Achievements

- Very successful Climate Change Day
- Established links with PECT Peterborough Environment City Trust
- Bought and trialled Thermal camera



What next?

- Support residents to use thermal camera to identify opportunities for reducing heat loss from homes
- Promote energy conservation measures
- Coordinate plans to install on-street charging points for electric vehicles
- Liaise with advisory groups for Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure and Highways & Sustainable Transport to support their climate change mitigation actions

Finance Group

Achievements

- Set a balanced budget to protect Buckden services
- Built up councils reserves to recommended levels to support in-year flexibility
- Maintained policies and procedures to ensure legal compliance & good practice for financial management
- Made financial priority-setting transparent by detailed monthly reports on decisions to be made using reserves and other funds outside pre-agreed budgets



What next?

- Use EDGE Parish Council integrated management system to map location of BPC assets
- Support prioritisation and expenditure of CIL income
- Review banking arrangements to maintain security and liquidity as cash-on-hand is increased through CIL income
- Lead oversight of accounting for grants received for BPC projects
- Lead on contractual arrangements for handyman storage

Staffing Group

Achievements

- Delivered all services throughout pandemic
- Enabled home working processes for Clerk
- Developed new contracts for new grounds staff
- Developed new appraisal process
- Introduced clear management processes for staff



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What next?

- Improve the training and development of all staff
- Continue to deliver high quality services to the village
- Monitor the cost efficiency of service and consider balance of in house/out sourced services

Compliance Group

Achievements

- Established an Annual Plan
- Ensured that the Council responded to the changing requirements for remote meetings in a legally compliant way
- Commissioned full Governance Audit



What next?

- Respond to Audit.
- Continue to work towards Quality Council status.

Highlights

- Tree strategy
- Ouse Valley Way cleared
- Historic Buckden Leaflet

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Referendum on 6th May (Adapt dependent upon timing)

- Silver Street on hold for 9 months whilst issues addressed
- Full CIL funding

- Reviewed 60 planning and 11 TPO applications

- Cemetery and Churchyard maintained to a very high standard

- Linked new cycle way to Mere Lane
- School streets initiative

- Speed management on Mill Road
- Speed management on Perry Road

- Full occupancy of allotments
- £1000 grant for improvements

- New website
- All Council meetings continue throughout lockdown remotely

- Climate Change Day
- Bought and trialed Thermal camera

- Community Action Plan Developed

- Effective financial management
- Improved policy and controls

What's Next?

Let us know what you think!