

Buckden Parish Council Chair's Report October 2021

1) Council Strategy

Please remember that we will be holding a workshop **for all Councillors on Tuesday 19th October at 7.00pm** to ensure that the work of the Advisory Groups and Committees is focused on delivering the vision, aims and objective of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Community Action Plan.

2) Training

We have still had very little take up for training. We do hope to arrange some whole Council training in Buckden but in the meantime please do look at the opportunities offered by CAPALC and **let Ramune know which courses you will sign up for.**

All new Councillors need to attend the training for new Councillors.

https://www.capalc.org.uk/Training_and_Events_19202.aspx

If you have any difficulties with this, please contact Ramune.

3) Liaison with District Council

I met with two cabinet members of HDC District Council. Ryan Fuller (Chairman of the Council) and Marge Beuttel. (Executive Councillor for Operations and the Environment) They wanted to learn more about the issues facing Buckden. I was able to confirm the plan to decriminalise parking is likely to be in place by Summer 2023. There will be consultation with the Parish council. Ryan confirmed that the delay in implementing the cycleway is fully understood and the money from CIL will be available for draw down when required. We discussed the issue of planning enforcement, this is not a statutory service and currently they have 3 officers and 1000 cases. If the Council would like either of the Councillors to attend a Parish Council meeting they will be happy to do so.

4) National Highways meeting

Anne and I will be meeting with National Highways (was Highway England), on Thursday 7th October, in relation to the complaint we made about Stirtloe junction and the Roundabout. They did not uphold our complaint, but we will have the chance to talk to them about the issues we raised and we hope to discuss traffic mitigation measures when any new developments are in place. They have confirmed that they will be commissioning a Stage 4 Road safety audit looking at Stirtloe Lane.

5) Flooding

I will be having a further meeting with representatives of CCC in relation to the flooding in the High Street. I will report back on that at the meeting. We have been informed that a report has been received and one of the recommendations is that the whole High Street would benefit from a new system running down to the culvert and new connections from the gullies, as the existing system is a mixture of broken runs and soakaways. Cambridgeshire Highways have requested a design and costs accordingly, for their consideration.

6) Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated next year. I would like Councillors to consider, what if anything, they think we should do as a Council and Village to mark this event. Please see link to further information. Planting a tree or trees has been suggested.

<https://www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend>