**NEW BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of New Buckenham Parish Council held at New Buckenham Village Hall on Tuesday 10th December 2024.

Present: Andrew Bingham (AB) Chair, Paul Martin (PM) Vice Chair, Don Crossman (DC), Karen Hobley (KH) Steve Highton (SH) Mary Manning (MM) and Mary Dowson (MD)

Apologies: A Thornton

Also in attendance: Juliet Fulford - minutes. No members of the public. County/District Councillor Steve Askew arrived approx. 7.50pm

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| **Minute** |  | **Action** |
| 2425/89 | **Absent – Angela Thornton** |  |
| 2425/90 | **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2024.**  Subject to following changes:  2425/85(b) payments for September change to November.  2425/86(b) change 2024-25 to 2025-26 for closed churchyard  2425/78 change Approved minutes for October not September meeting.  2425/88(a)change RHL to RBL  Minutes approved. | **AT** |
| 2425/91 | **To record declarations of interest not already recorded in the current Members Register of Interest:**  None |  |
| 2425/92 | **To receive reports of matters arising from November minutes for update and information only.** |  |
|  | **Matters arising**   1. Space for seasonal football pitch proportionate charge agreed at £50 invoice to be issued. 2. Councillors requested update on common registration objection- not available at this meeting. | **AT** |
| 2425/93 | **District and County Councillor Report.**  See below |  |
| 2425/94 | **Chair and Parish Councillors Reports.**  KH: Christmas tree looks really good, thanks to Andersons and Clive Rush for setting up.  DC: expressed concern about numbers of cars parking around Chapel St and Chapel Hill, overspill from King St plus local residents.  MM: Footpath 2 stile has been removed plus bridge has been replaced and really nice job has been done.  MM: Reported concern raised about frozen/slippery leaves on Booseys Walk – a resident has fallen and requested parish clerk contact road sweeper  MM: Reported Marsh Lane work is now complete.  AB- Reported that Road signs now removed. Meeting arranged with Luke Denney Highways officer 9th January. Invitation to be sent round to all councillors  MD: asked about gateway speed control to be erected on Norwich Rd – when is this due to be constructed – AB has spoken to NCC but no date yet – Luke Denney will chase for a date.  Councillor Steve Askew – pleased to hear the village has charging points  Correspondence re Village gateway feature - SA has asked for an update. Highways officer is chasing contractors.  PC reminded that hardship payments for parishioners are available via the Breckland web site  KH: Noted grant application (for Orchard Grants) form on Breckland web site is not a very user-friendly form with no indication of number of pages and not printable. SA to report back to Breckland.  AB: raised concern about new Breckland planning website, difficult to use and difficult to find applications and documents relating to applications. SA to report back to Breckland and noted they are aware of problems due to having to upload many old applications. | **AT**  **AB** |
| 2425/95 | **Public Participation:**  None at this meeting |  |
| 2425/96 | **Financial Matters:**  a. Bank reconciliation for November was accepted. |  |
|  | b. Payments for December 2024 (below) were approved for processing. Proposed MD Seconded DC. All agreed. | **KH DC** |

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| **Payment Approved Date** | **Invoice Date** | **Payment reference** | **Payee** | **ITEM** | **Gross expenditure** | **VAT** | **Net** |
| 10/12/2024 | 05/12/2024 | Online payment | A Thornton | Royal British Legion donation via clerk | 50 |  | 50 |
| 10/12/2024 | December | Online payment | A Thornton | Clerks salary December | 578.59 |  | 578.59 |
| 10/12/2024 | December | Online payment | Norfolk County Council | Clerks Pension December | 174.42 |  | 174.42 |
| 10/12/2024 | 04/12/2024 | direct debit | npower | Streetlights November | 68.4 | 3.26 | 65.14 |
| 10/12/2024 | 30/11/2024 | Online payment | TT Jones | TT Jones streetlights maintenance Jan - March 2025 | 26.33 | 4.39 | 21.94 |
| 10/12/2024 | 05/12/2024 | Online payment | A Thornton | ink | 19.5 | 3.9 | 15.6 |
| 10/12/2024 | December | Online payment | J Fulford | Payment for attending taking minutes Dec meeting 3.5hrs | 58.27 | 0 | 58.27 |
| **Totals** |  |  |  |  | 975.51 | **11.55** | **963.96** |

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|  | c. Community Project Fund Applications.  (i) The Cricket Club request for £1500 towards a container will be considered when requested documentation received (Cricket club accounts). On hold  (ii) The Football Club request withdrawn as funding has been provided from elsewhere.   * The 2025-26 Precept and budget proposed by DC seconded by MD. | **AT** |
| 2425/97 | **To consider planning applications and to receive Breckland District Council’s decisions made on any planning applications received before the meeting:**  None | **AT** |
| 2425/98 | **To consider any issues raised regarding NBPC amenities as follows:** |  |
|  | a. Grounds Maintenance –Christmas tree is provided by BTS and they will invoice in January. |  |
|  | b. Closed Churchyard – MM outlined points noted by Councillors following a walk around of the churchyard   * The boundary walls are now in good condition, some ivy to be removed. To be discussed with Broadland Tree Services. * The handrail on the steps to the memorial garden is completed and works. * Flower beds need some attention in 2025 but looking better. * Some tombstones a bit wobbly but nothing major to be done at the moment. Some loose stones on one tomb were laid down for safety reasons |  |
|  | c. Cemetery – Following complaint of overhanging trees Councillors had inspected and are satisfied that there were no issues of concern, continue to monitor |  |
|  | d. Allotments – the two allotments have now been cleared and all rubbish removed.   * Northern area – agreed the area not suitable for an orchard due to close proximity of trees. Proposed to arrange a meeting with all (or representatives) of the allotment holders to consider options for this area. AT to contact allotment holders or representative. | **AT** |
|  | e. Play area – safety inspection report. AT following up on quotes and timescales to report to next meeting   * Councillors inspected play area and noted the 2 benches in play area need replacing/repairing. Preference for repair with renovated slats to be replaced. AT to obtain quotes (discuss with AB) | **AT** |
|  | f. Public Footpaths.  Old Buckenham FP14 (High London farm) path is now impassable due to obstructions – AB/AT to report to NCC Footpath Officer | **AT**  **AB** |
|  | g. Community Car Scheme – New volunteer drivers are needed. |  |
|  | h. Street Lights – nothing to report |  |
|  | Defibrillator – KH has had the 6-month check done on the defibrillator and reported to the Circuit, the organisation that manages defibrillators.  Attendance at SNAP meeting –understood that Speedwatch team has been attending - no report for PC |  |
| 2425/99 | **Key Documents for review:** none presented at this meeting |  |
| 2425/100 | **Correspondence received not considered elsewhere on this agenda:**  none |  |

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 7.30pm.**