

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council held in Piddington Village Hall on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.30pm

Attendance - Chairman - Mr T Willett, Cllrs Mr S Digby, Mrs T Gray, Mr O May, Mrs W Pitcher.

Buckinghamshire Councillor – Cllr D Hayday.

Clerk – Mrs H Glasgow.

Members of the public: 2.

289.1 Attendance and acceptance of apologies for absence.
Cllrs P Brown, J Smith. Cllr O Hayday.

289.2 Declaration of disclosable pecuniary interests relating to items on the Agenda.
None.

289.3 Public and Buckinghamshire Councillors Question Time.

A Parishioner asked why the Christmas lights haven't yet been switched on in the trees on Piddington Green and Wheeler End Common. Councillors will switch them on in the next few days.

A Parishioner reported that they helped with the litter pick this morning. They went to the Old Oxford Road near the allotment site and there were huge amounts of rubbish, especially in the ditch. It couldn't all be picked up. The Parishioner asked if we could cut down the overgrowth in the copse. Cllr Hayday reported that fly-tipping and rubbish disposal is a problem everywhere, especially in rural areas and at this current time there doesn't appear to be a solution. Buckinghamshire Council own this piece of land. The Parish Council spent over a year asking The Council to thin the trees out, they weren't amenable to this.

The Council is hoping with the change in the law that the number of people disposing of canisters might dwindle down. Installation and the upkeep of cameras has been discussed before and this comes with a cost and various issues with regards to GDPR.

Cllr Hayday will put a request forward to Buckinghamshire Council to have the waste in the ditch cleared out.

A debit card was found where the rubbish was cleared out. It is possible that this could belong to an individual who dumped the rubbish, or it could have been stolen. Cllr Digby will report this to the bank and also contact Buckinghamshire Council with regards to a possible link to fly-tipping.

Cllr Hayday thanked everyone who took part in the litter pick.

The green bins will now not be collected until January 2024. Cllr Hayday will ask if this can be adjusted next year as it appears the collection team are taking three weeks off. People now pay for the collections and thoughts were this was a bit unfair to pay for a service with such a long break.

Cllr Digby met with the Local Area Technician and showed him the ongoing issue of the blocked drains.

Cllr Pitcher asked who determines the white markings on the roads and when they need re-painting. This is an issue for Buckinghamshire Council. The Parish Council could lobby BC to do this if the lines needed to be repainted.

Cllr Pitcher reported that the hedge on Bolter End Lane by the motorway bridge still needs to be cut back. This falls under Buckinghamshire Council, the Clerk has already contacted Transport for Bucks about this. The Clerk will chase this up. There is also a hedge directly on the highway near Dean Farm that needs to be cut back, The Clerk will contact Transport for Bucks regarding this.

289.4 Minutes - To confirm the Minutes of the November 2023 Meeting.
Council confirmed the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

289.5 Update re the new Parish Council website.

Cllr Willet has uploaded lots of material onto the new website. Councillors have been able to preview the website before it is launched and are happy with the look and content uploaded.

Cllr Willet/The Clerk will ask the current website manager for the content from the existing website and transfer it across.

There will be a gallery and Parishioners will be encouraged to send in photographs of the Parish. There is also a news section and details of local businesses will be included.

Cllr Digby spoke about producing a welcome flyer/letter for new residents moving into the Parish and for local businesses to become involved.

It was agreed to upload an advert to social media to ask if any local businesses would like to be listed on the Parish Councils new website.

The council agreed that on an ongoing basis Cllr Willett will update the website.

289.6 Highways Devolution Expressions of Interest – 2024/25

The Parish Council were asked if they would like to submit an expression of interest for the Highways Devolved Services Agreement. However, expressions of interest must be submitted by 15th January 2024 and budget allocations will not be provided until February 2024. The Parish Council only have a very small precept and couldn't see the benefit in signing the agreement. The council unanimously declined to submit an expression of interest.

289.10 Feasibility studies A40/Old Dashwood Hill works

Cllr Willett reported that after the fatal accident on the A40 there were four recommendations made. The speed limits have already been changed and there has been a commitment to install new signs. The cycle lane and the footpath have to be applied for by the Parish Council. The application would be for the undertaking of a feasibility study and the Parish Council would have to pay for half of the study. If approved the works would have to be half funded by the Parish Council. With a minimal precept, this is not something the Parish Council could commit to part funding. Buckinghamshire Council advised that this has been included in the cycling and walking infrastructure plan, this stretch of the A40 was part of the County wide plan, but it has been removed and included in the High Wycombe plan. Buckinghamshire Council have said that there is a commitment to build a cycle lane from West Wycombe to Stokenchurch, but they have no idea when it will be done or when funds would be allocated.

289.11 Clerks Report and Correspondence.

Clerks Report

1. I have received reports of several dogs being walked and let off the lead in Piddington Rec. Dogs have never been allowed in the recreational ground. There were signs on the gates but these have been removed. I have ordered new signs and will install shortly.
2. The insurance company requested more information and photographs re the noticeboard in Wheeler End. This has been submitted. I am awaiting their response. Therefore, I haven't placed the order for the new noticeboard yet.
3. Councillor litter picks took place on 12/12/23. I have organised for the waste to be collected and ordered waste bags.
4. Allotment plot 6 was overgrown and uncultivated. A termination letter has been sent to the tenant and notice was given to clear any belongings.
5. Re allotment plot 6, had a meeting with a new tenant at the allotment site who has agreed to clear the plot and take it over.
6. Continued to chase unpaid allotment rents.
7. The budget and precept will be set at the January meeting.
8. Cllr Willet has sent out details re the new website. Councillors submitted feedback.
9. Updated the website and facebook page.
10. All online banking payments have been completed.
11. Checked the AED unit.
12. Issues can be reported at www.fixmystreet.com or using the app FixMyStreet.

13. **Appeal Decision Type:** Planning

Address: Huckenden Farm, Cadmore End Common Road, Wheeler End, Buckinghamshire

Proposal: Alterations and conversion of existing building to form one bedroom unit with parking and amenity space

Appeal Decision: Appeal Dismissed

Costs Decision: Not Applicable

Application Reference: 20/08498/FUL

Appeal Reference: APP/K0425/W/22/3307231

14. Note put on the PC's Facebook page –

The Parish Council have agreed to let Downley Dynamos Junior Football Club use part of Piddington Recreation Ground for football training and matches on Saturday and Sunday mornings. You may see them doing some preparatory work to make the area suitable and they aim to start playing in the New Year.

This is a trial that will run until the end of the season, and we will then review everything with a view to a longer-term arrangement assuming it all goes smoothly - they have a similar agreement in West Wycombe which has run successfully for many years.

The Dashwood Roadhouse have kindly agreed to let them use their car park so this should not cause any parking problems along Old Oxford Road.

15. Meeting Dates for 2024

Meetings are at 7.30pm in Piddington Village Hall

9th January

13th February

12th March

9th April

14th May (Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Normal Meeting).

11th June

9th July

No meeting in August

10th September

8th October

12th November

10th December

Correspondence Received - If Councillors would like a copy of any of the documents listed below please advise the clerk.

1. New Vice Lord-Lieutenant appointed in the county of Buckinghamshire
2. Town & Parish Councils Liaison Surgery Survey
3. Be ready and set to read this winter as the Winter Mini Challenge comes to Buckinghamshire
4. Enjoy the celebrations but stay safe this festive season
5. Businesses in Bucks boosted by investment
6. Winter Waggle event -16th January
7. Can you give something back to your community this Christmas?
8. Tree-mendous programme of tree-planting continues in Bucks
9. Get better health and wellbeing with BetterPoints
10. Festive shopping – and parking - made easy in Buckinghamshire
11. Keep Britain Tidy
12. North West Chilterns Community Board - Business Networking Evening – 29th February
13. Vaping Consultation
14. Buckinghamshire Council Secures new 5G Innovation Regional Funding
15. Helping families have a fun-filled festive season with free holiday activities, food and support
16. Young people share their experiences to raise awareness of special educational needs
17. Help make a child's wish come true this Christmas
18. New footpath creates a safer link for local community
19. Buckinghamshire Council Climate Change newsletter
20. Help us keep vulnerable adults safe in Buckinghamshire

289.12 Finance – Approval of the invoices submitted.

Clerks Salary	£635.84	
BC Pension	£245.60	
HMRC	£170.74	
Expenses	£537.40	Fuel / office rent / signs
Buckland Landscapes	£465.50	Grass Cutting
Stillman Garden Services	£660.00	War memorial and shrubs
Netwise	£1114.00	Website
TSB Hygiene	£74.40	
HSBC (dd)	£5.00	Banking charge
Income	£115.00	Allotment rents
Opening Balance 09/11/23	£31,729.16	

Less approved Expenditure	£2,059.71
Income	£115.00
Total as at 05/12/23	£29,779.45

The Clerk will send Piddington Village Hall an invoice for their contribution to the website.

289.13 Planning Applications – none.

289.14 Members Questions and Statements.

It was agreed that Cllr Willett would be added to the bank account.

Cllr Digby gave an update re Chipps Hill. Funding needs to be applied for by 31st December. There is a requirement to provide three quotations for the works. Currently we have received one quotation, one is outstanding. It is unlikely that we can meet this deadline, but the funding process starts again in April 2024.

Cllr Willett will look into setting up Council email addresses for each Parish Councillor.

The bus stop is rotting, at some point it will need replacing. Cllr Willett will look into possible funding options.

289.15 Date of next meeting – **Tuesday 9th January 2024, Piddington Village Hall.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at – 20.32.

Signed..... Dated.....