

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Buckden Parish Council Meeting held on 8th January 2013 at the Buckden Millennium Community Centre at 7.45pm

Present:

Councillor Mrs Shirley (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Barrett Mrs Millard
Mrs Surridge Mrs Tewson
Clough Hunstone
Day Hayward
Holden MacAndrew
Richardson
2 members of the public
and John Chase (Parish Clerk)

(2012-13) 109	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Woods, Gaughan and Griffin.	
(2012-13) 110	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.	
(2012-13) 111	Minutes 111.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 11 th December were agreed and signed. 111.2 Actions from previous meeting 101 The Council's representations had been sent to Huntingdonshire District Council.	
(2012-13) 112	County and District Councillors Reports County Councillor West had sent his apologies. District Councillor Clough reported that the District Council was facing further cuts in government grants of £1.7million during the 2014-15 year.	
(2012-13) 113	Finance 113.1 Monthly reports were presented to the meeting. Copies are attached to these minutes. 113.2 Cllr Hunstone proposed and Cllr Mrs Barrett seconded the payments for sanction and they were agreed. Copy attached. 113.3 Changes in the way that council tax benefit was to be administered had led to changes in the calculation of the Tax Basis at District Council and the final figures on the Parish's calculation of precept changes for the coming year would not be finalised until late in January 2013. The council agreed that the amount to be raised from grants and precept would be £77928. 113.4 Quotes had been received from 2 suppliers of Cemetery Management software and it was agreed to purchase the Edge Designs Ltd, Epitaph system. 113.5 Cllr Mrs Tewson explained that the children's playground had to be closed on Health and Safety grounds until some essential repairs had been carried out and on behalf of the Village Hall Trust she was seeking the Parish Councils help in paying for these repairs. Whilst three quotes had been received by the VHT it was agreed that the original suppliers of the equipment Wicksteed should be the contractor used. It was also pointed out that the equipment was 13 years old and had not been regularly maintained. Cllr Mrs Tewson reported that Wicksteed would be asked to carry out annual inspections of the equipment to identify any work that required doing. It was proposed by Cllr Shirley and seconded by Cllr Mrs Millard and agreed that the Parish Council engages Wicksteed to carry out the repairs at a cost of £2996.80+VAT. The VHT would make a donation of £640 towards this work from their Youth Account.	

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<p>(2012-13) 114</p>	<p>Planning 114.1 A report was given on the planning meeting held on 8th January (minutes attached) 114.2 Planning Applications</p> <p>Notice of Appeal – 1200803 Erection of 3 wind turbines up to a height of 125 metres. Common Barn Wind Farm, Church Farm, Rectory Lane, Southoe. The Council had been given the opportunity to further comment on this application which had become the subject of an appeal on the grounds of non-determination within the prescribed time limit. The Council agreed that we should re-enforce our original objections and having now seen the size of the turbines in Gravelly should further emphasise the damage these large turbines are doing to the local landscape. A representative of the Southoe village Wind Farm Action Group had given the Council an update on their progress and how they intended to fight the appeal. The Parish Council turned down a request for financial support stating that it was better for the elected body to fight the case. District Councillor Clough said that the District Council was opposed to the development with the primary reason being the access from the A1 and the disruption that will have on the highways.</p> <p>1201248FUL Installation of a single 87 metre high wind energy turbine and associated generator. Buckden Recycling Centre and Civic Amenity Site Brampton Road Buckden. The Council agreed that it would oppose this application on the same grounds, updated where necessary, as it had the previous, later withdrawn, application 1101355.</p>	
<p>(2012-13) 115</p>	<p>Footpaths and Trees 115.1 Report attached to these minutes.</p>	
<p>(2012-13) 116</p>	<p>Village Hall Trust 116.1 It was reported that the Facility Manager had resigned after over 13 years with the Trust. There were now 13 trustees and current topics under discussion included a revised constitution, the name of the building and revised rental agreements. Cllr Hayward expressed the Council's thanks for the work that the trustees were doing.</p>	
<p>(2012-13) 117</p>	<p>Other items that need decisions. 117.1 Chairman's Allowance. Cllr Mrs Shirley reported that she had decided to distribute her chairman's allowance to Councillors to assist them in the purchase of stationery used in their councillor roles. This gesture was appreciated by the Councillors.</p> <p>117.2 George Lane The Council had received a letter from a resident of George Lane regarding the poor state of the road surface. It added that present there was uncertainty as to whose responsibility it was to maintain this non adopted road and was asking if the Parish Council would be willing to contribute £5000 towards the cost of resurfacing. The Council agreed that would not fund the maintenance of this private road from public funds.</p>	

Signed

Date.....