

**MINUTES OF THE OLD BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2015 AT OLD BUCKENHAM VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

**Present.** Cllrs Mr S Milner – Chairman, Mr J Kemp – Vice Chairman, Mrs C Marshall, Mr B Devlin, Mr A Joel, Mr G Hart, Mrs R Boggia, Mr T Johnson and Mr J M Watling – Parish Clerk.

**Also Present** 7 members of the public and Mrs Sarah Roberts – Roberts Molloy Associates.

**1/12/15. Apologies.** Cllrs Mrs S Hornbrook, Mr T Cracknell, Mr M Farrington.

**2/12/15. Declaration of Interest of items on Agenda.** Old Buckenham Parish Council as a shareholder of OBGRP's.

**3/12/15. Public Recess.** Resident raised the matter of only being able to raise matters on agenda under public recess. Cllr Milner said that was what Standing orders dictated. The new proposed path across the green was raised and resident saying it was a waste of money. Cllr Milner responded with the road safety measures it would have especially for children crossing road to get to school. Resident raised matter of HGV's on Hargham Road. Clerk said Highways could not enforce it only police who have said they do not have resources either. Residents were encouraged to take pictures of offending lorries and send them to Cllr Milner. Resident raised blocked drain opposite The Grange on the green, Parish Clerk to speak to Highways on it. Resident raised the question of a wire across Crown Road and NCC investigating the possibility of a path across the green. Chapel Road School was raised and resident asked what the current situation was. Cllr Milner responded and item to be put on January agenda. Resident presented a cheque for £312.00 raised by Bucks Just Play for play area and asked if it would be ok for them to continue raising funds , item to be put on January agenda.

**4/12/15. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015.** It was proposed and seconded they be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting, this was agreed unanimously.

**5/12/15. Matters arising from the minutes.** Cllr Joel said Parish Council must get permission of OBGRP's to put footpath across the green. Cllr Milner said he would speak to them on the matter.

**6/12/15. Minutes of the Precept Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015.** Proposed and seconded that they be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting this was agreed with 6 for and 1 abstention.

**7/12/15. Matters arising from the minutes.** Cllr Joel raised the question of having a form to be completed by organisations requesting Parish Council grants. Also regarding National organisations requesting grants should there be a maximum amount allocated to them.

**8/12/15. Proposed Developments in Old Buckenham.** Mrs Sarah Roberts explained she represented 2 landowners in Old Buckenham who wished to submit planning applications for houses in the village. There would be 15 houses in total with 9 for Market sale, 4 Shared Equity Houses and 2 Affordable Rental Houses. The properties would be situated in Hargham Road and Fen Street. She explained the history of past applications in Fen Street and why such applications had failed. She explained in detail what the schemes would offer and also that section 106 monies due on the developments could be used by Parish Council to pay for projects in Old Buckenham. Cllr Milner raised the question of poor broadband in the village and that they were looking at alternative wifi schemes like WiSpire. Mrs Roberts indicated the developer may pay for the scheme to be installed in the village. The question of drainage and water pressure levels in Fen Street were raised, Mrs Roberts responded by saying she would seek expert guidance from Anglian water on the matter. Another councillor raised the question of parking spaces and meeting was informed that parking spaces would be provided for the Affordable Rental properties and Shared Equity Properties and Market Sale Houses would have garages provided. Developers hope to submit an outline planning application in January 2016. Cllr Milner thanked Mrs Roberts for her presentation.

**9/12/15. Play Area Fencing.** The meeting was informed that a quote had been received to replace the perimeter fence at the play area with bowtop fencing at a total cost of £7,583.25 and for the middle fence £1,053.00. It was then reported that another supplier could do the whole fence for £5,515.00. Cllr Joel suggested using Parish Council fund money to pay for the scheme. Parish Clerk said he would have a better understanding of what Parish Council funds available for the project would be known in April 2016 when the financial year ends. Cllr Hart said he would be willing to undertake the repairs to existing fence and also raise funds to contribute towards the repairs. Item will be put on May agenda for further discussion. Cllr Devlin asked about the funds given to Parish Council, Parish Clerk informed meeting he had spoken to Hockey Club who donated £731.29 for a bench with plaque for the green and they were happy to let Parish Council spend any surplus funds on any other project. Cllr Devlin then left meeting to attend important matters. Cllr Joel thanked Cllr Devlin for all his work on the play area and fence.

**10/12/15. 4 year plan.** Cllr Joel circulated a form listing all possible projects the Parish Council may carry out and asked Cllrs to prioritise projects so they could be discussed at January meeting.

**11/12/15. Transfer of Reserves.** Proposed and seconded and agreed with 6 for 1 abstention that the £1000 in Road Safety Reserve be transferred to Neighbourhood Plan Reserve. Parish Clerk to arrange.

**12/12/15. Grant Application Working Party.** Cllr Milner said that following comments from public after the Precept meeting where it was suggested the Parish Council have a formal approach to awarding grants. He proposed that a Working Party be set up, it was agreed that Mr Cracknell, Mrs Boggia and Mr Milner serve on the working party. Cllr Kemp suggested having a member of the public on the working party, Cllr Milner said he would speak to a possible candidate.

**13/12/15. Planning Applications. 3pl/2015/1372/f Tudors, Cake Street.** Extension and alterations. Proposed and seconded and agreed with 6 for and 1 abstention.

**14/12/15. Planning Decisions Received. 3pl/2015/1143LB and 3pl/2015/1142/f. The Granary. Cake Street.** Installation of a set of French windows and roof light to rear elevation. Permission Granted. **3pl/2015/1122/F The Clinic on the Green.** Change of use from class C3 dwelling) to class D1 (osteopathy). Permission granted. **3pl/2015/1189/F Vine Cottage. 64 Fen Street.** Change of use of land to residential and erection of garage and ancillary office. Permission Granted.

**15/12/15/. Cheques Payable and Budget Analysis.** It was proposed and seconded that all invoices on the monthly cheque list be paid. There were no questions regarding the monthly budget analysis.

**16/12/15. Chairman's Report.** Cllr Milner said he had received correspondence from NCC Cllr Steve Askew that NCC were proposing to shut 3 local recycling sites and replace with one new larger site along the A11 corridor. Cllr Milner had responded with his concerns by email. Cllr Askew had sent a letter regarding Chapel Road School regarding the new access road which would be for new school only. Item to be put on January agenda.

**17/12/15. District Councillor's Report.** Cllr Joel reported that Breckland Council had a report on empty homes in the district covering the period 2014 -2015 up to September which showed a reduction of 128 empty homes. 34 had been empty for over 6 months and they had been returned to normal use. Currently there are 1150 registered as empty, many of which will be for a short time only and Breckland's focus will be on bringing back into use those that are long term empty. The Breckland Local Plan: Preferred Directions Development Plan and Emerging sites Options Consultation subject to full approval by Breckland Council on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 will be available for public consultation from 11<sup>th</sup> January to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016. The Parish Council need to decide how they are going to respond to this lengthy document and the best way to consult residents. The consultation document will be on the Breckland Web Site and in hard copy. Breckland Town and Parish Forum Meeting held last night included

consideration of Breckland's budget for the coming year. The Local plan, Highlight of Breckland Council during 2015. Breckland have introduced a voluntary no smoking scheme at all public play areas, parks, entrances to schools and children's nurseries throughout the district.

**18/12/15. Parish Councillors Reports.** Cllr Joel raised the matter of general correspondence and letters sent to Parish Council. Parish Clerk said any important letters would be scanned and sent out to Parish Council but at present most correspondence received is via email and any of these which concerns Parish Council are always forwarded to Parish Councillors. Cllr Boggia asked about the problem hedge in Harlingwood Lane, clerk said he would deal with it in his report. Cllr Johnson said village hall meeting agreed that children attending the matinee performance accompanied by an adult of the film Cinderella would be free for the child. Old Bucks Players are putting on a show of Peter Pan in January. He recently attended SNAP meeting which again he raised about HGV's using Hargham Road and damage to play area and said not all concerns are being met by the police due to reduced resources. Police had asked residents to take photos of offending vehicles and send them to Cllr Milner with information regarding date and time of offence who will then forward it on to police.

**19/12/15. Parish Clerk's Report.** Clerk read out an e mail from NCC Highway Engineer for our district on various matters including the problem hedge at Harlingwood Lane and he has sent a letter to the owner. He had jetting contractors in to deal with various drainage problem. Hazard markers will be installed at Rod Alley Pond between the give way sign on Hargham Road and the end of the path. He raised concerns about vehicle damage to grassed areas close to play area. He suggested repair of the damaged areas or the installation of another soil bund to the left of the last parking bay or install wooden posts.

**20/12/15. Highways.** Potholes on footpath from The Clinic to High School, Parish clerk to speak to highways on the matter.

**21/12/15. The Green.** Potholes on Post Office Terrace were reported. Letter from Mr Cracknell in which he wished to offer the Church Green to Parish Council as a gift. Cllr Milner said legal ownership of the green was in dispute and he will raise matter with Cllr Cracknell at January meeting.

**22/12/15. Public Recess.** Resident who is on play area working party suggested he would stand down and Mrs Talbot who was responsible for the original working party that created the play area take his place and she had agreed to this, Cllr Joel would contact her direct. Resident raised matter of time limit on someone addressing the Parish Council at meetings.

**23/12/15. Confirm date and time of next meeting.** January 7th 2016 at Village Hall commencing 7.30pm.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.47pm**