

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ramune Mimiene, Buckden Village Hall Burberry Road Buckden PE19 5UY.
Tel; 01480 819407

Minutes of the Buckden Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13 January 2026 at 7.00pm at Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: Peter Clark, Chair

Councillors: Caroline Underwood, Anne Howell-Jones, Mark Williams, Emily Lankfer, Aidan Joy, Dave Duncan, Gearld Sansom, John Thelwall, Madeline Fraser, Simon Leggate, Anita Pancholi-McCann, and David Gregory.

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

HDC Cllr Martin Hassall

CC Cllr Liam Beckett

Lynn Pinn, Councillor to Alconbury Parish Council

6 members of the public

MINUTES

01-176 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

William Goodger sent apologies for absence which were accepted

01-177 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests, and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda. None.

To receive written requests for Disclosable Interest dispensations. None.

01-178 Minutes

12-178/1 To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 December 2025.

Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr SL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that Minutes are approved as true and correct record of the meeting.

Cllr APMcCann joined the meeting

12-178/2 To resolve any actions arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Clerk's report attached – noted

A member of the public joined the meeting

01-179 County and District Councillor Reports.

01-179/1 To receive a report from County Councillor Liam Beckett, verbal update provided.

Bus Route 65 provides a very poor service. There is a plan to remove the service without consultation. Tiger bus is not a viable alternative for all as you need a smart phone and need to find out where the pickup point is. **Chair PC** to follow this up.

01-179/2 To receive a report from District Councillor Martin Hassall, report attached
Report circulated, verbal update provided.

01-180 Co-option to the Council

We have one Vacancy on the Parish Council.

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01-181 Open Forum – a maximum of 15 minutes is permitted for members of the public to address the Council.

Members of the public may have up to three minutes each. Items to be addressed should be notified to the Clerk three working days in advance of the meeting.

Mrs Fiona Shirley and Mr Ian Carter from Roundabout Team attended the meeting seeking help to form a new Team as the current team (all volunteers) are retiring in March, the April edition will be their last. BPC asked what help we could provide to keep this valuable communication going. Various suggestions were discussed.

HDC Cllr MH suggested that the magazine could be merged with St Neots paper.

It was agreed that the Team will provide detailed information listing job specification and time required to perform all duties, so that BPC could share that on social media and various groups as people need to understand what is involved.

A resident Mr **David Osman** expressed support to HDC Cllr M Hassall views on Silver Street proposals.

Mrs Helen Duncan explained that she is not objecting to houses being built at Silver Street, but she expressed concerns regarding the possible flooding that may affect her 1860 built cottage which is beside the culvert. The culvert has never flooded apart from 2020 when the water nearly reached the top of the culvert. The lady asked about flood mitigation measures, and how affective those might be and if the developer would be prepared to insure their house during the construction and after? Members of Large-Scale Planning Advisory Group asked for the report to be shared.

BPC met with Morris Homes twice and very specifically asked about flooding and made sure MH are aware of that.

HDC Cllr MH explained that the only power which BPC has is to object then it will go to DMC.

Alconbury PC – **Lynn Pinn** explained she was attending to represent the group working on engaging with planning authorities in relation to the Brampton Cross development proposals.

3 members of the public left the meeting

01-182 Chair's update, report attached, Cllr P Clark

MHCLG announcement on local elections in LGR areas was noted. Proposed and agreed not to express any views. Agreed.

2 members left the meeting

01-183 Compliance Advisory Group, report attached, Cllr C Underwood.

Questions on the report.

01-183/1 Proposal

The Council to approve the Operational Plan 2026-27

Amendment made about the heads of agreement re LSPAG.

Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr EL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to approve the Operational Plan 2026-27.

01-184 Finance, Cllr M Williams

01-184/1 To note that Budget and Precept for 2026.27 were approved at December BPC, and Precept request was submitted to HDC. Income and Expenditure reports to the end of October were reviewed by Finance Chair and the Group.

I&E report to end of December was checked by Finance chair, verbal report provided.

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Cllr EL has access to the EdgeIT system now.

01-184/2 To note that April, May and June 2025 accounts were checked. To arrange a non-signatory to check further accounts in line of our Financial Regulations requirement.

Cllr DG agreed to do that.

01-184/3 To approve January's 2026 Payments including refund for Allotment holders Proposed by Cllr GS, seconded by Cllr MF, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to approve January's payments and refund.

01-185 Flood Advisory Group, no meeting, Cllr A Joy

Meeting of chairs of Flood group – issues experienced in November were reported. Blocked drains reports were submitted to CCC.

01-186 Planning Committee Cllr P Clark

01-186/1 To note the Planning Meeting Minutes of 9 December 2025 – noted.

01-186/2 To note that Planning meeting that was held prior to the PC meeting – noted.

01-187 Large Scale Planning Advisory Group, no meeting, Cllr J Thelwall.

A lengthy email from Morris Homes received, the group will be arranging a meeting to discuss this.

01-188 Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, no report, Cllr J Thelwall

Verbal update provided.

01-189 Village Maintenance Committee, meeting held on 17th December 2025, report attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones

Questions on the report

Christmas Lights: due to the dispute in relation to the installation, we are looking for compensation and withholding the taking down charges. We will complete the contract but will not be using them for the future.

The wildflower area at Hunts End will continue this year, then we will review. Agreed to put signs explaining the planting and willow fencing will be placed round the area to protect the planting. BPC provides salt bins at a number of locations around the village for residents to treat public roads and footways.

01-190 The Hub, Cllr A Pancholi-McCann

Verbal update. Meeting in two weeks' time to go over future plans.

The Parish Council, working with One Leisure, will be providing free sports sessions for 5–11-year-olds at Buckden Towers during February half term. Agreed to advertise on social media and the next Roundabout issue.

01-191 Highways and Sustainable Transport Advisory Group, report attached, Cllrs G Sansom and C Underwood

01-191/1 To note Brampton Cross Working Group notes – 11 December 2025 – noted.

Chairman invited Councillor Lynn Pinn, Alconbury Parish Council, to speak

Brampton Cross group has been expanded to the other allocated sites in the adopted plan, and in the draft plan etc. Going as far as Catworth & Brington and including Hinchbrook.

Concern expressed about so many disconnected clusters of development. Further email sent to all Parish Councils identifying issues.

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A round table meeting with our Local MP is this Friday where all the issues will be raised

We still need a new co-ordinator for speed watch – we are struggling to find a volunteer to take that on. It was suggested that we approach people who live in the roads where the speed watch will take place.

The group met last night. The report will be shared with the BPC with the February Agenda.

Lynn Pinn, who attended the meeting tonight, has joined the A1 Safety Advisory Group in Buckden.

01-191/2 Proposal - Mill Road Speed Reduction Measures

That Buckden Parish Council:

1. **Agrees to support** Cambridgeshire County Councillor Liam Beckett in submitting a Local Highways Improvement (LHI) bid for the installation of “*SLOW*” road markings along Mill Road;
2. **Approves a financial contribution** of up to **£1,000**, representing approximately 33% of the total estimated scheme cost, to support the LHI bid;
3. **Provides written consent** for the LHI application to be submitted on behalf of the Mill Road residents’ community group, noting that this will constitute a second LHI application from within the parish area; and
4. **Confirms that this agreement** does not preclude the Parish Council from supporting or submitting further bids or proposals aimed at reducing vehicle speeds on Mill Road in the future, including measures such as a speed limit reduction.

Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr GS, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to the above proposals.

01-192 Green infrastructure and Biodiversity Advisory Group, meeting to be held on 28 January 2026, Cllr C Underwood

We hope to publish a new map showing the Public Rights of Way in Buckden and Diddington later this year. This will include changes to the footpaths in the south of the Parish, between Diddington and Paxton Pits. These include diversions of some paths and additional paths, all of which have now been signposted.

01-193 Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group

The next Repair Cafe date has been confirmed as Saturday 7th February 2026

We have a new organizer who has taken over the role with the support from Cllr MF.

01-194 Village Hall Liaison, next meeting 19th January 2026, Cllrs P Clark and C Underwood

01-195 Allotments Advisory Group, no meeting held, Cllr C Underwood

Notice was served to BPC to vacate premises; BPC are now concerned re slow progress. **Cllr JT** wrote to Savills on behalf of the Parish Council, back in November expressing concerns that nothing has been yet properly done. A reply was promised at the beginning of the new year but to date we have not received a reply. Thank you expressed to Cllr JT for continued chase.

01-196 Communications Advisory Group, no report, Cllr A Howell-Jones

Verbal update.

01-197 Correspondence, matters remaining unresolved, the chair

Noted.

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01-198 To note points of Communication to the Parish

None.

01-199 The next Parish Council Meetings: Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 7pm at the Village Hall

Parish Council meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month, except in August

Meeting finished 8pm