

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Buckden Parish Council Meeting held on 10th January 2012 at the Buckden Millennium Community Centre at 7.45pm

Present:

Councillor Mrs Shirley (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Barrett Mrs Tewson

Mrs Millard Mrs Woods

MacAndrew Clough

Day Holden

Hunstone Hayward

Richardson

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

(2011-12) 112	Apologies No apologies were received.	
(2011-12) 113	Declaration of Interest None were declared	
(2011-12) 114	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 13 th December were agreed and signed. There were no actions	
(2011-12) 115	County and District Councillors Reports 115.1 County Councillor West reported that the County Council had requested a further noise assessment in connection with the landfill site change of opening hours and this could delay progress of the application for up to 3 months. 115.2 District Councillor Clough told the meeting that the planned cut of 77% in Voluntary Sector Grants had now been reduced to a 28% reduction. 115.3 A question was asked regarding the recent lack of the regular Planning Enforcement Reports to the Parish Council and Cllr Clough was to speak to the Enforcement Team Leader.	Cllr Clough
(2011-12) 116	Finance 116.1 Monthly reports were presented to the meeting. Copies are attached to these minutes. 116.2 Cllr Hunstone proposed and Cllr Mrs Millard seconded the payments for sanction and they were agreed unanimously. Copy attached.	
(2011-12) 117	Planning Report was given on the planning meeting held on 10 th January	
(2011-12) 118	General Purposes. The next meeting would be on 24 th January 2012.	
(2011-12) 119	Buckden Library Working Group It was reported that the working group would be meeting on 12 th January to decide the next steps to be taken.	
(2011-12) 120	Allotment Working Group The Clerk reported that all vacated allotments had now been reallocated and that 2 further applications had been received.	

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<p>(2011-12) 121</p>	<p>Footpaths and Trees The Tree Warden reported that with the help of volunteers who he thanked new trees had been planted in December and that a further batch of trees would be planted on the school playing field during January.</p> <p>It was reported that the "kissing gate" at the Stirtloe Lane end of FP2 was not locked. However the wider disabled people's gate was and required a "radar" key to gain access. He would cover this in an article for the Roundabout</p>	<p>Cllr Hayward</p>
<p>(2011-12) 122</p>	<p>Staffing Committee Forthcoming changes in legislation require the Council to define its policy on pensions and gratuities. Following discussion the following proposals were made and carried.</p> <p><i>The Council does not participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme for employees but does award gratuities to employees who have achieved a minimum of 5 years' continuous satisfactory service on retirement or to their spouse and/or dependents following death in service.</i> Proposed Cllr Mrs Shirley seconded Cllr Hayward</p> <p><i>The Council will award a retirement or 'death in service' gratuity to qualifying staff at a rate that does not exceed the prescribed maximum i.e. 3.75% X total number of years' service X the lower earnings limit (LEL). (N.B. the LEL for the current year is £5304)</i> Proposed Cllr Mrs Shirley seconded Cllr Hayward</p> <p><i>The Council will transfer annual amounts from revenue into a specific reserve in the accounts to cover future gratuity payments.</i> Proposed Cllr Mrs Shirley seconded Cllr Hayward</p>	
<p>(2011-12) 123</p>	<p>Transport Working Group The working group had met to discuss the A14 Challenge where comments had to be made by 31st January and a draft response would circulate for comment soon after the meeting.</p> <p>The committee were also looking at the wider issues to be considered under the A14 study and would be looking at the Council's responses to the initial output from that study.</p>	<p>Cllr Hayward</p>
<p>(2011-12) 124</p>	<p>General Correspondence The Council agreed to write a letter of support for the funding grant being applied for by the Buckden mini Olympics organisers.</p>	<p>Cllr Mrs Shirley</p>
<p>(2011-12) 125</p>	<p>Items for report. The meeting was reminded that the St Neots Neighbourhood Forum was due to meet Monday 23rd January 2012 at 7pm In the Bargrove Centre, Cromwell Road, St Neots, PE19 2EY.</p>	

Signed

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