



What has the Parish Council actually done in the last year?		
With the Church and Friends Indeed set up a community support service to help the vulnerable during Covid lockdowns	Ensured all Parish council services continued to be delivered during lockdown	Acted as a conduit for residents' concerns in relation to flooding issues
Helped in getting the ROC Orlit listening post become a listed structure	Worked with residents to establish telephone box book swap and information point	Community Action plan produced
		Produced a Welcome to the Village pack
Planning Committee has: Considered 60 planning and 11 TPO applications in a timely and professional way, with recommendations to HDC using our knowledge of local circumstances		Large Scale Planning Committee has: Worked tirelessly to monitor the planning portal in relation to new development on Silver Street Challenged the development in relation to safety of the roundabout and flooding concerns Interventions mean that the Silver Street development has been put on hold for 9 months
The Allotments Group has: - Achieved full occupancy of plots - Revised the allotment booklet - Been awarded a £1000 grant for improvements to communal areas		The General Purposes Group has: - Ensured the Cemetery has been maintained to a very standard - Managed all cemetery arrangements throughout lockdown - Managed the play facilities and ensured all required Health and safety checks were carried out and any remedial work done - Secured funding to construct new footpath across the Green
Climate Change Mitigation Group has: - Held Climate Change Day - Bought and trialled Thermal camera		
The Rights of Way and Tree Group has: - Lobbied to get Ouse Valley Way cleared - Produced a new leaflet for a walk round Historic Buckden Made the information on footpaths more accessible - website, Facebook and leaflets		The Highways and Sustainable Transport group has: Applied for been awarded £100k to improve cycle way between Buckden and Brampton Continued over the page

The Communications Group has: - Established a new website - Signed up 100+ residents to the newsletter - All Councillors have secure email addresses - Established a Facebook site. - Ensured that regular monthly updates for residents included in the Roundabout	- Ensured Highways England linked new cycle way to Mere Lane - Supported the School streets initiative for Buckden Primary School - Applied for and was awarded funds to improve speed management on Mill Road - Put in place speed management devices on Perry Road - Cleared back overhanging shrubbery with a team of volunteers (pre lockdown).
 LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST Produced a Neighbourhood Plan specific to Buckden's needs This will ensure: - The village has influence over the type of developments that are allowed - Developers must comply with the policies in the Plan - We receive the maximum funding when houses are built in the village	

So what do we actually do?

The boring but important stuff	
The Finance Group - Drafts the Parish budget for each year and makes recommendations to the Council in relation to budget and Precept - Supports each Advisory Group and Committee to prepare and manage their delegated budgets - Maintains Financial Standing Orders, policies and procedures - Oversees BPC Investment Strategy in line with statutory national guidance	The Staffing Group - Recruits, retains and develops staff to undertake the work of the Council - Ensures contracts, and job descriptions are in place for all employees - Determines and reviews the pay and conditions of employment of all staff - Monitors the Health and Safety process for staff - Monitors employees' performance via an appraisal procedure - Acts as the Council's Disciplinary Panel when required.
The Compliance group (making sure we are legal) Ensures the Parish Council: - Complies with all legal and procedural requirements - Has all required policies and procedures are in place - Undertakes the Annual Risk Review - Implements all requirements for Local Council Award Scheme	

Keeping the village running	
The Allotments Group • Monitors upkeep of plots • Decides on rental charges • Awards a best allotment prize annually • Acts as contact point for general allotment issues • Identifies and implements improvement projects	The General Purposes & Cemetery Group Responsible for the infrastructure of the village: • Play area, safety checks and maintenance • Street lights, litter bins seats and notice boards • Green spaces • Christmas lights • Management of the Cemetery and the Churchyard
Highways and Sustainable Transport Group • Monitors the condition of pavements and roads and reports this to Cambs County Council for action (hopefully!) • Supports residents to reports issues to Highways Authority • Identifies areas for improvement and seeks funding to implement improvements • Establishes and where required manages Speedwatch scheme ensuring volunteers are trained • Awareness raising about problem parking, blocked pavements	
Planning	
The Planning Committee Considers: • All planning applications for development in Buckden for five or fewer dwellings. • Planning applications for alterations to dwellings • Applications for work on trees and hedges with Tree Preservations Orders, • Planning applications for commercial premises, liaising with Chair of the Large-Scale Planning Committee	The Large-scale planning group Reviews all proposed developments of more than five homes Lobbies in relation to issues which arise from the plans such as: • Flooding • Highways • Community services • Considers requirements for specialist advice and seeks appropriately qualified expertise to support objections e.g. traffic and flooding risks and potential solutions
Keeping the village green	
Climate Change Mitigation Group Provides advice and recommendations to the Council on all matters concerning Climate Change, and Environmental Issues. These include • Climate Change Education, • Waste Disposal • Use of Disposable Goods • Environmental Effects of Transport, • New and Existing Housing and Planning Proposals and any other matters that they feel may impact on village	Rights of Way and Tree Group • Monitors the condition of the trees owned by the Parish Council and ensures any work on them is carried out • Monitors the condition of public footpaths and seeks to get them cleared by landowners • Promotes use of footpaths around the village • Monitors trees with Protection Orders

Keeping in touch and informing the village	
Communications Group - Ensures the Council communicates effectively with the village and residents - Manages updates to web site, Facebook and Roundabout - Helps residents to communicate with Council - Makes sure that all regulatory e.g. financial information, is provided to residents.	

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NEXT???? These are just some of the things we hope to achieve next year	
At the allotments Upgrade Communal Area Increase social activities; e.g. Summer BBQ Increase communication via monthly Newsletter Protect allotments when new build begins Encourage green activities; e.g. Composting, reduced use of peat	Establish tree walk, with “talking trees” Produce series of leaflets on “greening” Buckden Work with residents and landowners to plant more trees Have a new public right of way designated Create a footpath working group to help maintain paths etc
Support residents to use thermal camera to identify opportunities for reducing heat loss from homes Promote energy conservation measures Coordinate plans to install on-street charging points for electric vehicles Liaise with advisory groups for Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure and Highways & Sustainable Transport to support their climate change mitigation actions	Improve the village green Create a wildflower/meadow area in the Churchyard
Improve Cycle way from Buckden to Hinchingsbrooke Continue to implement Local Walking and Cycling infrastructure Plan Implement speed management scheme on Mill Road Work with School and Community on a School Street Secure better access throughout the Village for those with mobility issues e.g. pavement levels/cross falls, blocked dropped kerbs, overhanging hedges	
Consult with residents to agree priorities for spending funds from developments	

We need your help.
Join one of our groups.
Make things happen in Buckden.....