

**Minutes of the meeting of the Bucknell Parish Council held on
11th March 2024 in the Village Hall**

Councillors present	Cllr Chris Wells (CW) [Chair
	Cllr Alexander Bowden (AB)
	Cllr Derek Hedges (DH)
	Cllr Richard Johnson (RJ)
	Cllr James Alcock (JA)
	Cllr Mrs Emma Evans-Roberts (EER)
Apologies received	None
County/District Councillors present	Cllr Barry Wood
	Cllr Donna Ford
Members of the public present	There were 3 members of the public present : Neil Wainmann, Flo van Dieman van Thor, Sarah Evans-Roberts

03.24.01 Apologies for Absence
No apologies had been received

03.24.02 Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of Interest, Gifts and Hospitality

- Cllr Hedges as a riparian owner and owner of Playing Field the bridleway leading to it and Trustee of Playing Field and Village Hall charities
- Cllr Alcock as tenant of the old Playing Field land.
- Cllr Wells as Treasurer of the Playing Field Association
- Cllr Alexander Bowden as Riparian ownership and neighbour of Trigger Pond pub and Stans Land. Also as neighbour to the OPF and owner of its boundary wall.

03.24.03 Public Participation

Cllr Barry Wood referred to Cllr Simpson's report and highlighted the following :

- Hawkwell planning seems to be in a state of suspension awaiting consultations.
- The new local plan has just finished Regulation 18 consultation, the results of which will be analysed before the Regulation 19 consultation commences in 6 months time. This will be followed by a public examination.
- The Water Park development in Chesterton is not being pursued by Great Wolf due to unsatisfactory availability of water
- CW brought up the matter of the letter received by residents of Bucknell and copied into parish councillors from Ian Boll, Director of Communities, (CDC) on 31st August 2023 regarding the Firethorn development which was rude and insulting and contrary to GDPR regulations, Cllr Wood suggested that the PC emails him with the details, or registers an official complaint with CDC.

- Cllr Woods was thanked by councillors for his attendance at what was a difficult meeting for him

03.24.04 Councillor vacancies

No progress to date, but to remain as an agenda item.

03.24.05 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2024 were checked for accuracy and content, agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

Actions from previous meeting

No	Action	Owner	Update
12.23.01	Flooding – AB to ask Cllr Ford to liaise with Thames Water re flooding issues.	AB	On-going
01.24.01	Traffic Calming - Clerk to invite Dave Catlin (OCC) to meet with councillors to discuss installation of SID	Clerk	Dave Catlin has retired. Clerk advised to email Highways enquiries
01.24.02	Old Playing Field - CW will write a business plan with various options AB will contact the owner of Stans Land	CW AB	Completed – awaiting response
01.24.03	Grass cutting - . Clerk to ask Primrose for a price for the Pond the triangle at the end of New Row/Middleton Road	Clerk	Awaiting response Clerk to follow up
01.24.03	Banking – Clerk to discuss closure of accounts and service charges with Unity Bank. Clerk to submit updated bank mandate	Clerk	Completed

03.24.06 Communication

No communication had been received which had not been dealt with elsewhere.

03.24.07 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Nigel Simpson had submitted a written report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. .

03.24.08 Village matters

- Thames Water and village flood water** – 100 year ago Bucknell was the driest cleanest village around and now it is the worst local village with sewage and flooding. There was little or no flooding before the Valencia pipeline was installed. Letters have been received from residents complaining and the PC need to influence the powers that be to take action. It was suggested that Public Health, Environment Agency etc should be contacted with demands to remove the Valencia pipeline. County Council are responsible for storm water. **AB will draft a broad general letter to be sent to Victoria Prentis, Environment Agency, Public Health with County Council as lead addressee.**
- Traffic Calming** – Agenda Item 10
- Cherwell District Plan 2040** – Discussed under Public Participation

03.24.09 Old Playing Field Lease – Cllr Alcock was not present for this discussion

Neil Wainmann was attending the meeting to advise on the sale of the land. His advice was that the land is intended to be used as an open or recreational land which could cause problems if sold. The restrictive covenant could be terminated at short notice but this would not apply if the land is to be sold. In 1999 there was a question of the PC selling the land and a letter was written to OCC which was replied to by their agents asking if the county council wanted to retain the restrictions. The agents said that in the past the County Council had consented to the removal of the restriction providing the county council get 1/2 of the increase in value of the land there is also an issue as to whether Change of Use planning permission would be required. NW advised that the PC should seek formal legal advice. The small triangle of land by the gateway (ownership unknown) could also affect the sale of the land. Cridlands Estate Agent have provided an indicative valuation of the land. A letter has been written to the representatives of Stan's Land and a response is awaited. There was discussion as to whether instructing a solicitor for the sale of the land is good use of public money. It was agreed that Stan's representatives would be given until the end of March to respond after which AB will chase. After this time a decision will be made as to which path to take. The Deeds to the land are required, but the solicitors are no longer practicing. AB will draft a letter requesting the Deeds for the Clerk to send,

03.24.10 Highways

There are many speed indicators as an attempt to enforce the 20mph limit. Speeding vehicles and mobile phone users whilst driving are being reported to police. A meeting was arranged with highways regarding the roundabout which is being changed to traffic lights. Traffic speeding on Bainton Road is causing problems. Approx 7000 cars came through the village as a result of an incident on the M40. Banbury Road in Bicester will be closed.

The site has been inspected by the Chief Exec with suggestions which includes a 'soft closure' of Bainton Road which could be done quickly to alleviate traffic issues.

Councillors are invited to attend 2-weekly meetings with traffic officers to provide feedback.

The volume of traffic has increased dramatically in the last 6 weeks.

Cllr Ford suggested signs on Bainton Road indicating access for residents only, or creating a one way system, or a weight restriction.

There was discussion about planters on the road and leaving wheely bins out to slow traffic down. **Clerk to find out about wheely bin stickers.**

CW to email Cllr Ford expressing concerns about the speed and volume of traffic which she will then escalate

Litter & Flytipping

JA reported that he regularly cleans up and collect many bags of rubbish and wanted to know how to stop people from littering. JA is willing to continue to

litterpick, but due to the nature of the debris is unwilling to sort it and therefore is charged to dispose of it at the tip. **Clerk to pass on details of CDC Street cleansing to JA.**

03.24.11 Finance

The following payments were approved for payment:

Bucknell PC Payments schedule March 2024						
11/03/2024	1	Clerk salary Jan	paid 22/01/24	Debit	S/O	180.30
11/03/2024	2	Clerk Sal Feb	paid 20/02.24	Debit	S/O	180.30
11-03-24	3	Clerk Salary	shortfall x 2	Debit	BACS	39.5
11-03-24	4	OALC Subscription	subscription	Debit	BACS	168
11/03/2024	5	HMRC	PAYE	Debit	BACS	194.4
11/03/2024	6	Clerk Sal Mar	S/O amended to be paid 20/3/24	Debit	S/O	200.05
11/03/2024	7	Bucknell Village Hall	Broadband	Debit	BACS	114.32
11/03/2024	8	Bucknell Village Hall	Hall Hire 23/24	Debit	BACS	156.00
	9	Bucknell Village Hall	Hall hire 24/25	Debit	BACS	448.00
TOTAL						1680.87
Current A/c at 8/3/24		4538.78				
Savings A/c at 8/3/24		18021.7				
		22560.48				

03.24.12 Planning – The following planning documents had been received and circulated and discussed ahead of the meeting

24/00304/F

11 Middleton Road Bucknell
Bicester OX27 7LZ

The proposed works are to demolish a existing masonry outbuilding to the rear of a 2 bedroom semi detached house and to construct a new single storey extension to create a new bedroom.

24/00345/F

Lodge Farm Cottages Middleton
Road Bucknell OX25 4TA

Single storey extension to flank, extension to roof including addition of balcony to rear elevation and alterations to dwellinghouse

DECISIONS **23/03201/F**

Crossroads, 2 Middleton Road

APPROVED

Signed **Dated**

Proposed dates of next meetings –second Monday of the month at 7.30pm, in Bucknell Village Hall
13 May, 8 July, 9 Sept, 11 November
APM and AMPC TBC

ACTION LIST SUMMARY

No	Action	Owner	Update
01.24.03	Grass cutting - . Clerk to ask Primrose for a price for the Pond the triangle at the end of New Row/Middleton Road	Clerk	Awaiting response Clerk to follow up
01.24.03	Banking – Clerk to discuss closure of accounts and service charges with Unity Bank. Clerk to submit updated bank mandate	Clerk	Clerk to chase up login details
03.24.01	Flooding/sewage - AB will draft a broad general letter to be sent to Victoria Prentis, Environment Agency, Public Health with County Council as lead addressee.	AB	
03.24.02	Highways - Clerk to find out about wheely bin stickers. CW to email Cllr Ford expressing concerns about the speed and volume of traffic which she will then escalate	CF CW	completed
03.24.03	Litter - Clerk to pass details of CDC street cleansing to JA	CF	Completed
NEXT Agenda	Purchase of 'Tommy' Dates of AMP & AMPC		