

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 11

APRIL 2011

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THE VILLAGE NEEDS VIEWS ABOUT ITS FUTURE

All groups from the community need to be heard, including:

- Young people
- Senior citizens
- Local businesses
- Sports clubs
- Churches and schools

See Page 4 for more details

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL: WORKING FOR YOU

Welcome to the first Annual Report from the Buckden Parish Council.

Your Council has been working hard over the last year to improve services and to represent Buckden on a variety of issues that directly affect our community.

You will find details of what we have done over the past year on page 3. Two new areas of activity during 2010/11 have been working towards Quality Council status and kick-starting the development of a Community Led Plan.

We report our activities through monthly meetings, articles in *The Roundabout*, via Parish Council notice boards in the village and shortly through our new website, details below. There is also a public forum at the start of every Parish Council meeting when we welcome you to put forward your views or raise concerns.

Fiona Shirley, Chair of Buckden Parish Council

WORK AND ROLE OF 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 Millennium Hall car park
- On behalf of the County 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
- Contribute financially to *The Roundabout* and support the editor and all volunteers
- Monitor footpaths; monitor and plant trees and shrubs within public areas; monitor road safety issues
- Design and maintain the new Parish Council website that is about to be launched at 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, St Neots Neighbourhood Forum
- Organise and fund the Christmas lights on the High St and at The Green.

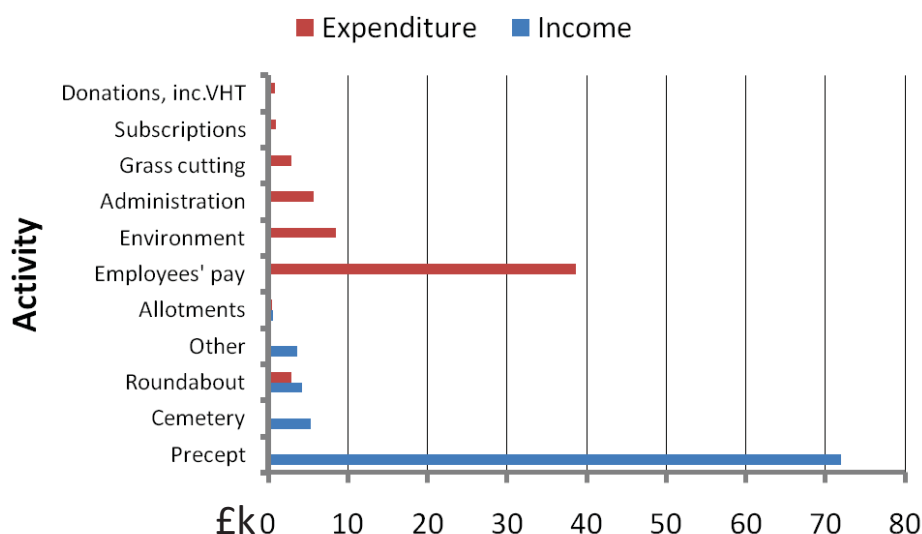


Buckden Parish Council

A new logo for the Parish Council produced by Ben Strangeways

2009-10		Income & Expenditure		2010-2011
		INCOME		
70,500		Precept		72,000
361		Bank Interest		397
		Cemetery	Sale of Grave Plots 2,275	
			Interment 700	
			Sale of Ashes Plots 1,500	
			Erection of Memorials 715	
			Additional Inscriptions 90	
3,480			Tending Graves 20	5,300
651		Allotments	Rents	608
		Roundabout	Advertising 3,769	
			Flyers 290	
3,336			Donations 210	4,269
		Grants	Footpaths 500	
			Grass Cutting 779	
1,354			HMRC on-line 50	1,329
		Refunds	VAT 1,428	
			Bench Donations 375	
2,750			Rates 37	1,840
82,432				85,742
		EXPENDITURE		
		Administration	Petty Cash Imprest 200	
			Audit Fees 543	
			Insurance 1,663	
			Communications 832	
			Computing 25	
			Stationery 453	
			Training 165	
			Meeting Rooms 455	
			Chairman's Allowance 120	
			Publications 37	
			Valuation Report 1,175	
			Appliance Testing 65	5,733
4,737		Subscriptions		973
934		Cemetery		135
657		Mill Road Project		
2,186		Valley Project		2,385
		Grass Cutting		
			Oil & Petrol 300	
			Pay 2,152	
			Tools and Parts 270	
3,033			Insurance/Registration 186	2,907
975		Footpaths/Trees		1,398
595		Allotments		547
		General Purposes	Christmas Lights 2,292	
			Handyman's Supplies/Repairs 228	
			Bench Costs 375	
6,380			Litter Bin 1,062	
			Street Lighting 773	4,730
		Donations	VHT 300	
6,219			Others 580	880
		Roundabout	Stationery 1,246	
			Cover Printing 1,179	
4,515			Photocopier 503	2,928
		Pay	Handyman 11,182	
			Clerk 17,638	
38,251			TAX and NI 9,902	38,722
		Transferred to Reserve Account		61,339
13,950				24,404
82,432		TOTAL		85,742

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM AND HOW IT WAS SPENT



“A brief taste of what we’ve been doing over the past year to maintain, and improve, the quality of life in our community”

WHAT BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL DID IN 2010/11

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

- Quality Council and Community Led Plan (Parish Plan) – worked towards gaining *Quality Council* status and initiated the setting up of the Steering Committee to develop a Community Led Plan for Buckden (further details, page 4). Establishing the Buckden PC website at www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk
- Planning – 38 planning applications were considered and the Parish Council gave recommendations to Huntingdonshire District Council
- Environment – saved Parish Council funding by organising our own grass cutting, planted over 100 saplings on the Village Recreation Ground and trees elsewhere; up-graded salt bins and provided extra rubbish and dog-waste bins; re-surfaced the footpath from Cranfield Way and sought to secure improvements to the two subways
- Footpaths – Councillors walked all footpaths in the Parish; worked with County Council to ensure they are passable; worked with Thornhill Estate to establish a Permitted Path from Stirtloe to the AWA road
- Links with wider community – the Parish Council participated in meetings with our M.P., Jonathan Djanogly, the Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils, the Huntingdonshire Flood Forum. The Parish Council also responded to a variety of requests for information and views from the preceding organisations
- Cemetery – administered the cemetery and began investigating prospects for an extension adjacent to the Buckden Surgery
- Allotments – administered the allotments and presented prizes for the best kept allotment. Reviewed and revised the Eligibility Criteria and Regulations for the allotments
- Donations – made donations to Feast week; the up-keep of the Village Playing Field; and several charities with Buckden connections, including the Citizen’s Advice Bureau and the Cambridgeshire Police Shrievalty Trust
- Roads – actively promoted the council’s views on the proposed A14 development and at the A1 Safety Advisory Group.

Who's who
on the
Parish
Council?

Parish Council Clerk:

John Chase, Buckden Millennium Community Centre, Burberry Rd, Buckden. PE19 5UY

Tel: 819407 e-mail: clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk

Councillors:

Fiona Shirley, Chair

Terry Hayward, Vice Chair

Terry Clough

Fred Day

William Goodger

Greg Hunstone

Alec MacAndrew

Betty Millard

Mrs June Woods

Other Contacts

District Councillor: Terry Clough

County Councillor: Richard West

Two Current projects

Working towards 'Quality Council' status and supporting development of the Community Led Plan (Parish Plan)

- Buckden Parish Council is working towards achieving *Quality Council* status because our views and contributions will be given more weight by the bodies we work with, for example in getting grant funding for projects to be managed by the council. Just working through the process to achieve the *Quality mark* will lead to improvements in the way the council goes about its business.
- One important factor in gaining Quality Council status is having a Community Led Plan (also known as a Parish Plan) for Buckden. Our plan should reflect our longer-term vision for Buckden's future, and will allow all residents of Buckden to have a say in how we want the village to develop in terms of size, planning, environmental, transport and leisure issues.

The Parish Council can support the development of, but may not organise, the Plan. So far, a Steering Group has been formed to lead the planning process and a number of Working Groups will gather the opinions of the community and draft the plan. The Parish Council wrote to a wide range of clubs, societies, businesses and other organisations within the parish asking for their participation but many more voices need to be heard because the interests of the community as a whole must be represented.

Can you contribute to your community? We have a few vacancies on the Parish Council and need further volunteers to contribute to the Community Led Plan Working Groups. If you can help, or need further information, you should contact John Chase, the Clerk to the Council, at the Millennium Hall or via his e-mail: 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.