

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Buckden Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 8th May 2012 at the Buckden Millennium Community Centre at 7.45pm

Present:

Councillor Mrs Shirley (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Barrett Mrs Tewson

Mrs Millard Mrs Woods

Clough Day

Hayward Holden

Hunstone MacAndrew

Richardson

County Councillor Richard West, 1 member of the public and John Chase (Parish Clerk)

(2012-13) 1	Election of Chairman. Cllr Mrs Shirley was nominated by Cllr Hayward and seconded by Cllr Mrs Millard and elected unanimously.	
(2012-13) 2	Apologies Apologies were received from Kevin Gaughan	
(2012-13) 3	Election of Vice-Chairman 3.1 Cllr MacAndrew was nominated by Cllr Mrs Shirley and seconded by Cllr Hayward and elected unanimously. 3.2 The Chairman thanked Councillor Hayward for his work as vice-chairman over the previous 2 years	
(2012-13) 4	Parish Council Committees and Working Groups 4.1 The membership of the Council's Committees and Working Groups was agreed and a copy is attached to these minutes. 4.2 it was agreed to seek a volunteer from amongst our allotment plot holders to join the allotment working group	
(2012-13) 5	Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies A copy of the list of representatives is attached.	
(2012-13) 6	Declarations of Interest Cllr Richardson stated that he lived in Silver St and had an interest in the item 13.2	
(2012-13) 7	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 10 th April 2012 were agreed and signed. There were no actions arising from the minutes:	
(2012-13) 8	County and District Councillors Reports 8.1 County Councillor West thanked Cllr Hayward for his support on the A14 and other issues. He also said that he was very appreciative of the hard work that the new Editor Tony Gilchrist had put into the Roundabout magazine. He reported that he had been part of the working group that had drawn up the revised neighbourhood forum document and he did not consider it to be another tier of local government. He also updated the meeting on the current position regarding the upgrade of street lighting in Buckden and added that he considered the consultation process to be an example of localism in operation. 8.2 District Councillor Clough reported that the recent elections had produced a new council made up of 39 Con; 7 LibDem; 3 UKIP & 1 Lab councillors.	
(2012-13) 9	Finance 9.1 Monthly reports were presented to the meeting. Copies are attached to these minutes. 9.2 Cllr Hunstone proposed and Cllr Hayward seconded the payments for sanction and they were agreed unanimously. Copy attached. 9.3 The Clerk explained that 2 further quotes had been obtained for the Councils insurance and these were both significantly, at least 40%, lower than that of our current insurer. It was agreed to change provider to Aviva using Came and Company as the brokers. 9.4 It was agreed to add Cllr MacAndrew to the Councils bank mandates as a signatory.	
(2012-13) 10	Planning 10.1 Reports were given on the planning meetings held on 24 th April and 8 th May	

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(2012-13) 11	<p>General Purposes.</p> <p>11.1 A report was given on the meeting held on 24th April. (notes attached)</p> <p>11.2 Cllr Mrs Millard reported back on the work that the scouts had carried out in the Valley and it was agreed that they should be asked to do similar work on future occasions.</p> <p>11.3 The next meeting would be held on 26th June..</p>	
(2012-13) 12	<p>Footpaths and Trees</p> <p>12.1 Report attached</p>	
(2012-13) 13	<p>Highways and Road Safety</p> <p>13.1 The process for the upgrade of the street lighting was explained and the Highways and Road Safety Working Group were asked to consider which lights were to be removed and report back to the Parish Council.</p> <p>13.2 A letter from a resident about the speed of traffic in Silver Street was referred to the Highways and Road safety working group.</p> <p>13.3 Cllr Mrs Barrett reported that she had had a fair hearing at the Traffic Minor Joint Improvement Panel meeting and added that we should have tried to provide more cost information in our submission. County Councillor West congratulated Cllr Mrs Barrett on her presentation and said that the decision should be out in the next 28 days.</p>	
(2012-13) 14	<p>Localism</p> <p>14.1 Cllr Hayward reported on his address to the Huntingdonshire District Council (report attached). District Councillor West reported that Cllr Hayward's address had been well received and had sparked debate. He added that the Localism Act was 405 pages long and contained 142 directives. Cllr MacAndrew reported that he was having difficulty in understand exactly what was meant by localism.</p> <p>14.2 The proposed changes to the format and responsibilities of the Neighbourhood Forums were discussed and some of the points made were that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The present system works and change is not needed; it removes responsibility from the Parish Councils It overlaps with the proposed Charter It is trying to mend a gap that is not present It is too early to look at this It is unnecessary and expensive The geographic splits are not appropriate The voting structure is wrong It is anti-localism as it dictates and not delegate. It is no more than a sub-committee of the District Council, a fourth tier. It has no real powers. <p>14.3 Cllrs Mrs Millard reported back on the recent meeting about the proposed Charter and the Clerk was asked to circulate the minutes to Councillors.</p>	The Clerk
(2012-13) 15	<p>Buckden VHT</p> <p>15.1 The Chairman reported that the VHT had requested a meeting with the Council and this was arranged for 24th May.</p>	
(2012-13) 16	<p>Co-option of New Parish Council</p> <p>An application to join the Council had been received from Kevin Gaughan and this was agreed unanimously.</p>	
(2012-13) 17	<p>To Consider General Correspondence received and any Responses and Actions.</p> <p>17.1 Information had been received that Stagecoach were about to make some changes to a number of bus services full details were still awaited.</p> <p>17.2 HHDC were about to embark on a new Development Plan and were holding presentations later in the month. It was agreed that Cllr MacAndrew and the Clerk would attend.</p>	

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(2012-13) 18	Items for report. Cllr Mrs Shirley reported that she had brought the existence of the National Parish magazine Awards to the notice of the Roundabout Editor suggesting that they should put themselves forward.	
(2012-13) 19	Clerks Pay Progression. Following discussion of the Clerk's performance over the period 2011-2012, which was deemed to be outstanding, councillors voted unanimously for an increase in the Clerk's salary by one incremental point.	

Signed

Date.....