

Buckden Parish Council News

Council Website

For more information, please visit the Buckden Parish Council (BPC) web site at www.buckdenpc.org.uk. To automatically find out what is going on subscribe to our Newsletter service using your email address.

Buckden to Brampton Cycleway

We are pleased to report that construction works were completed by the end of September. The footway is fully open, and the street lighting, and most important of all the controlled crossing, are installed and working. Further works will be carried out at a future date including the planting of replacement trees.

Highways reported that overall the scheme went smoothly and the team had been well supported by the Garage, residents and Golf club who, whilst inconvenienced, had been extremely accommodating. Most of the funds to pay for the scheme came from Active Travel England. BPC applied for and received funds from the HDC strategic community infrastructure levy and Buckden and Brampton Parish Councils both provided funds.

BPC would like to thank Daniel Crawshaw from Cambridgeshire County Council, for overseeing the works and keeping us regularly informed of progress and ex Councillors Amy Burbidge and Elaine Scott who were instrumental in kick starting the whole scheme.

ACT Multi Academy Trust

Buckden Church of England Primary Academy is an important and vibrant party of our community. It has been judged outstanding by Ofsted and has for several years shared its excellent practice with other schools in the area. It was established in 2011 as a stand-alone academy.

Government Policy has changed over the last couple of years and there is a requirement for schools to become part of multi academy trusts (MATs) where several schools join together under the leadership of a single trustee body which oversees and manages each school's finances, employees, and curriculum. ensuring consistent standards are met across all member schools. The Governors and leadership team of Buckden School agreed that Buckden Primary Academy should consider setting up their own MAT to enable it to retain autonomy over its future development and to enable it to share its expertise with other schools.

Working with the Diocese of Ely, Buckden was awarded MAT status, and the ACT Multi Academy Trust was established. Currently the trust has two schools, Buckden and Great Wilbraham. More schools hope to join the Trust in the near future. Buckden School will continue as before, with just a few changes such as, Ms Heather becoming the Headteacher of Buckden School and Ms Anderson the CEO of ACT Multi-Academy Trust. Cllr

All of the papers and reports for Council Meetings are available on the Thursday before meetings on Council website www.buckdenpc.org.uk. This provides the opportunity to see the agenda, reports of work carried out by the Council as well as reports from out County and District Councillors. Any questions or comments on this report should be addressed to the Parish Clerk at: Buckden Parish Council, Buckden Village Hall, Burberry Rd, Buckden, PE19 5UY. Telephone 01480 819407 Email: clerk@buckdenpc.org.uk.

Underwood who has been a community Governor on the Governing Body, will become a Trustee of the MAT with responsibility for special educational needs.

Tommy Silhouettes in Buckden

A Buckden resident, Simon Leggate, asked BPC to consider installing Tommy Silhouettes in the village as a way of remembering those who have died in conflicts past and present. BPC agreed to the purchase of three silhouettes, a pair of Tommies and a Woman at War. They will be located on the Village Green where they will be most visible, and close to the school. If in future more silhouettes are purchased these can be sited at some of the other suggested sites which might include the war memorial. The Council has discussed the purchase with British Legion representatives and there is additional information further on.

Christmas Lights

A road closure has now been agreed for the Christmas Lights event in the High Street on Sunday 26th November. The celebrations are being managed by the Community Events Team.

Buckden Parish Council's Policy for Solar Panels

Neither the Huntingdonshire District Local Plan nor the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan make specific reference to Solar Panels. BPC has therefore developed a Policy to guide its response to future Planning Applications.

Our concerns include the need for any installation to have a minimal impact on the environment, not be overly intrusive and not be adjacent to or immediately visible to residential properties unless on existing roofs. We feel that they should be on existing buildings and brownfield sites rather than greenfield sites, and we would strongly oppose any application for them on agricultural land of grade 3 or better. We also wish to see a district strategy for renewable energy which has a mixture of wind, hydro and solar power and would like to see the installation of solar panels on roofs of new properties to be made a planning condition.

Councillors

At the September meeting Anne Howell-Jones was appointed as Chair and Caroline Underwood as Vice Chair of the Council.

Council Meetings

The next Council meeting will be at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 14th November. The meeting will include a 15-minute open forum. If you want to speak at the meeting, please let us know what you want to say, by contacting the Parish Clerk. You will get a three-minute slot.

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The Council Planning Committee will also meet if required. Agendas for both meetings are posted on the Parish notice boards no later than the Saturday preceding the meeting.

Office opening hours

The Clerk operates flexibly between the office and home.

If you wish to meet with the Clerk, please call on.

07483 033357.

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