

# BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Hubert Mitson      Cllr Jackie Taylor      Cllr David Steed  
          Cllr Anne Hicks          Cllr M Manning          Cllr Chris Hall  
          Cllr Arthur Hicks

Paula Gladwell – Clerk  
County Cllr Penny Otton (part)

0 member of the public  
District Councillor John (part)

2015/801 **Apologies for Absence** - None

2015/802 **Declarations of Interest** – None

2015/803 **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** – It was proposed by Cllr Mitson that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved with all in favour. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were signed as a true record.

### **Meeting adjourned.**

**County Cllr Penny Otton** – Cllr Otton gave her report which is attached to these minutes. Cllr Otton also confirmed that the cabinet member for Transport has been asked to review the routes in the county for HGV's due to concerns about the suitability of some of our roads for the increasingly large HGVs.

**Public Session** – Discussion took place regarding the provision of a defibrillator. It was agreed that a request be made to the British Heart Foundation.

It was noted that the Football Club were very happy with the grass cutting of the playingfield last season.

Suggestions were made to provide 30mph roundels on the road surface in places where the VAS cannot be used. It was agreed that this was not necessary at this time.

### **Meeting resumed:**

2015/804 **Clerks Report** – Kiln Lane pot holes have been reported again with a reply from SCC that they do not meet the criteria and will only be monitored.

2015/805 The Eon electricity tariff has been renewed for a further 12 months at a cheaper rate.

2015/806 It was agreed that Cllr Arthur Hicks attend the Salc Village Halls & playing fields course at a cost of £25

2015/807 A new quote has been received from Radarlux Germany which is slightly up on the original at £2946 including the additional batteries. Confirmation that the verge posts are in the works plan has been received from SCC Highways, John Simpson "shouldn't let this hold up ordering your SID as the locations have been agreed and ordered and will definitely be available soon" It was noted that Felsham Parish Council have confirmed they are happy to place an order now and it was agreed that the VAS be ordered. Proposed Cllr Mitson with all in favour.

2015/808 It was noted that the funding for compliance with Transparency Act has been received; clarification will be sought as to time limit for spending and the administration hourly rate amount added to the clerks April salary.

2015/809 The quote from Vertas for grass cutting for 2016 was approved.

2015/810 The Santander investment has been completed with interest from the previous bond deposited at Barclays. The new signing mandate for Barclays has been approved and new internet banking card and pin requested.

- 2015/811 The final two available allotment plots have been let, there are concerns regarding the condition of plot J, the deterioration of the access bridge and the general inconsistencies with the only available map. It was agreed that a site visit be undertaken to review various issues on the Allotment site on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 2.30pm
- 2015/812 **Planning** – There were no applications to consider.
- 2015/813 There were no MSDC decisions to note
- 2015/814 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for March 2016 was approved and the un reconciled £8.38, due to unavailability of bank statements, noted.
- Cllr Arthur Hicks declared a non pecuniary interest in item 7c as a member of the Village Hall committee (Min no 2015/818)
- 2015/815 The following payments were approved, proposed by Cllr Steed, with all in favour:  
Clerk's salary Jan & Feb 2016.
- 2015/816 MSDC Grass Cutting £227.40
- 2015/817 Village Hall Hire £25.00
- 2015/818 Village Hall donation £250.00
- 2015/819 Eon £28.38 DD
- 2015/820 It was resolved to appoint Heelis & Lodge carry out the Internal Audit for 2015/16. The Terms of Engagement and Audit Plan were approved.
- 2015/821 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to tabled correspondence.
- 2015/822 **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** – Following recommendations from Salc and changes to legislation it was resolved to approve the amendments to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations as drafted, Proposed Cllr Mitson with all in favour.
- Cllr Mitson declared an interest in Item 10 (Min no. 2015/823)
- 2015/823 **Housing Needs Project** – It was noted that the agent of the owner of the land under consideration for an affordable housing scheme had indicated that negotiation would only be welcomed if some plots at residential market value were considered. It was noted that if council supported the provision of only affordable homes then the land proposed was not financially available and the Affordable Housing Scheme would not happen, however if support was there for negotiation of additional market sale properties then Housing Associations may agree to work with us. It was resolved to continue to support a provision for affordable housing as land was available and to seek support from a housing provider to take negotiations forward with the land owner that could include some residential market value plots. Proposed Cllr Manning, sec Cllr Arthur Hicks with all in favour
- 2015/824 **Play Equipment consultation** – The consultation questionnaire in the Broadcast has resulted in very few replies suggesting external funding for new equipment would probably be unrealistic. Discussion took place regarding the life span of the existing multi play, what type of replacement might be suitable and the consequences for public amenity if it was not replaced with further proactive consultation suggested. It was resolved to look into replacing the existing multiplay with a slide, swing & climb type, colourful, metal piece of play equipment by seeking designs and quotes and actioning a further consultation with the community with a view to being able to obtain external funding. Proposed Cllr Taylor, sec Cllr Arthur Hick with a majority in favour.
- 2015/825 **Maintenance of Playing field** – Cllr Arthur Hicks will arrange a work party to clean and treat the basketball court and multiplay and clean slide and the swing seats, secure all loose fixings and remove weeds around equipment.
- 2015/826 **Annual meetings** – It was agreed that the format of the Annual Parish meeting be the same as previous years. The meeting will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 at 7pm and will be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

2015/827

**Matters to be brought to the attention of the council** – The clerk will chase the contractor to get a start date for repairs to the car park.

It was confirmed that the clerk had attended the recent Networking session at Salc with the cost of £15 to be split with 3 other councils.

It was noted that the brown bins were not always collected on the scheduled Thursday, Cllr Matthissen will investigate.

It was noted that the WI will be carrying out their regular litter pick.

**Meeting adjourned.**

**District Cllr John Matthissen** – Cllr Matthissen gave his report which is attached to these minutes.

**The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 7.30pm at The Village Hall**