NEW BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of New Buckenham Parish Council held at New Buckenham Village Hall on Tuesday 11th January 2022 7.30 – 9.00pm

Present: Cllrs Karen Hobley (Chair), Mary Dowson (MD), Mary Manning (MM), Andrew Bingham (AB Vice-Chair) Don Crossman (DC) and Steve Highton (SH)
Also in attendance: County/District Councillor Steve Askew, Angela Thornton (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

2122/89 **Apologies for absence**: Andrew Nettleton.

2122/90 **Minutes: subject to the following changes:**

2122/80c. It was a councillor not a member of the public who expressed concern regarding potholes in Cuffer Lane.

2122/86 Cemetery should read: The new Cemetery Plan and Register has been checked by MD and AN concluding there are possibly 4 vacant and 7 reserved plots.

2122/91 **Resolved**: that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th December 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.

2122/92 **Matters Arising**

a. Further discussion took place re "cemetery bench" restoration. Restoration work costing no more than £300 proposed by AB seconded by KH. Approved. At the February meeting councillors will decide where to locate the reconditioned bench.
b. AW's article highlighting the Project Fund to be publicised in Parish News.
c. Cuffer Lane potholes – still awaiting a response from Highways.
d. Play area car park potholes - work is taking place to rectify the issue.
e. County Broadband and BT Digital Voice - Chair has re-established contact with County Broadband and had re-submitted by email our request for information. KH is awaiting a full response. KH will also write to BT regarding concerns around Digital Voice.
f. Cemetery rodding to go ahead with payment on the day possible.

2122/93 **Declarations of Interest**: There were none.

2122/94 **Public Participation. Resolved** that the meeting be suspended to allow public participation as follows:

a. Parish Councillor reports

KH reported that the lack of a defibrillator for the village had been raised by a resident. This idea has been explored and rejected previously, predominantly due to poor phone signal. Agenda item for February PC meeting when up to date information may be available.

MD presented a request for a donation of £500 to Parish News. KH proposed, DC seconded. Donation approved.

KH reminded the meeting that AB is still investigating the possibility of a "village gateway".

MM informed the meeting that Marsh Lane may be closed for approximately a month whilst road works take place.

AB reported there had been a small mixed response to the article regarding a possible village electric car. AB to follow up the article to gauge interest.

b. County/District Councillor

The 2022-23 draft budget has gone to Cabinet for approval with Council Tax raised on average by £1.99 per week on a band D property. Breckland's Council Tax remains amongst the lowest in the county.

There is a new lockdown hospitality and leisure grant which may benefit the village hall and a household support grant which may be available to some residents of the village.

The refuse bin service continued without a break in service over the festive period.

c. Parishioners Comments & Questions:

Parishioner raised concern re possible planting of oaks opposite St Martins Gardens, as large trees these may cause drainage issues. KH clarified that this matter is not within PC jurisdiction and suggested the parishioner approach the landowner with their concerns.

The planning application re agricultural Barn and retrospective change of use in Cuffer lane was raised by a parishioner. Parishioner stated they are submitting an objection. KH clarified that this is an Agenda item for later in the meeting which the PC will consider.

2122/95 Financial Matters:

a. **Financial report to 31st Dec 2021. Resolved** that the report be noted
b. **Payments for January 2022. Resolved:** That the following payments be approved Dates amended to January 2022 not 2021 with the removal of the payment to CAN as this is an income receipt.

Payment Date	Payee	ITEM	FOLIO	Gross expenditure
11/01/2022	D Crossman	Stepping log post	85	25.00
11/01/2022	Broadland Tree Services	Christmas Tree	86	408.00
28/01/2022	Norfolk Pension Fund	January 2022 pension contribution	89	108.67
28/01/2022	A Thornton	Salary and expenses for January 2022	90	318.32
11/01/2022	HMRC	Income tax payments Q3	92	247.80
11/01/2022	V Baker	Closed churchyard gardening Jan 2022	93	62.50
11/01/2022	EON	Street lights electricity December	94	32.15
				1,202.44

c.To consider a donation to the CAB Citizens Advice Bureau. KH proposed £50 donation SH seconded. Approved.

2122/96 Planning applications received:

REFERENCE:	**3PL/2021/1690/F**
PROPOSAL:	**Retrospective application for the material change of use of land from agricultural land to mixed use of agricultural and leisure or domestic use.**
LOCATION:	**NEW BUCKENHAM: Land at 608360 291240 Cuffer Lane**
APPLICANT:	**Mr Ashley Whaley**

This application was discussed at length and the concerns of a second parishioner read out to the meeting. District Councillor SA will request application goes to panel. Parish Council will lodge objection including, but not limited to, the lack of details, that the application is inaccurate, and the development is not in keeping with its country lane setting.

2122/97 Amenities

Grounds Maintenance - Trees to the rear of the allotments have been trimmed.

Closed Churchyard - Wildflower /conservation area, informal working group to bring plan to next meeting. Churchyard Quinquennial report is complete and to be made available to Parish Council. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Cemetery - The older part of the cemetery may have vacant plots which could be confirmed by rodding. Work to be considered when current rodding of the newer part of the cemetery is complete.

Allotments - Outstanding payments for current year have been followed up. 2 full size vacant plots are being offered to those on the waiting list the longest. Both accepted.

Play Area - Bee Maze to be installed when weather allows.

Cricket Pitch – Out of season. Nothing to report.

Public footpaths – NCC have resited several finger posts. Banham footpaths 3 and 4 have been walked all fine. New Buckenham footpaths 5 and 6 have been walked. Footpath 6 has some signposts missing, 2 fingerposts are missing / lying on the floor. Details have been submitted to NCC. Footpath 14 is scheduled to be walked.

2122/98 Neighbourhood Plan. With Breckland, No update at this meeting.

2122/99 Policies

a) The draft communication plan was considered. KH proposed and AB seconded. Approved.

b) Review of Cemetery charges. AT to prepare comparisons and bring to next meeting for consideration.

2122/100 Clerk`s Probationary Period. Contract signed. Bank authority still progressing.

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

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Cllr Karen Hobley Chair

Next month's agenda items: Cemetery Charges review, Defibrillator. Bench. Quinquennial report.