

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Assistant Parish Clerk: Jessica Thomson Buckden Village Hall Burberry Road Buckden PE19 5UY. Tel; 01480 819407

Village Maintenance Committee

Minutes of the Buckden Parish Village Maintenance Committee held on Friday 10th January 2025. at 9.30am at Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: Anne Howell-Jones, Chair

Councillors: Caroline Underwood, Simon Leggate, Madeline Fraser

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

Assistant Clerk: Jessica Thomson

MINUTES

1 Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Village Volunteer Betty Millard sent apologies for absence.

1.a

Proposed and agreed to add the following Agenda item:

Approve the Minutes

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

2

St Mary's Churchyard

Cllr MF talked us through the plans for the churchyard in order to achieve eco award. We will contact the church again to go through the plan which has been created in conjunction with the wildlife trust, Action **Cllr CU** It was noted that there were large areas of unmown grass in the plan. We need to talk to Church representatives to decide whether to proceed with the plan or develop a less extreme version.

A concern was raised that in November's Roundabout a request was posted for a keen gardener to look after Hazels Garden in the churchyard, this is in contrary to the PC looking after the churchyard, Action for **Cllr CU** to contact the poster.

3

Update on WEE bin - action for the Clerk to check the size of the bin

Notes since meeting - The standard large bin is 1.9 x 1.5 x 1.2m and the slightly smaller one is the Metro and that's 1.8 x 1.25 x 1.0m. They are both the same design as the clothing bank bin which is already sited on the VH car park

4

Verge Maintenance Survey

Update – the clerk has been through and has agreed with what we do. Action to add our areas on to Parish Online **Clerk**

5

Grass Cutting in the Cemetery

A review has been conducted of the costs of this work. The outcome was discussed under confidential items.

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6

Christmas lights

Update on issues and review of contract with Blachere, discussion about the scheme and the limitations

It has been agreed that we Initiate a review, over the next 24 months to have something in place for 2028. We should be mindful of the most eco friendly options. Action **Assistant Clerk**

We have had a number of issues with the lights tripping over the Christmas period, this has been reported to the electrician.

7

The Towers

A meeting was held with Fr Paul to discuss co-operation between The Towers and the Parish Council on maintenance He was concerned that most of the work is undertaken by volunteers and will consider if any changes are appropriate.

Shakespeare at the Towers – this will be held at end of June / beginning of July, they have an obligation to give back to the community and would like us to explore how they might support the youth in the village. **Action - All**

Other areas for consideration:

Public transport or a shuttle bus to and from the event?

Routes for traffic, parking, suggested routes in and out.

Litter and recycling

Action - All

Potential blockage in waterways link from The Towers lake to the Village Hall lake - their lake is in a poor state (green and smelly) – HDC Cllr Martin Hassall has been speaking to the Father about the link between tower lake and the valley to discuss why it isn't working.

Martin is trying to find out who owns the watercourses so that he can make sure that they aren't blocked. Also talking to flood agency and Anglian water, to get a strategic view of how we can keep it flowing.

8

County Council Highways Fund

Consider footpath from Greenways to the Marina **Action Cllr CU**

9

Next Village Maintenance Meeting

Friday 14th February 2025 at 9.30am

10

Confidential Matters

Covered.

Meeting finished at 11.00am