**NEW BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of New Buckenham Parish Council held at New Buckenham Village Hall on Tuesday 11th February 2025.

Present: Andrew Bingham (AB) Chair, Paul Martin (PM) Vice Chair, Karen Hobley (KH) Mary Manning (MM) Mary Dowson (MD) and Steve Highton (SH)

Apologies: Don Crossman (DC)

Also in attendance: A Thornton - minutes. 2 members of the public. County/District Councillor Steve Askew

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| **Minute** |  | **Action** |
| 2425/113 | **Absent –** Don Crossman |  |
| 2425/114 | **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025**  KH proposed MM seconded. Minutes approved. | **AT** |
| 2425/115 | **To record declarations of interest not already recorded in the current Members Register of Interest:**  None |  |
| 2425/116 | **To receive reports of matters arising from January minutes for update and information only.** |  |
|  | **Matters arising**   1. AB informed the meeting that the Village Gateway has been installed. 2. Old Buckenham FP14 (High London Farm) path. Norfolk County Council has contacted landowner re defects. 3. Drain outside Lovells - SA to pursue with Highways Officer.. | **AT** |
| 2425/117 | **District and County Councillor Report.**  SA had circulated his report electronically. He verbally highlighted the devolution situation with Norfolk and Suffolk agreed as priority areas. One consequence of devolution is that Breckland has paused its` car park charging programme. |  |
| 2425/118 | **Chair and Parish Councillors Reports.**  KH referred to Councillor Askew’s report noting that “**Norfolk Youth Justice Service rated "good" with staff who go "above and beyond" for children.”** This was pleasing to note. |  |
| 2425/119 | **Public Participation:**  See 2425/122 |  |
| 2425/120 | **Financial Matters:**  a. Bank reconciliation for January was accepted. |  |
|  | b. Payments for March 2025 (below) were approved for processing. Proposed AB Seconded KH. All agreed. | **AT AB** |

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| **Payment Approved Date** | **Invoice Date** | **Payment reference** | **Payee** | **ITEM** | **Gross expenditure** | **VAT** | **Net** |
| **11/02/2025** | **22/01/2025** | **Online payment** | **A Thornton** | **Wix domain** | **24.18** | **4.03** | **20.15** |
| **11/02/2025** | **19/02/2025** | **Online payment** | **Broadland Trees** | **Christmas Tree** | **456** | **76** | **380** |
| **11/02/2025** | **February** | **Online payment** | **NCC** | **Clerk Pension February** | **174.42** |  | **174.42** |
| **11/02/2025** | **February** | **Online payment** | **A Thornton** | **Clerk Salary February** | **578.59** |  | **578.59** |
| **11/02/2025** | **07/02/2024** | **Online payment** | **NPTS** | **CPD Training Clerk** | **80** |  | **80** |
| **11/02/2025** | **03/02/2025** | **Online payment** | **A Thornton** | **Reimbursement Microsoft 365 annual licence** | **97.2** | **1.94** | **95.26** |
| **11/02/2025** | **17/02/2025** | **Direct Debit** | **N Power** | **Electricity Street Lights Jan 2025** | **76.94** | **3.66** | **73.28** |
| **11/02/2025** | **05/02/2025** | **Online payment** | **A Thornton** | **Printer Ink** | **17.27** | **3.44** | **13.83** |
| **11/02/2025** | **01/03/2025** | **Online payment** | **A Thornton** | **Reimbursement Wix annual subscription website** | **129.6** | **2.6** | **127** |
| **Totals** |  |  |  |  | **1634.2** | **91.67** | **1542.53** |
|  |  |  | **NBVH** | **Rental not paid January** | **42** |  |  |
|  |  |  | **GW** | **Community Car Scheme mileage not paid January** | **23.25** |  |  |

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|  | c. Community Project Fund Applications.  None at this meeting |  |
| 2425/121 | **To consider planning applications and to receive Breckland District Council’s decisions made on any planning applications received before the meeting:**  25/0109/PAEC Smart Metering Mast at rear of Village Hall by containers. No objections. | **AT** |
| 2425/122 | **To consider any issues raised regarding NBPC amenities as follows:** |  |
|  | a. Grounds Maintenance - None |  |
|  | b. Closed Churchyard  Email received from Parochial Church Council requesting removal of plants along wall of church to enable access for guttering to be repaired. AB, in liaison with Parochial Church Council, to meet with Broadland Trees to consider options and timescale. | **AB** |
|  | c. Cemetery - Burial taking place this month. |  |
|  | d. Allotments – Still 1 vacant plot with no one on waiting list.   * No progress with allotment holders re ideas for use of far end following decision that it is too small for a community orchard. | **AT** |
|  | e. Play area   * Safety inspection report quote considered and approved for work to be carried out and paid for from 2025-26 budget * Quote for repairing 2 benches in Play Area approved with work to be carried out and paid for in current financial year. * All approved. | **AT** |
|  | f. Public Footpaths.  No new issues at this meeting. |  |
|  | g. Community Car Scheme – DBS Checks to be renewed in next 12 months. CCS Grant request to Breckland will reflect this. |  |
|  | h. Street Lights – nothing to report |  |
|  | I Defibrillator – nothing to report |  |
| 2425/ | **Key Documents for review:** none presented at this meeting |  |
| 2425/ | **Correspondence received not considered elsewhere on this agenda:**  The Parish Council had received a request for a memorial tree – after much discussion, the request was declined as the PC does not wish to set a precedent and also because there could be future maintenance issues. AB will write to the parishioner who made the request outlining our discussions and reasons for our final decision. | **AB** |

The meeting closed at 20.34 pm.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm.**