

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 1st May 9.30am at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: Anne Howell-Jones, Chair

Councillors: Caroline Underwood, Simon Leggate

Village Volunteer Betty Millard

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

Assistant Clerk: Jessica Thomson

MINUTES

1 Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Councillors Madeline Fraser

2 Public Participation - none

3 Approval of the Minutes

Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr CU, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that Minutes from Village Maintenance Meeting held on the 27th March 2026 at 10am are approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4 Declarations of interest

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

To receive written requests for Disclosable Interest dispensations.

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Noticeboard for Bloor Estate

Noticeboard has been ordered, the total order was more than the grant, but this group has agreed to cover the difference.

6 Play Area

- Having finalised the tender documents, we put a Public Notice in Hunts Post and contacted all previously interested parties, 7 tenders have been sent out so far.
- We have seen 2 suppliers, with 4 more coming to see us next week, Tenders should be in by the end of the month.

7 Churchyard Matters

- The Church wall Repair company have not confirmed when they will start work – Cllr CU to chase up with them.

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- The wildflower area has been resown; the Groundsman purchased a hose and sprinkler to try and keep the area well-watered so that they germinate.
- There are some concerns with the Judas Tree boughs, HDC will be coming to assess it.

8 Groundsman Retiring

- One of our Groundsman is retiring; he will leave at the end of June.
- We are advertising the position on noticeboards, phone box and online.

9 Cemetery Matters

- It was agreed that we should purchase a fireproof cabinet for the historic grave books.
- Damaged memorial – Assistant Clerk to chase memorial company once more and contact another company if they do not get back to her.

10 Blachere Christmas Lights

- Update on refund – this has now been resolved.
- We need to book the date for the installation next year, stipulating that it needs to be done during the day when we are on site and with all appropriate health and safety measures taken.

11 Groundsmen Shed Security

- We are still waiting for Fobs and another camera; the app is also not working all the time – we will attempt to contact the company again.

12 Review of Policies

To review and approve:

- Litter picking Risk Assessment
- Daily Risk Assessment (recently updated after the Appraisal, handymen Nigel suggested added in)
- Grass cutting and Strimmer
- Shredder
- H&S
- Lone Working Policy

Approved

13 Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity – update from Cllr Underwood

- Discussion around tree planting on the Bloor Estate.

14 Date of next Village Maintenance Meeting – 29th May 9.30am at the George

15 Confidential Matters - none

16 Meeting Ended – 10.30