

Buckden Parish Council

Chair/Vice Chair Report

October 2023

Christmas Lights and Market

The lights will be switched on, on Sunday 26th November at 4pm.

A road closure is also in place for the afternoon.

The Community Events Team are managing the various activities for the day.

Waste Minimisation

Councillor Underwood and I attended an online event run by HDC which considers ways to manage the impact of charging for the Green Bin service. The presentation for this has been circulated and will be discussed by the VM AG at their next meeting.

Election

HDC have received a request signed by 15 residents from the Marina to hold an election for the council vacancy resulting from Allan Jones resignation. Nominations from anyone wishing to stand still awaited at the time of writing. The election will take place from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm on Thursday 16 November 2023. HDC will manage the process. The potential cost of this is £6500.

Integrated Care System and the Brampton Hub.

I met with Rob Gardiner to further discuss the Integrated Care System which he presented at the September Council Meeting. His presentation has been circulated. I have agreed to meet with the Integrated Neighbourhood team to discuss the Brampton Hub. Simplistically this is a virtual hub which pulls together all the information about support available locally for individuals. Further information will be provided.

Tommy Silhouettes in Buckden

Simon Leggate, a resident contacted the Parish Council to ask if we had considered the installation of Tommy Silhouettes as way of remembering those who have died in conflicts past and present. The Parish Council considered this at their meeting in July and agreed to the purchase of the silhouettes. Two Councillors and the clerk met with Simon to make the final decisions about purchase and installation. The Parish Council will purchase three silhouettes, a pair of Tommies and a Woman at War. These will be sited on the Village Green. The decision was made to site them on The Green as it was thought the silhouettes would be more visible there and would be close to the school. If in future more silhouettes are purchased these can be sited at some of the other suggested sites which might include the war memorial. The Council has discussed the purchase with British Legion representatives in the village and there is additional information from them in the magazine.

ACT Multi Academy Trust

Buckden Church of England Primary Academy is an important and vibrant party of our community. It has been judged outstanding by Ofsted and has for several years shared its excellent practice with other schools in the area. It was established in 2011, as what is known as a stand-alone academy.

Government Policy has changed over the last couple of years and there has been a requirement for schools to become part of multi academy trust (MAT). A MAT is a system where several schools join together under the leadership of a single trustee body. This leadership oversees and manages each school's finances, employees and curriculum. MATs have a hierarchical structure to govern all academy activities, ensuring consistent standards are met across all member schools.

The Governors and leadership team of Buckden School agreed that Buckden Primary Academy should consider setting up their own MAT to enable it to continue to have autonomy over its future development and to better enable it to share its expertise with other schools.

Working with Diocese of Ely, Buckden was awarded MAT status and established ACT Multi Academy Trust. Currently the trust has two schools Buckden and Great Wilbraham. More schools hope to join the Trust in the near future. Buckden School will continue as before, with just a few changes such as, Ms Heather becoming the substantive Headteacher of Buckden School. Ms Anderson is now the CEO of ACT Multi-Academy trust. Cllr Underwood who has been a community Governor on the Governing Body, has now agreed to become a Trustee of the multi academy trust with a responsibility for special educational needs.