

# BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ramune Mimiene, Buckden Village Hall Burberry Road Buckden PE19 5UY.  
Tel; 01480 819407

## **Minutes of the Buckden Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9 September 2025 at 7.00pm at Village Hall**

Present:

Councillor: Peter Clark, Chair

Councillors: Anne Howell-Jones, John Thelwall, Aidan Joy, Simon Legate and David Gregory

Clerk: Ramune Mimiene

CC Cllr Liam Beckett

HDC Cllr Martin Hassall

7 members of the public

### **MINUTES**

**09-078 To receive and accept apologies for absence.**

Apologies **were** received and accepted from Cllrs Madeline Fraser, Caroline Underwood, Anita Pancholi-McCann, Gerald Sansom, Emily Lankfer, Mark Williams, and Dave Duncan.

**09-079 Declarations of Interest**

**To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests, and the nature of those interests relating to items on the agenda – None.**

**To receive written requests for Disclosable Interest dispensations – None.**

**09-080 Minutes**

09-080/1 To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

Page 3 Minute No 07-065 line 2 - replace the words “month to have an application” with “months to have applications”.

**Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr JT, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that Minutes are approved as true and correct record of the meeting with the above amendment.**

09-080/2 To resolve any actions arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Clerk’s report attached. **Noted**

**09-081 County and District Councillor Reports.**

09-081/1 To receive a report from County Councillor Liam Beckett, report attached

It was noted that there are still a lot of misleading diversion signs all around the village. New ones showing diversion from the High Street take you to Lucks Lane which is closed.

09-081/2 To receive a report from District Councillor Martin Hassall, report attached

HDC Cllr MH attended a meeting on Local Plan who looked at the sites and the viability.

**Local Government Reorganisation**

Following a decision by the Government to replace District and County Councils with Unitary

Authorities, both Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council are

considering the various options. Each would create two Unitary Councils. Parish and Town

Councils will not be part of this reorganisation but, once the new bodies are established, we will have to build new relationships with our new Unitary Council.

*1 member of the public left the meeting*

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A question was asked on waste disposal – the food waste collection is going to be introduced, which aims to divert food waste from the landfill. It will go into pure form of biowaste.

Cllr JT asked HDC Cllr MH to take the question back to people whose idea it is that there are people with very small kitchens and it is a huge addition to accommodate this government requirement.

The discussion took place on apples – where do they go if they fall from the tree as the resident's green bin was refused when filled with some apples. Cllr MH will take this forward.

## 09-082 Co-option to the Council

To note that vacancies can now be filled by co-option (three vacancies).

To consider co-option.

David Gregory applied to become a Councillor.

**Proposed by Cllr PC, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that David Gregory is co-opted to the Parish Council.**

Cllr DG joined the meeting

The Clerk passed on the Acceptance of office form while DPI form will be emailed to Cllr DG.

## 09-083 Open Forum – a maximum of 15 minutes is permitted for members of the public to address the Council.

Emma Draige approached BPC explaining that the MVAS units were introduced but did not lower speed limits at the time. Residents who live on Mill Road going towards Marina **have** driveways opening into the road, which has no footpath. Due to recent accident, it is suggested to push for 40 MPH all the way down.

Emma Draige thanked CCC for sorting out the signs left in the wrong area so quickly.

Other members of the public explained that a collision of a van into the car was very traumatic to all residents.

Cllr AHJ explained that speed data produced by MVAS units proved to be useful. Cambs CC only allowed installation of MVAS units at the time. Cllr PC shared some shocking results on the numbers of the cars speeding down that road and the percentage of that data.

It was noted that the aspiration from residents is to implement 40 MPH down Mill Road which needs to be enforcement and to instal speed cameras.

## 09-084 Chair's update, report attached, Cllr P Clark

### **MILL ROAD BUFFER ZONE and speeds**

The consultation period for a 30mph buffer zone on the approach to the village has ended and Cambridgeshire County Council will now be installing it. We do not yet have a date when the works will take place and will provide that information when we receive it.

The Parish Council is still very concerned about the speed of some drivers and motorcyclists on Mill Road and will be asking the County Council and the Police for a 40mph speed limit to replace the current 50mph limit and for the installation of speed cameras.

Agreed to set a meeting with CCC Highways Officers before we put our proposals forward.

**Proposed by Cllr PC, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to set a meeting with CCC Highways and seek 40 MPH limit all way down Mill RD between two 30 MPR limits.**

*5 Members of the public left the meeting*

*CC Cllr LB also eft the meeting*

PROPOSAL: Enable The Clerk to have authority to transfer funds, as required, between the two Unity Trust Accounts.

**Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr AJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED to allow the Clerk to move funds. Two councillors will still need to authorise the internal transfer.**

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Brampton Cross: Email to Alconbury Parish Council was sent by the Chair as it was needed before the date of this meeting:

*"Buckden Parish Council did not consider that an extraordinary meeting was justified, and I am responding as Chair, in consultation with our Clerk. Our meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September will be asked to confirm my action which will be in line with our earlier decision to support objections to this proposal. The only additional point that we would like to make is our concern that the volume of traffic on the already overloaded A1 will increase substantially and have detrimental effects on Buckden Roundabout. Please take this email that Buckden Parish Council wishes its name to be added to the open letter to Endurance Estates."*

**Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr JT, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the content of the letter is approved.**

To nominate one Councillor as a CAPALC representative

**Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr SL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that Chair Cllr PC will be CAPALC representative.**

**09-085 Compliance Advisory Group, report and Minutes from 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025 Group meeting attached, Cllr C Underwood.**

No questions on the report.

**09-085/1 Proposal To approve revised Safeguarding Policy**

**Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr SL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the Safeguarding Policy is approved.**

*CC Cllr LB returned to the meeting*

A reminder: Next meetings for Finance and Compliance are:

- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 7.00pm** at Village Hall.

Agreed to check the date as the Operational Plan date also set for the same evening.

**09-086 Finance, Cllr M Williams**

**09-086/1 NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE AND COMPLIANCE ADVISORY GROUPS HELD ON 29 JULY 2025.**

Advisory Groups/ Committees chairs were tasked at the FAG/CAG meeting on 29 Jul 2025 with profiling their expected expenditure spread of the year's budget by month to enable in-year forecasting and submitting the information by the end of August. To date the Finance Chair had inputs from the Allotments and Green Infra AGs. All Chairs are reminded to do the same.

**09-086/2 To note Grant requests received from:**

1) Village Hall Trust for the annual field maintenance £6,500– for 2026.27 Budget purposes  
**Proposed by Cllr AJ, seconded by Cllr SL, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the grant request is approved, this will be added into BPC Budget for 206.27 Financial Year.**

2) After exercise (balance class) tea and chat session – hall hire for 30min each Friday for a year – proposal to approve so that the class could be supported this year  
BPC already support Wed classes.

Action to **the Clerk** to go back and ask what the % of BPC residents attend the classes as it is mentioned in the application form that the class is open to surrounding villages as well.

09-086/3 To note August 2025 Payments – approved in principle at July's meeting and made in August 2025

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**Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr JT, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that August's payments are approved.**

09-086/4 To Approve September 2025 Payments

**Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr AJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that September's payments are approved.**

**09-087 Flood Advisory Group, meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025, minutes attached, Cllr A Joy**

Multi Agency walk about round the village now complete.

Chairs of Flood groups met this week. Funding will be available on the completion of the Flood plan.

Report added onto CCC reporting portal re blocked drains in the village.

Water monitoring test kit from AW arrived (will test for chemicals but will do anything about sewage discharges).

**09-088 Planning Committee Cllr P Clark**

09-088/1 To note the Planning Meeting Minutes of 8 July 2025 - noted

09-088/2 To note that Planning meeting that was held prior to the PC meeting – Cllr PC provided a brief report of the meeting. noted.

**09-089 Large Scale Planning Advisory Group, no report, Cllr J Thelwall.**

Silver Street development might not be viable as the existing planning permission limits to 3 bed properties while the Developers wanted 4 bed houses to make the development viable.

**09-090 Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August, notes attached, Cllr J Thelwall**

09-090/1 Proposal: That the NPAG be authorised to submit responses to consultation documents issued by Huntingdonshire District Council in respect of its proposed new Local Plan on behalf of the Parish Council in the event that a consultation closes before the NPAG is able to submit its proposed responses to a full Parish Council meeting.

AG chairs are invited to review NP for their areas of expertise.

**Proposed by Cllr JT, seconded by Cllr AHJ, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the above proposal is approved.**

09-090/2 That all Chair Persons of all Committees and Advisory Groups, in consultation with their Committee/Group members (a) decide which sections of the existing NP most closely fit with their areas of responsibility in preparation for the Operational Group meeting on 22.10.2025; and (b) agree how they will undertake monitoring of the implementation of the existing NP between now and the adoption of a new NP.

**Proposed by Cllr AHJ, seconded by Cllr JT, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that the above proposal is approved.**

**09-091 Village Maintenance Committee, meeting held 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025, minutes attached, Cllr A Howell-Jones**

No questions on the minutes.

**09-092 Highways and Sustainable Transport Advisory Group, reports attached, next meeting 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025, Cllrs G Sansom and C Underwood**

Notes and Observations from the meeting at Alconbury Parish Council held 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 and 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025 regarding implications of the proposed Brampton Cross development were received and noted.

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**09-093 Green infrastructure and Biodiversity Advisory Group, no report, next meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025, Cllr C Underwood**

A response has been made to the Consultation on Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Noted.

**09-094 Climate Change Mitigation Advisory Group, no report, Cllr M Fraser**

The next Repair Cafe is on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Noted.

**09-095 Village Hall Liaison, no report, Cllrs P Clark and C Underwood**

Verbal update.

Agreed to take back to the Hub the location issues of the Gazebo.

*HDC Cllr MH left the meeting*

**09-096 Allotments Advisory Group, meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025, Minutes attached, Cllr C Underwood**

Cllr JT and the Clerk chased Savills a few times now but to date had no reply.

**09-097 Communications Advisory Group, no report, Cllr A Howell-Jones**

Social media posts are working well.

Meeting needs to be set; website needs to be looked at.

**09-098 The Hub, Cllr A Pancholi-McCann**

Update on Youth Event on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – the Parish Council ran a very successful Youth Summer Event at Buckden Towers, whose help in making their facilities available is greatly appreciated.

Over 20 young people enjoyed various activities including a stage make-up masterclass, first aid training, a DJ skills workshop and various sports.

**09-099 Correspondence, matters remaining unresolved, the chair**

None.

**09-100 To note points of Communication to the Parish**

Noted.

**09-101 The next Parish Council Meetings: Tuesday 14 October 2025 at 7pm at the Village Hall**

*Meeting finished at 8.54pm*