

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 23rd February at 10.00am 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.
Councillor 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 23rd January 2026 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 **Cemetery Matters**
 - Memorial Testing – Memorial owners continue to be supportive by fixing their Memorials, we have thanked people in the next Roundabout
 - Update on damage to memorial – we spoke to AJ Mills stonemason when they were there to see if the scratches can be fixed, they were positive that they could be buffed out – we will be in to discussions with the family and AJ Mills to resolve this.
 - Consecration of remaining land – we will do an annual review of remaining consecrated space – it is not necessary yet

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- Discuss the potential of buying land for a new Cemetery – In the future we will need more space, we shall review it annually
- Reserved markers on plots and potentially numbering other available plots – Clerk RM and Assistant Clerk JT will review cost of this project.

6 Churchyard Matters

- Church Wall update –the Stone Restoration company will start repairs at the end of February / beginning of March 2026
- Planting plans for the right-hand side path under the trees – Green Infrastructure group to buy the following – Primroses, Aconites, Bluebells for March planting by the Groundsmen.

7 Noticeboard for Bloor Estate

It was agreed to order the Noticeboard from Green Barnes

8 Dog Fouling around the Village

Dog waste continues to be a problem around the village – JT to contact the County Council about the ‘we are watching you’ campaign – this is to be carried over to the following month.

9 Play area

- We had a positive meeting with Village Hall Trustee Martin and he has given us some advice on how to move forward with suppliers, he has also agreed to support going forward.
- Cllr AHJ and the Clerks to meet next Thursday to draft a Spec to be shared with potential suppliers.
- Following a review of our current play area there have been some moderate risk items that we will get the groundsmen to assess, and we will obtain a second quote for the works.
- The BPC have agreed that funds will be available to us supporting any grants that we manage to secure.

10 Shed Security

The 24 hour monitoring is now in place.

11 Electricity in Shed

The meter does not appear to be working, this has been reported to the energy supplier. Clerk RM to continue to set aside funds to cover future invoices.

12 Streetlighting

Allan Peacocks have now completed the work – we will be receiving a full report shortly

13 Blachere – Christmas Lights

- Cllr AHJ rejected their offer of £600. She is awaiting a further offer.
- As we are in our last year of contract we will be meeting in June to discuss options moving forward.

14 Allotment Water Bill

Report on leak investigations – there were no leaks identified.

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15 Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity – update from Cllr Underwood

- The wicker fence has been installed around the bulb and wildflower area on Hunts End
- The Hedge has been installed at The Towers
- Bulbs in the churchyard are beginning to flower
- The Towers have asked Ray if he would be able to provide more trees

17 Date of next Village Maintenance Meeting – 27th March 9.30

18 Confidential Matters - none

Meeting Ended 10.45