

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 14th February 2025 at 9.30am at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillor: Anne Howell-Jones, Chair

Councillors: Caroline Underwood, Simon Leggate, Madeline Fraser

Village Volunteer: Betty Millard

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

Assistant Clerk: Jessica Thomson

MINUTES

1

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

None

2

Approval of 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.

3

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.

4

St Mary's Churchyard

CU and MF had a meeting with church representatives, they were largely happy with the proposed Eco Award Plans but would like more mown area. It is noted that mowing and leaving grass to grow does not need diocese approval, in addition bulbs can be planted. They also reported that new bird boxes have been made and installed. The installation of the Bug Hotel will need permission from the Diocese so we will put one in the cemetery. Nigel will be looking after Hazels Garden.

5

Update on WEEE bin

Cllr MF will chase a due date.

6

Dog Bins Longhall Road – Bloor Estate

An extra dog bin has been installed on the estate by Trinity Estates, but unfortunately both are now overflowing each week. Does the PC want to donate a large bin (as used in the rest of the village)?

Agreed in principle RM to check we have budget – ask Trinity if they would be interested JT

7

Cemetery Pricing

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It has been two years since we reviewed pricing, should we review again by researching the pricing in our local area? - Agreed to review pricing vs other local prices, and to review how much space we have left for full burials JT

8 Village Notice Board at the Bloor Estate

An opportunity to apply for some monies from a Social Value Fund, managed by National Highways – it was suggested that a Parish Noticeboard on the Bloor Estate would be beneficial for residents and we have agreement from Trinity Estates that we could locate one there – Cllr CU to update on application – all details put together and will be presented to Highways next week.

9 Streetlighting Maintenance Contract

Our 3 year contract with Balfour Beatty is coming to an end in June and the contractor is not renewing it as it is not cost effective for them. Next steps? They are the contractor for county council, so it has been agreed that we write to CCC to see if they will adopt the 13 lights RM AHJ

10 BT Phone Contract (Landline)

New BT contract is for 3 years, exit penalty is £40 – we had thought to cancel it but the phone number is advertised in quite a few places including the Allotment Sign and so we would need to update this. We need to find out if we paying for outgoing calls and remove phone number from everything in readiness for exiting the contract. Put on Agenda for PC meeting. AHJ

11 The Towers Potential blockage in waterways link with Village Hall lake - update Cllr AHJ. Martin Hassall is talking to the Towers and the work he is doing at the moment is about ownership of waterways and how the waterways link together.

12 Unpaid invoices by William Peacocks Funeral Director (Dignity Funerals)

2 x £200 invoices from May 2024 remain unpaid. Dignity Funerals have accidentally paid Buckden Church instead of ourselves and despite chasing both the local and head offices for 10 months we remain unpaid.

Inform church and write letter to WP. JT

13 Anglian Water Treatment Centre disposing of Effluent in Diddington Brook – Cllr AHJ to update – Martin Hassell has been bringing it to everyone's attention, Anglian Water have acknowledged correspondence from Martin. Full repose awaited.

14 Cambridge County Council Highstreet Pavement Resurfacing

Update on works carried out in January 2025 – the work was carried out very well and with very little disruption to the resident – a thank you will be put in the roundabout

15 Next Village Maintenance Meeting will be 21st March 2025 at the Village Hall

16 Confidential Matters - covered

Meeting finished at 10.31