

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 8 March 2022 at 7.30pm at Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: Caroline Underwood, Chair

Councillors: Anne Howell-Jones, John Thelwall, Allan Jones, Pauline Steel, Dave Duncan, Josh Harris and Pam Fraser.

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

CC Cllr Ken Billington

Cllrs GS and SA as observers on Zoom

1 member of the public

MINUTES

(2021-22) Apologies for absence.

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

03-208 Cllrs Richard Salmon, Kathy Render, Amy Burbidge, Sue Ashwell, and Gerald Sansom sent apologies for absence.

(2021-22) County and District Councillor Reports.

03-209/1 To receive report from County Councillor, no report.

03-209 CC Cllr KB reported on CC budget, Covid and Ukraine situation.

Suggestion for the community to pursue a possibility of accepting refugees into the village.

03-209/2 To receive report from District Councillor, report attached.

HDC Cllr HM sent a report which included 'Landscape Recovery Scheme' to support biodiversity and flood and drainage remedial work, which is open for applications till 24 May 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/applications-for-the-landscape-recovery-scheme-now-open>

Cllr AJ will monitor this scheme.

(2021-22) Open Forum – a maximum of 15 minutes is permitted for members of the public to address the Council.

03-210 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.

No requests received.

(2021-22) Declarations of Interest

03-211 To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests, and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda

Cllr GS joined the meeting via Zoom as an observer

(2021-22) Minutes

01-167/1 To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 February 2022.

03-212 Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr AJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the minutes are approved as the correct record of the meeting with the following amendment. Carried.

It was agreed to add a thanks to Fred Day who was a long-standing Councillor.

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01-167/2 To resolve any actions arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Clerk's report attached.

Noted.

(2021-22) 03-213 Combined District Council and Town/Parish Council Elections - 5 May 2022

Nomination papers have to be delivered by hand from Monday 28 March 2022 but no later than 4pm on Tuesday 5 April 2022.

Clerk to resend the guidance. Applications to be returned to the Clerk by 25th March, please.

(2021-22) 03-214 The Council currently has two vacancies

Noted.

(2021-22) 03-215 Chairman's report, report attached

Questions on the report

03-215 03-215/1 To approve the date for Annual Parish Assembly Tue 17th May 2022

Approved. Cllrs DD and PF sent their apologies.

Cllrs were asked to email their suggestions for the Agenda. It was suggested that we also ask residents for ideas. Cllr CU will invite the Mayor of Combined Authority. Reports welcome from CCC and HDC Cllrs.

03-215/2 Proposal: Parish Council to renew CAPALC membership for 2022.23

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr JH, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to approve CAPALC membership for £674.02 and DPO scheme for £50.00, total amount including DPO Membership option £724.02. Carried.

(2021-22) 03-216 Finance, report attached, Cllr S Ashwell.

Questions on the report.

03-216/1 Proposal: Parish Council agrees to fund up to £1,000.00 towards the Platinum Jubilee celebration in the village.

Agreed in principle at last meeting. – the minutes recorded that all agreed this was not accurate, there was one abstention.

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr PS one against and one abstention, all others in favour and it was RESOLVED to agree the fund up to £1,000.00 towards the Platinum Jubilee. Carried.

03-216/2 TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE CREDIT LIMIT ON THE CORPORATE CREDIT CARD

Proposal: That the Clerk be authorised by Council to seek an increase in the credit limit on the Corporate Credit Card to £2,500.

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr DD, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to agree to increase the credit limit on the corporate credit card to £2,500.00. Carried.

03-216/3 TO NOTE THE REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

- **Strategic Financial Risks**
- **Online Banking**
- **Handling of cash**
- **Use of corporate payment cards**

Each of these financial risk management procedures, including the proposed amendment, will be taken to the April Finance Advisory Group for their annual review before being brought to Council for consideration/sign-off no later than their review date of July 2022.

Noted.

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03-216/4 TO NOTE CAPALC FINANCE UPDATES – FEBRUARY 2022

03-216/5 To approve 8 March 2022 Payments for Sanction.

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was **RESOLVED** to approve March Payments for Sanction total amount of £13,006.26. Carried.

(2021- To Consider Planning Committee Report, Cllr S Ashwell

22)

03-217

03-217/1 To note the Minutes of the Meeting 22 February 2022 – noted.

Cllr JT raised the need to discuss further the response to Pasturelands planning.

Action: The Standing orders were suspended to allow Cllr Sue Ashwell Chair of Planning Committee to speak

Cllr SA explained the reasons for the PC considering additional expenditure on planning consultant.

Action: Standing orders were re-established

Chair asked the Council if PC are prepared to accept the proposal for discussion which was not on the Agenda.

Open discussion took place. It was agreed to accept the proposal for discussion.

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was **RESOLVED** that the action proposed is agreed. Carried.

Cllr JT gave the council further details of the planning issues

On the basis of the advice of the specialist solicitor dealing with the BPC review of applications for industrial use/development at Pasturelands, Taylors Lane, the Planning Committee chairman recommended employing a planning consultant to enable BPC to address the complex technical matters relating to planning policy that relate to this particular application. This cost would be additional to the cost of the solicitor.

The solicitor and consultant would work together on behalf of BPC and thus contain costs whilst ensuring the views and needs of our residents are fully and effectively represented. The total cost of solicitor and consultant is estimated to be at least £2,000 each (+VAT), total £4,000 (+ VAT).

Proposal: That Council approves expenditure of up to £5,000 (+VAT) on solicitor plus linked planning consultant to support the planning committee on the retrospective application (singular) for works supporting the existing commercial use.

The substantial concerns about highways safety, especially on the A1 plus the potential impact on flood risk from hardstanding that would impact on the village/A1 where there are already problems, were raised by Cllr JT as mentioned by the Chair in the Highways report.

Proposal: Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was **RESOLVED** that the action proposed is agreed. Carried.

The authorised budget of £5,000 is to allow for overrun if necessary.

Note since meeting: A planning consultant has now been engaged at an estimated cost of £750 (+VAT).

CC Cllr KB left the meeting

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03-217/2 Please note that next Planning meeting is moved to 15th March 2022 – Noted.

- (2021-22) **To Consider Update from Large Planning Committee, no report, verbal update, Cllr J Thelwall**
Response to HDC regarding the draft Planning Conditions for Silver Street attached.
03-218 Verbal update on the HDC Case officer response. Clerk to circulate to all Cllrs.

- (2021-22) **Compliance Advisory Group, no meeting held, report attached Cllr C Underwood**
Questions on the report.
03-219 **03-219/1 Proposal: To approve BPC Risk Management April 2022 to March 2023**
Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr JT, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the Risk Register for 2022.23 is agreed. Carried

03-219/2 To discuss the Operational Plan prior to the formal approval in April
All Cllrs are invited to read the document and share their thoughts on it by sending comments prior to Apr meeting. Agenda item in April.

- (2021-22) **General Purposes and Cemetery Advisory Group, report attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones**
Questions on the report.
03-220 Letters to the grave plot owners sent and plots now tidied up. Cllr PS agreed to chair the next meeting.

- (2021-22) **Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group, report attached, Cllr A Jones**
Questions on the report.
03-221 Level of water in the attenuation basin on Bloors development has been monitored by Cllr AJ

- (2021-22) **Highways and Sustainable Transport, report attached, Cllrs C Underwood and A Burbidge**
Questions on the report.
03-222 It was discussed and agreed that the Group will pursue the Active Travel Plan Tranche 2. PC are in favour of slowing the traffic but reservations were expressed about the particular scheme suggested by CCC.

03-222/1 Proposal: The Council approves the Highways and Sustainable transport group pursuing traffic calming measures at the north end of the High Street and the installation of a cycle rack.
Proposal: Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr DD, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the action proposed is agreed. Carried.

Cllr AB is successfully engaging with CCC regarding further parking restrictions in the village.

- (2021-22) **Green infrastructure and Biodiversity Advisory Group, no meeting held, report attached, Cllr C Underwood**
Questions on the report.
03-223 Group met yesterday. BPC raised issues and Great Ouse Valley Way Trust negotiated with County Highways to get the erosion of the bank under the A14 bridge fixed. There are now plans in place. Cllr CU will prepare a report for the Roundabout.
The enquiry about a new woodland area at the Tarmac site and the operational plan was raised by Cllr JT.

- (2021-22) **Village Hall Liaison, meeting held, meeting held on 23 February 2022, report attached, Cllr C Underwood**
03-224 No questions on the report raised.

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(2021- Allotments Advisory Group, no meeting held, report attached, Cllr C Underwood

22) No questions on the report raised.

03-225 The group was thanked for so much progress over the year.

(2021- Communications Advisory Group, report attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones

22) No questions on the report raised.

03-226 Please 'like' to follow our new **Facebook** page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Buckden-Parish-Council-101476219095385>

Cllr AHJ will circulate the plan for the Platinum Jubilee celebration weekend.

(2021- Staffing, report attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones.

22) No questions on the report raised.

03-227 Appointed Assistant Clerk, Jess Thomson who started today.

Pay increase for 2021.22 will now be backdated to all staff.

(2021- Correspondence, matters remaining unresolved, Cllr C Underwood

22) Communication received from Marina resident who wanted to make BPC aware regarding the

03-228 letter received about the development on the site. Marina site is private and BPC engagement is limited. BPC had not received any pre planning talks.

(2021- To agree points of Communication to the Parish, Cllr A Howell-Jones

22) Agreed.

03-229

(2021- Date of the next meeting on Tue 12 April 2022 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

22)

03-230

Meeting finished at 8.48pm

Signature

Date.....