

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 9 December 2025 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, John Thelwall, Madeline Fraser, and David Gregory.

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

HDC Cllr Martin Hassall

3 members of the public

MINUTES

12-149 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Cllrs Simon Leggate, Anita Pancholi-McCann, Gerald Sansom and CC Cllr Liam Beckett sent apologies for absence which were accepted.

12-150 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.

12-151 Minutes

12-151/1 To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 November 2025.

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

12-151/2 To resolve any actions arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Clerk's report attached.

Map of watercourses – the old map is not up to the standards, therefore HDC Cllr MH is seeking clarification.

12-152 County and District Councillor Reports.

12-152/1 To receive a report from County Councillor Liam Beckett, the detailed report was circulated prior to the meeting. Chair presented the report in the absence of CC Cllr L Beckett.

12-152/2 To receive a report from District Councillor Martin Hassall, report attached

12-153 Co-option to the Council

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To note that vacancies can now be filled by co-option.

To consider co-option.

Proposed by Cllr PC, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to appoint William Goodger as a Councillor.

Cllr WG joined the council. The acceptance of office form was passed onto Cllr WG to sign.

12-154 Open Forum – a maximum of 15 minutes is permitted for members of the public to address the Council.

Terry Hayward asked about the table and chair which appeared on the Roundabout – **Cllr CU** agreed to report to National Highways.

12-155 Chair's update, report attached, Cllr P Clark

Questions on the report.

Buffer Zone –there was a delay in the contractors receiving some of the signage materials for the 30mph buffer zone on the approach to the village which should have been installed by Cambridgeshire County Council in the week beginning 24th November. The **Clerk** to respond to BPC contractor to amend the MVAS unit to correspond with the 30mph speed limit.

Cllr PC will take up with CCC the matter of the road markings at Mill Rd.

Chair asked Cllrs to bring anything else they wish Chair to bring to MP at the meeting on 16th January, action to **All**.

12-156 Compliance Advisory Group, report attached, Cllr C Underwood.

Questions on the report.

12-156/1 Proposal To approve revised

- Privacy Policy – *Note since meeting: approved and uploaded onto the website*
- Data mapping – flood warnings to add, Cllr AJ sent the details. *Note since meeting: All incorporated, but excel document is too large to upload to the website.*
- Social media and Electronic Communications policy – *uploaded to the website*

Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the policies above are approved subject to a few minor changes.

12-157 Finance, Cllr M Williams

12-157/1 To approve Budget and Precept 2026.27

Report on Reserves for 2026.27 and Budget was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting.

The budget spreadsheet for expenditure of £207,088 represents the running costs balanced against income. The intention has been to present the running costs and reserves separately in order to maintain clarity between the two and for that clarity to assist with in-year management.

The total of the earmarked reserves in the separate note sent (which includes the grants/donations) amounts to further expenditure expected of £78,750 drawn from existing reserve funds. Thus, before further adjustments requested in recent emails, the total expenditure for 26/27 based on the existing documents sent (if approved) would be £285,838 with the increase over £207,088 offset by agreed funding from reserves of £78,750.

The proposed allocation of Reserves was approved.

It was noted that the proposal complies with BPC's policy to hold 9 months of running costs as Reserves.

It was noted that CIL money has to be spent within 5 years of receipt, in order not to lose any of the funds Councillors will need to consider and agree suitable projects for the use of the funds in the next financial year.

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It was noted that 10K pledge for VHT was agreed so this figure needs to be kept in Reserves. It needs to be itemised for clarity.

It was agreed to review Grants Policy and remove timeline for small organisations

CIL spending the system produced two different figures for this. A meeting is planned with Edge to resolve this issue.

Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr EL, and it was RESOLVED that the Budget of £207, 088 and Precept of £191,492 for 2026/27 are approved subject to minor adjustments.

Thanks to Cllrs EL and MW for all the work done on Budget, Precept and Reserves.

12-157/2 To note S137 Grants and Donations requests received from:

To date we have received and approved the following applications:

- Wednesday classes social 0.5hr hall hire for a chat after the class for £500
- BVHT for the Playing Field maintenance £6,500

Four further applications were considered

- Buckden Library for £200
- East Anglian Air Ambulance £500
- Magpass £500

Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that above listed 3 donations are approved, £200 to Buckden Library, £250 to East Anglian Air Ambulance and £250 to Magpass

- St Neots Museum £330.00

Proposed by Cllr EL, seconded by Cllr MW, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the donation of £330 to St Neots Museum is approved.

12-157/3 To confirm CIL report (to be submitted to HDC by 31st Dec for the Year ended 31 March 2025)

Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr EL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the CIL report is approved in principle subject to the amendments which may need to be made during the meeting with EdgeIT on Friday this week.

Note since meeting: Total CIL receipts retained at 31 March 2025 were £74,992.46

12-157/4 To approve December 2025 Payments for Sanction

Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr MF, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that December payments are approved.

12-158 Flood Advisory Group, meeting held on 1 Dec 2025, minutes attached, Cllr A Joy

There were no questions on the minutes.

Thanks expressed to the Flood group for all their work.

12-159 Planning Committee Cllr P Clark

12-159/1 To note the Planning Meeting Minutes of 11th (part of BPC Minutes) and 25th November 2025 – Noted.

12-159/2 To note that Planning meeting that was held prior to the PC meeting – a brief provided by the chair.

12-160 Large Scale Planning Advisory Group, report regarding Silver Street attached, Cllr J Thelwall.

Questions on the report.

1 member of the public joined the meeting

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Major concerns from Flood Authority and National Highways

It was noted by the members of the Advisory Group who met with the developer that the lay out is improved.

BPC still has significant reservations re access and Roundabout issues.

Cllr JT will draft a reply when agreed, the Clerk will send out to the developer and all Councillors.

Note since meeting: The reply listing BPC concerns was sent out to the developer and all Councillors

12-161 Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, no report, Cllr J Thelwall

The deadline for comments on Local Plan is 17th December – residents invited to comment individually.

It was agreed to comment on Buckden area issues only.

Note since meeting: BPC comments to the Local Plan consultation were submitted on 17th December 2025.

12-162 Village Maintenance Committee, no meeting held, next meeting on 17th December, report attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones

No questions on the report

12-163 The Hub, Cllr A Pancholi-McCann

Diabetes session supported by BPC was well attended (by 20 people in total).

12-167 Highways and Sustainable Transport Advisory Group, report attached, Cllrs G Sansom and C Underwood

No questions on the report.

12-168 Green infrastructure and Biodiversity Advisory Group, no report, next meeting Wednesday 10 December, Cllr C Underwood

12-169 Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group, no report, Cllr M Fraser

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

Cllr MF has resigned from chairing this group, thank you to MF.

A National emergency briefing (received from the concerned resident) this would be circulated to all Cllrs, thoughts to the next meeting.

12-170 Village Hall Liaison, meeting held 19th October notes attached, Cllrs P Clark and C Underwood

Questions on report.

12-170/1 Proposal to approve Heads of Agreement with Village Hall Trust

Proposed by Cllr CU, seconded by Cllr PC, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to approve the Heads of Agreement with the Village Hall Trust

The Village Hall trustee leading on the sustainable drainage project shared the plans with the Parish Council Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of the Village Maintenance Committee and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. The Councillors and staff were impressed with the plans in particular the way in which it had responded to residents' concerns. They shared their support for the plans at the full Parish Council meeting 9th December and will support the project at the public meeting on December 15th.

Cllrs CU will inform VHT Trustee that the Council was supportive.

Proposed by Cllr PC, seconded by Cllr CU, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to support this approach.

12-171 Allotments Advisory Group, Cllr C Underwood

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Notes circulated.

Questions were raised with the developer re water supply, sewage and electricity, they also agreed to replace the sheds.

12-172 Communications Advisory Group, no report, Cllr A Howell-Jones

Verbal update provided.

12-173 Correspondence, matters remaining unresolved, the chair

None.

12-174 To note points of Communication to the Parish

Roundabout report was submitted last week due to shorter deadlines.

12-175 The next Parish Council Meetings: Tuesday 13 January 2026 at 7pm at the Village Hall

Meeting finished 8.59pm