

CHAIR'S REPORT MARCH 2025

RESPONDING TO COMPLEX CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

Following the decision of the Council in February that we should write to the Minister of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government asking for an Executive Summary, I spoke to the Clerk to Teversham Parish Council who sent the letter referred to in the meeting. She had problems in contacting the Minister and I concluded that it would be better to route any such letter through our MP, which is what I have done.

VARIOUS HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Three matters have come up in the last few weeks and I have contacted Cambridgeshire County Council on all of them.

They relate to two downpipes installed to take water from a shed roof onto Footpath B4, the inadequacy of the new LED street lights in many roads in the village, and the overgrown hedge on Mill Road.

Will provide any updates at the meeting.

MEETING OF PARISH COUNCILS WITH BEN OBESE-JECTY MP

This meeting will take place on Monday 10th March and I will report any significant outcomes.

BUCKDEN VILLAGE HALL

Buckden Village Hall Trust has made an application to The Climate Change Opportunity Fund for a Grant of £143,000 to make major improvements to the Village Hall to improve heating/cooling efficiencies and create an attractive green corridor for users and visitors. An initial response has been very positive, the application scoring highly, and the scheme will be recommended to the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority Investment Committee on Monday 10th March. I hope that we will have the result of their consideration by our meeting.

As part of the application the Village Hall Trust sought matched funding from the Parish Council of £8,000 to £10,000 in the form of a Grant or a Loan. I will propose that we make an Interest-free Loan of up to £10,000 which could be converted to a Grant at a later date, depending on the circumstances at the time.