

Buckden Parish Council Chair's Report December 2020

1) Audit

It was agreed that we would commission the auditor who undertook our Finance audit to carry out a wider review, looking at other aspects of the Council's work. We hope that the results of this will inform us of any additional policies, procedures etc that are required. This will support us as we work towards applying for Quality Council status. We will report on the results of the audit at the next meeting.

2) Councillor Contact details

The Clerk would find it helpful to have telephone numbers of councillors, not for public distribution but so she can contact Councillors if required. Please could all councillors send her their contact details.

3) CIL Applications

As reported at the last meeting we have been given the opportunity to apply for CIL funds held centrally by HDC. We were advised by our District Councillor that only those bids with clearly outlined costs would be considered. A meeting was held with Clls Burbidge, Ashwell, Howell-Jones, Scott and Underwood and the Clerk and it was agreed we would seek funding for the improvements on the Buckden Hinchbrook cycle path and the improvement and resurfacing of the paths around the Valley and recreation ground. Applications will be submitted by 14th December

4) Report from briefing for Councillors from Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

Please see attached report and possible next steps

5) Census 2021

Every 10 years a census is held we have had the following communication.

What's happening with the Census?

The Census is taking place in March 2021 as planned, the ONS has reviewed the Census plans in light of COVID19 and they are confident that everyone will be able to provide their information safely and securely. This was confirmed by ONS to Local Authorities in October, here's [a link](#) to the communication.

The coronavirus pandemic has impacted us all in different ways, and it has further emphasised the need for up-to-date data about the population to help organisations shape services for society for the years to come.

For the first time this will be a digital-first Census, but paper copies will be available for those who need it. Help will be available for people who need support to take part online or need translations, through a public contact centre. Accessible options are also available.

ONS have listened to users and to broaden understanding of our modern society there are new and voluntary questions in this Census about armed forces leavers, gender identity and sexual orientation.

There is more information about Census 2021 [here](#) and downloadable handbooks and leaflets [here](#).

How can you help?

Ahead of the national media campaign starting in January, it would be fantastic if you could help spread the word about Census 2021. As someone involved in your community, you'll know exactly what help and encouragement people need.

There are many ways to do this:

- Raise awareness of the [Census](#) with people you know, in community organisations and any places people go to for help.
- Encourage people to apply for [Census Jobs](#) - recruitment is happening now for the field operations roles and a Roma Community Adviser.
- Promote the Census in things like community newsletters, meetings and websites, using the information on the Census [website](#) and in downloadable [handbooks and leaflets](#). We will soon have posters available in many languages.
- Promote the Census on social media, following and sharing the official **Census2021** posts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Linkedin](#).
- Give a presentation to members of your community that may need the most encouragement or help to complete the Census (could be a video meeting due to COVID-19). I can support this with materials and/or by attending if you would like.
- Organise completion activities for March 2021 for those that may need the most encouragement or help to complete the online or paper form, support services will be made available. I can support this with materials and/or by attending if you would like.

I expect you're very busy, so once you've had time to review this information please do let me know your thoughts, how I can help and if you have any questions. :)

If you have contacts in the local community that you think would be interested in talking to me about the Census, please let me know or pass them my contact details below.

Thank you so much in advance for any support that you can give, you understand your local area and the people around you better than anyone. With your help, we can ensure everyone in Huntingdonshire & Fenland can take part in the Census and be counted.

Census engagement manager

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Briefing for Huntingdon Councillors
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Tuesday 10th November 2020

Update from the Police and Crime Commissioner – *Ray Bisby, Acting Police and Crime Commissioner*

The acting Commissioner actually gave no information at all. He has stayed in post because elections were put on hold because of COVID restrictions. He reported that the Chief Constable was planning cuts in hours and number of PCSOs and that you can contact him through his website and Twitter account. Cambridgeshire is the 5th lowest funded for police in the country.

How Speedwatch can keep your community safe – *Mike Brooks, Cambridgeshire Constabulary*

Speedwatch and HGV watch are on hold because of COVID. The police are definitely recommending the use of MVAS units. He reported that people are able to volunteer for the police force.

Stamping out Scammers as a community – *Charlotte Homent, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership*

This initiative was reported on Councils can become supporters
If we sign up we will be able to :

- Print and display scams awareness posters on local noticeboards and in key locations such as your village or town hall, schools, churches, pubs and post office.
- Become a 'Friend Against Scams' by completing the 20 minute 'express' online training
at www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/elearning/Cambridgeshire
- Promote the easy online Friends Against Scams training across your community. You could include the link on your community Facebook page, in your local newsletters and on slips of paper handed out at coffee mornings!
- Identify a local SCAMchampion or champions to spread the word on how to spot a scam. This could include having a display of information, running a Friends Against Scams training session, holding a drop-in advice session or anything else that you can think of.

	○ Distribute scams awareness materials to the most vulnerable members of your community and those who cannot access the internet. Perhaps your group members could hand deliver leaflets, hand out information at coffee mornings or give it to the organisers of other local community groups and local churches to share with their members.
	● Possible actions from the meeting: ● Clerk, Councillors subscribe to ecops, and promote to residents on the website ● Become “An Against Scams “supporter