



Buckden Parish Council

# BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 13

## BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL: WORKING FOR YOU

Welcome to the 2012-13 Annual Report from the Buckden Parish Council.

This report is a summary of the actions and decisions taken by Buckden Parish Council over the last year, including details of finances. We also report our activities through monthly meetings, our website, articles in The Roundabout and via Parish Council notice boards in the village. There is a public forum at the start of every Parish Council meeting when we welcome you to put forward your views or raise concerns.

One of the main themes over the past year has been 'lights'. A street lights renewal programme took place which was generally well received. Thanks to our County Councillor, Richard West, for his input. We again funded the Christmas lights and were delighted that Buckden for Business joined with us for the popular switching on celebration. Details of our many other activities can be found below.

*Fiona Shirley, Chair of Buckden Parish Council, April 2013*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

INTRODUCTION 1

WHAT WE DID IN 2012/13 1

FINANCIALS 2

HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT 3

NEWS AND ISSUES 3

CONTACT DETAILS 4

WORK AND ROLE 4

## WHAT BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL DID IN 2012/13

The Parish Council was involved in many aspects of village life including:

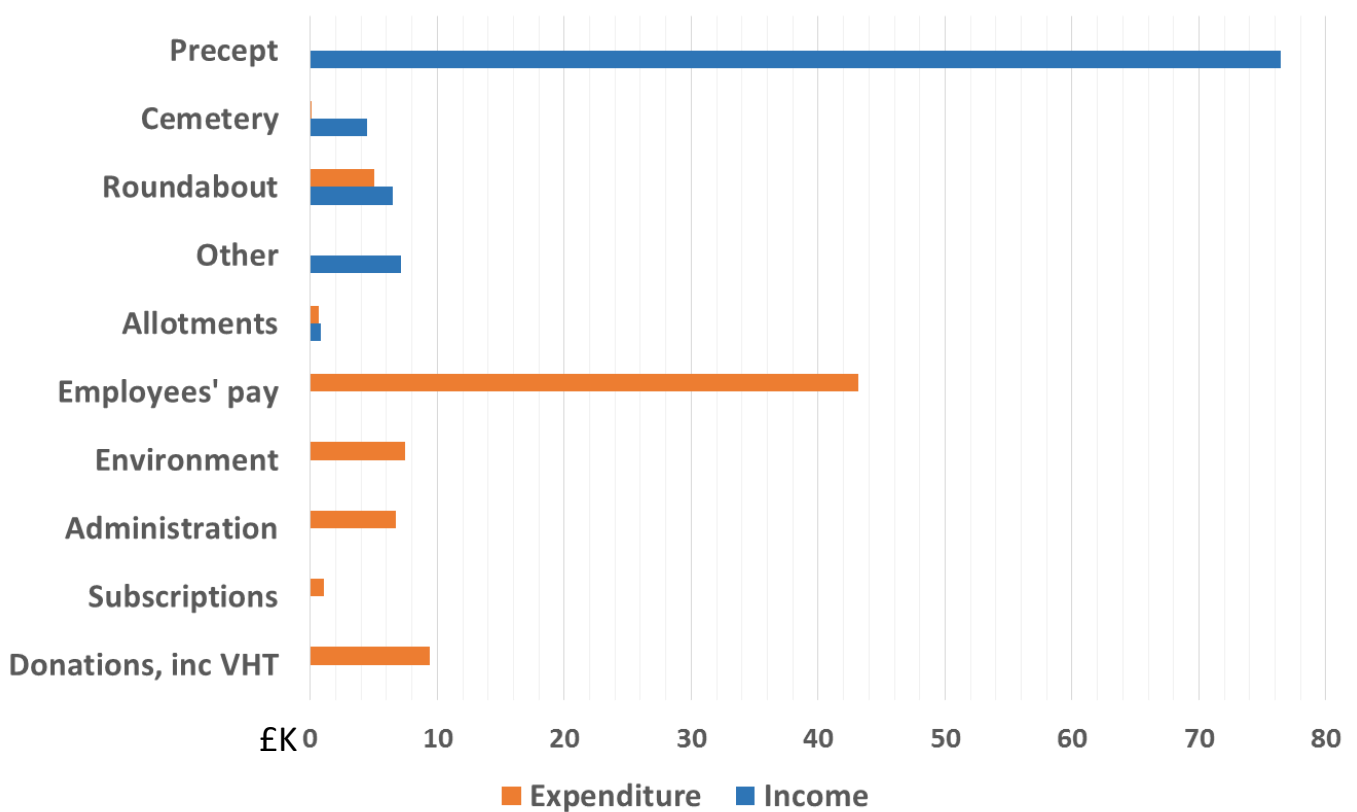
- Planning – 36 planning applications were considered and the PC gave recommendations to Huntingdonshire District Council, including refusals. The PC opposed proposed wind turbine schemes at Buckden Landfill site and at Southoe.
- Environment – saved Parish Council funding by organising our own grass cutting, planted and managed trees and shrubs in many locations in the village, including the Jubilee Tree on Hunts End Green. Funded silt treatment of Village Hall lake. Funded the Christmas lights in the High Street and at Hunts End.
- Roads – actively involved in discussions about safety and future developments of the A14, A1 and other local roads. Conducted *Speedwatch* checks.
- Quality Council – continued to work towards gaining *Quality Council* status and up-dated the Buckden PC website at [www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk)
- Footpaths – Worked with County Council to ensure all footpaths are passable; continued efforts rectify flooding on FP 3; secured a new footbridge from Cranfield Way (FP1).
- Links with wider community – the Parish Council participated in meetings with, and responded to variety of requests for information and views from, the following: the Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils. The Parish Council is liaising with the Steering Committee to develop the Village Plan for Buckden, is supporting Buckden's Festival Weekend and intends working with Buckden for Business at Christmas.
- Library - Working with Cambridgeshire Libraries, organizing a Library Support Volunteers' Group.
- Cemetery – administered the cemetery and currently planning for a future extension adjacent to the Buckden Surgery.
- Allotments – administered the allotments, gave prizes for best kept allotment.
- Donations – made donations for the repair of the Children's Play area, to the upkeep of the Village Playing Field and to several charities with Buckden connections, including the Children's Reading Week and Southoe and Buckden Scouts.

### WHAT WE DID

A brief summary of our actions over the past year to maintain, and improve, the quality of life in our community.

**BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIALS 2012-2013**

2011-2012		Income & Expenditure		2012-2013	
		<b>INCOME</b>			
74,880		<b>Precept</b>			<b>76,400</b>
854		<b>Bank Interest</b>			<b>1,734</b>
		<b>Cemetery</b>	Sale of Grave Plots	1,300	
			Interment	2,000	
			Sale of Ashes Plots	375	
			Erection of Memorials	640	
			Additional Inscriptions	120	
6,130			Tending Graves	20	<b>4,455</b>
851		<b>Allotments</b>	Rents		<b>817</b>
		<b>Roundabout</b>	Advertising	5,848	
			Flyers	400	
5,561			Donations	255	<b>6,503</b>
584		<b>Grants</b>	Grass Cutting		<b>584</b>
3561		<b>Refunds</b>	VAT	2339	
			Refunda	2,444	<b>4,783</b>
<b>92,421</b>					<b>95,276</b>
		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
		<b>Administration</b>	Petty Cash Imprest	150	
			Audit Fees	542	
			Insurance	824	
			Communications	607	
			Computing	590	
			Website	865	
			Stationery	546	
			Training	290	
			Meeting Rooms	495	
			Chairmans Allowance	120	
			Village Plan	973	
			Equipment	357	
			Printing	210	
7,141			Councillors' expenses	159	<b>6728</b>
982		<b>Subscriptions</b>			<b>1,115</b>
4,793		<b>Cemetery</b>			<b>78</b>
0		<b>Footpaths/Trees</b>			<b>1,224</b>
745		<b>Allotments</b>			<b>667</b>
		<b>General Purposes</b>	Christmas Lights	2,088	
			Grass Cutting	1156	
			Handyman's Supplies/Repairs	144	
			Contracted work	1373	
			Litter Bin and Dog Bags	48	
7,287			Street Lighting	1,466	<b>6,275</b>
		<b>Donations</b>	VHT	8,998	
6,629			Others	420	<b>9,418</b>
		<b>Roundabout</b>	Printing	5,005	
2,697			Refund of advertising	67	<b>5,072</b>
		<b>Pay</b>	Handymen	16,621	
			Clerk	23,332	
38,724			Employers N.I. Contributions	3270	<b>43,223</b>
23,423		<b>Transferred to Reserve Account</b>			<b>21,476</b>
92,421		<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>95,276</b>



**NEWS AND ISSUES**

**Road safety and the A1**

The WI have done a superb job of raising concerns about the safety of the A1 and, particularly for Buckden residents, of the roundabout. The Parish Council, both directly and through our membership of the A1 Safety Group, have long campaigned for additional safety measures. Our long-term goal is for this stretch of the A1 to be by-passed. In discussions about the A14, we constantly press for any changes to allow for an eventual by-pass for Buckden. We will continue to apply pressure whenever possible.

**Departing Councillors**

Richard West, our County Councillor, will be retiring from this post in May 2013. Councillors and staff of the Parish Council would like to thank Richard for the dedication and hard work that he has brought to this role. He has been excellent at keeping us informed about issues and decisions at county level and has been most helpful in resolving difficult matters. Thanks also to our departing Parish Councillors Leigh Holden and Kevin Gaughan. We will miss them all.

**Buckden Village Plan**

The Steering Group have almost completed their draft report and it should be with the Parish Council for consideration shortly. Once adopted by the Parish Council, it will provide a framework for future decisions.

**Can you contribute to your community by standing for the Parish Council?**

We currently have two vacancies and would welcome new councillors. Additionally, in order to meet Quality Council status, we need to have an election for councillors at the next election in **2014**. So please, think about standing for the Parish Council. If you can help, or need further information, you should contact John Chase, the Clerk to the Council, at the Buckden Village Hall or via his e-mail: [clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Tell us what you think**

We would very much appreciate your feedback on information provided by the Parish Council.

Please remember that all Parish Council meetings are open to the public.

**Who's who  
on the  
Parish  
Council?**

**Parish Council Clerk:**

John Chase, Buckden Village Hall Burberry Rd, Buckden. PE19 5UY

Tel: 819407 e-mail: [clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Councillors:**

Fiona Shirley, Chair	811703	<a href="mailto:fc.shirley@virgin.net">fc.shirley@virgin.net</a>
Ellen Barrett	07578131870	<a href="mailto:ellenbarrett@dsl.pipex.com">ellenbarrett@dsl.pipex.com</a>
Terry Clough	810210	<a href="mailto:terry.clough@huntsdc.gov.uk">terry.clough@huntsdc.gov.uk</a>
Fred Day	810985	
Dave Griffin	07850056376	<a href="mailto:davegriffin1@sky.com">davegriffin1@sky.com</a>
Terry Hayward	810974	<a href="mailto:hayward@buckden76.freemove.co.uk">hayward@buckden76.freemove.co.uk</a>
Greg Hunstone	810070	<a href="mailto:gregoryhunstone@yahoo.co.uk">gregoryhunstone@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Alec MacAndrew	351547	<a href="mailto:alec.macandrew@yahoo.co.uk">alec.macandrew@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Betty Millard	810087	<a href="mailto:bettymillard@btinternet.com">bettymillard@btinternet.com</a>
Colin Richardson	812503	<a href="mailto:c_richardson100@hotmail.com">c_richardson100@hotmail.com</a>
Rosemary Surrige	811891	<a href="mailto:rosie_adean@hotmail.com">rosie_adean@hotmail.com</a>
Christine Tewson	811264	<a href="mailto:christine_tewson@hotmail.com">christine_tewson@hotmail.com</a>
June Woods	810675	

**WORK AND ROLE OF THE BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

The work of the Buckden Parish Council falls into two areas. Firstly, our role is to represent you on issues affecting the community to District, County and Central Government. Secondly, we carry out the following work within the parish:

- Maintenance of open spaces at: the cemetery, the valley area, St Mary's Churchyard, The Green, the Buckden Village Hall car park.
- On behalf of the Council: Verge cutting, within village and to Buckden Marina.
- Provide and administer the allotments and the cemetery in Buckden.
- Provide and maintain bus shelters, seats, parish notice boards, dog waste bins, litter bins and salt bins at various locations.
- Comment on, but not decide on, all planning applications within the parish.
- Support the editor and volunteers of *The Roundabout*.
- Monitor footpaths; plant and manage Parish Council trees and shrubs within public areas; monitor road safety issues .
- Maintain the Buckden Parish Council website, found at [www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk)
- Nominate representatives on the following: Buckden Parochial Charities, Buckden Quarry Liaison Group, Buckden Village Hall Trust, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils, Huntingdonshire Flood Forum.
- Organise and fund the Christmas lights on the High Street.