

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council held in Piddington Village Hall on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.30pm

Attendance - Chairman - Cllrs Mr S Digby, Mr P Brown, Mrs T Gray, Mr J Smith, Mrs W Pitcher.

Buckinghamshire Councillor – Cllr D Hayday.

Clerk – Mrs H Glasgow.

Members of the public: 1.

290.1 Attendance and acceptance of apologies for absence.
Cllr T Willett. Cllr O Hayday.

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

290.3 Public and Buckinghamshire Councillors Question Time.

A resident raised concerns regarding the state of the footpaths. The resident recently fell and hurt himself on two separate occasions. The Parishioner will email Cllr D Hayday.

Cllr Hayday reported that it is thought that Buckinghamshire Council are planning to increase the Council Tax by approximately 5% and will also be looking at reducing services.

A Parishioner raised concerns about parking. Unfortunately, some residents/visitors continue to park in a careless manner. There have been occasions in the past where emergency vehicles have not been able to access a road.

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

290.5 Update re the new Parish Council website.

The new website has now been launched. It's the same website address – www.piddingtonandwheelerend.org.uk
There will soon be a link to book Piddington Village Hall. The Parish Council did put a post on social media re businesses being listed on the website but did not receive any response.

290.6 Clerks Report and Correspondence.

Clerks Report

1. Ollie May has resigned from the Parish Council. The vacancy has been advertised.
2. The insurance company agreed to pay £1787.76 towards a new noticeboard for Wheeler End Common.
3. The new noticeboard has been ordered, the cost was £2710.62. This includes VAT and shipping.
4. Under the 2021 Environment Act, public authorities (including town and parish councils) operating in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Council will discuss this at a future meeting.
5. Updated the website and facebook page.
6. All online banking payments have been completed.
7. Checked the AED unit.
8. Issues can be reported at www.fixmystreet.com or using the app FixMyStreet.
9. Meeting Dates for 2024

Meetings are at 7.30pm in Piddington Village Hall

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. Changes to household DIY waste disposal due from 31 December
2. Council enforces higher penalties for fly-tipping in Bucks
3. Bucks schools take part in Dragons' Den-style green technology challenge
4. News for Town and Parish Councils from Buckinghamshire Council
5. Chiltern Conservation Board enews
6. Police and Crime Bulletin
7. Community Speedwatch newsletter
8. Berks, Bucks, Oxon Wildlife Trust
9. Buckinghamshire residents announced in The King's New Year Honours

Find the Chiltern society map – footpath clearance.

290.7	7.1	Finance –	Approval of the invoices submitted.
		Clerks Salary	£636.04
		BC Pension	£245.60
		HMRC	£170.27
		Expenses	£10.80
		Chiltern Society	£438.80
		TBS Hygiene	£93.00
		Buckland Landscapes	£465.50
			Fuel
			Footpath Clearance
			Environmental Services
			Grass Cutting
		HSBC (dd)	£5.00
			Banking charge
		Income	£37.50
			Allotment rents
			Piddington Village Hall
			Insurance Claim
			£150.00
			£1786.76
		Opening Balance 05/12/23	£29,779.45
		Less approved Expenditure	£3,903.21
		Income	£1,974.26
		Total as at 03/01/24	£27,845.50

7.2 Expenditure against Budget Report 23/24

The Clerk circulated the report prior to the meeting. The expenditure to date is £22,602.03. On 3rd January 2024 there was £27,845.50 in the bank account. The Parish Council is likely to end the year with £20,500.00 in the bank account. Council noted that the budget was on track.

7.3 To agree the Precept for 24/25

The Council Tax is made up of charges from Buckinghamshire Council, Police, Fire Authority and Parish Councils.

The Parish Council agreed an increase of 5% the 2024/2025 Precept would be £27,548.75. The estimated Band D tax would be £104.24, this is an increase of £4.96 from the previous financial year.

7.4 To agree the Budget for 24/25

Council agreed the following Budget –

Clerks Salary and pension	£ 13,000
Admin –telephone, post, insurance, website, audit, broadband, working from home allowance & banking charges.	£ 4300
Village Hall-hire	£ 250
Recreation Ground – maintenance of equipment	£ 1000
Chipps Hill verge	£ 3000
Grass cutting and hedge cutting	£ 5000
Allotments	£ 500
Wheeler End - War Memorial & fence/wreaths	£ 600

Environmental services	£ 900
Subscriptions	£ 350
Donations	£ 500
Projects	£ 500
Elections	£ 0.00
Reserve	£ 4500
Total	£ 34,400

The bank account balance as of 03/01/2024 is £27,845.50.

The Parish Council should end the 23/24 year with approximately £20,500 in the bank.

Critical dates

31st of January 2024 - Deadline for BC receipt of precept requests from Parish Councils

22nd February 2024 - Council Tax set

March 2024 (estimated) - Bills sent to residents.

It was agreed that Cllr Digby would look at the grass cutting contract and discuss this along with a quotation for Chipps Hill with Buckland Landscapes. This would be discussed at the February meeting.

290.8 To discuss the Community Ownership Fund / funding options in relation to the bus shelter
Cllr Willett has received one quotation for a replacement bus shelter and is currently seeking a further two. To be discussed at a future meeting.

290.9 Planning Applications – none.

290.10 Members Questions and Statements.

The Clerk will organise for the new signs at Piddington Rec to be installed.

Cllr Digby reported that the black bags on Old Dashwood Hill still haven't been collected. BC reported that when they went to collect the bags weren't accessible. Cllr Digby will pull them out so that they can be collected.

The A40 gully clearance was supposed to be done at the beginning of Jan 24. Cllr Digby will continue to chase this. We received a response from TFB to say that the ditches would be cleared of rubbish.

The Village Hall Committee may consider purchasing a generator incase of power outage etc.

We received some feedback that this year the Christmas lights were disappointing and went off around 9pm. Cllr Willett to look at new batteries.

Cllr Digby will ask Cllr Willett to store the Christmas lights.

290.11 Date of next meeting – **Tuesday 13th February, Piddington Village Hall.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at – 20.35.

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