

MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Monday 10th January 2022, Hambleden Village Hall

PRESENT: Mr J Jackson (Chair), Mr A Armstrong, Mr C Hussey, Cllr S Webb, Mr G Rowley, Miss T Eaton.
 Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk
 Buckinghamshire Councillor Dominic Barnes
 2 members of the public

Minute 9582

Public Question Time

None. 2 residents attended interested in agenda item 10, Pheasants Hill Common.

Minute 9583

To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Mr P Goddard, Mr D Broad and Buckinghamshire Councillor Mark Turner.

Minute 9584

Declaration of disclosable pecuniary and personal interests by Members relating to items on the agenda

Cllr Armstrong declared an interest in agenda item 11, as the current contractor who will be putting in a bid for the new contract.

Minute 9585

To confirm and approve the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 8th November 2021

The minutes for the meeting held in November were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Minute 9586

Clerk and any Councillors if appropriate to report on matters arising and any updates from previous minutes which are not on the agenda

- Minute 9524 – Buckinghamshire Councillor Turner advised that Buckinghamshire Council are looking for a contractor willing to carry out the works and are hopeful that this should take place next year.
- Minute 9542 – Clerk advised the contractor to carry out the work to install the signs at Pheasants Hill Common.
- Minute 9561.1 – Clerk has chased the LAT again about the resurfacing in Pheasants Hill, no response has been received to date.
- Minute 9573 – Clerk completed the forms for the grant, a cheque has been given to the Hambleden Valley Visitors Guide for the full awarded amount.
- Minute 9574 – Clerk is still drafting a final version of the Accessibility Statement to be placed on the website.
- Minute 9576 – works have been carried out and completed at Ellery Rise play area, cheque was signed in December.
- Minute 9578.1 – Clerk wrote to the homeowner asking them to cut back the overhanging branches, no response has been received to date.
- Frieth Village Hall have confirmed that the hall can be used for meetings in 2022 on the proposed dates. Clerk has updated the website with the meetings for 2022.
- Clerk received a very competitive quotation from a contractor for the works to be carried out at the fields in Ellery Rise, Frieth. He will complete the works this month, weather allowing.
- Clerk has reported various potholes, blocked drains, and faded white lines around the parish. This can be done by anyone via [Fix My Street](#).

Minute 9587

Correspondence received from 9th November to 6th December 2021

1. Email from BMKALC re: High Court decision.
2. South West Chiltern Area Economic Recovery and Regeneration Action Group meeting agenda – for info.
3. Email re: overgrown hedges – Clerk contacted landowners, cutting organised.
4. The Clerk magazine – will bring to meeting.
5. South West Chilterns Community Board meeting agenda – for info.
6. Response from Buckinghamshire Council re: site notices – forwarded to Cllrs.
7. Email re: Request for copy of electoral register 2021-22 (Parish Councillors) – forwarded to Cllrs.

8. Update from Buckinghamshire Cllr Turner re: Hambleden resurfacing – forwarded to Cllrs.
9. Update re: food waste collection – forwarded to Cllrs and added to website and Facebook page.
10. Notice of West Buckinghamshire Area Planning Committee meeting – for info.
11. South West Chilterns Economic Recovery and Regeneration action group notes – for info.
12. The Clerk magazine – for info, brought to meeting.
13. Countryside Voices magazine – for info, brought to meeting.
14. Hambleden Valley Magazine – for info.
15. The LCR magazine – for info, brought to meeting.
16. Cancellation of South West Chilterns Environment and Climate Change action group – for info.
17. WDALC agenda – forwarded to Cllr Jackson.
18. The Chiltern Society magazine – for info, brought to meeting.
19. South West Chilterns Community Board – Economic Recovery and Regeneration Action Group agenda – for info.
20. Letter from Hambleden Churchwarden re: yew trees in the Churchyard – future agenda item.
21. Email from Buckinghamshire Council re: commitment to involving local people in planning decisions – forwarded to Cllrs.
22. Email from BC re: Council makes 'Brown Before Green' pledge to prioritise brownfield site development – forwarded to Cllrs.
23. NALC email re: Guidance following Plan B – forwarded to Cllrs.

Correspondence received from 13th December 2021 to 4th January 2022

1. Footpath HA44 diversion proposal – forwarded to Cllrs, agenda item.
2. WDALC agenda – forwarded to Cllr Jackson.
3. South West Chilterns Environment Action Group notes and agenda – for info.
4. South West Chilterns Community Board Meeting – Community Action Group notes and agenda – for info.
5. 100 Trees email from Buckinghamshire Council – forwarded to Cllrs.
6. WDALC – Community Resilience Plan – forwarded to Cllrs.
7. South West Chilterns Community Board – notes from Transport meeting – for info.
8. TTROs – Frieth Road and Rockwell End – forwarded to Cllrs, added to website and Facebook page.
9. South West Chilterns Community Board Environment and Climate Change action group notes – for info.
10. Buckinghamshire Heritage Local List email – forwarded to Cllrs. Cllr Webb suggests seeing if the Kenricks Memorial in Hambleden churchyard could be added. Cllr Hussey suggests the village pound in Fingest. **Action: Clerk**
11. Email invite to a remote Planning and Environment Service update – forwarded to Cllrs.
12. Email with Minutes for South West Chilterns Community Board held in November – for info.
13. Email re: Buckinghamshire Council announces 2022/23 budget proposals – forwarded to Cllrs.
14. Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – for info, brought to meeting.
15. WDALC minutes – for info.
16. Email from BMKALC re: holding online Council meetings – forwarded to Cllrs.
17. Email from EE to confirm that the new location for the 5G mast is progressing – for info.
Cllr Hussey will forward to the Parmoor Working Group.

Minute 9588

To receive updates if any from meetings attended since the previous ordinary meeting

Clerk attended the WDALC meeting, and will attend the Clerks Forum, Parish Liaison and Planning and Enforcement update virtual meetings later this month. Cllr Jackson has attended 2 meetings about the possibility of fibre to the property broadband in Frieth, by Hey! Broadband and FW Networks. They are currently on the way to provide FTTP in Lane End. A FW Networks representative will hopefully be attending the February Parish Council meeting to discuss.

Minute 9589

To discuss the request for works to be carried out in Hambleden Churchyard to the yew trees

The Churchwarden has written to the parish council requesting a hard cut back of the yew trees lining the path from the Lychgate to the Church door. Cllrs Armstrong, Webb, and Rowley attended a site visit and thinks to cut them back hard will mean 5-6 years before they look attractive again. Cllr Armstrong suggests pulling them in using wire, with help from a tree specialist to control the spread.

All in agreement to try this method first rather than a heavy cut back as it is a feature of the village. Cllr Armstrong will speak with Mr Baird, a local tree specialist. **Action:Cllr Armstrong/Clerk**

Minute 9590

To discuss Hambleden flood defences

Cllr Hussey reported concerns raised about the Hamble brook to him by residents. One is the amount of instream vegetation and that it may cause overflowing. He has alerted the Chilterns Chalk Stream Officer to this but has no reply yet. Second is the flood embankment by the bridge, which is in a deteriorating state. Clerk to contact the Environment Agency to ask them to inspect it. The rubber barriers that are placed over the road in case of flooding are incomplete – Cllr Jackson suspects the Environment Agency supplied these previously. Lastly, a disturbance to the stream bed by machinery was reported to the Clerk. Cllr Rowley took photographs which Cllr Hussey forwarded to the Chilterns Chalk Stream Officer but does not think that it will prove permanently damaged.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9591

To discuss the management of Pheasants Hill Common and receive an update regarding deer management from Cllr Hussey

The signs will be installed shortly. Cllr Hussey gave a verbal report, including that the Common has now been given the non-statutory status of “Local Wildlife Site” by Bucks and Milton Keynes Environmental Centre. Cllr Barnes offered help with locating the appropriate person at Buckinghamshire Council regarding passing ownership of the Common to the parish council, which would make it easier to provide a management plan to be carried out by a third party. Clerk to draft letter to Huttons Farm about pheasant beating on the common now it is a local wildlife site.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9592

To consider grass cutting schedules for the North and South wards, which will be put out to tender in 2022

Cllrs Webb, Rowley, and Armstrong have carried out site visits which have resulted in some proposed alterations to the South ward schedule. All happy with any amendments made, Cllr Webb will forward to Clerk to then go out to tender. Minor amendments made to North Ward contract. Cllr Armstrong will carry out some remedial works needed in Hambleden churchyard.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9593

To discuss the proposed footpath diversion of HA44 (part) by Buckinghamshire Council

All in agreement, no objection. Clerk to inform Buckinghamshire Council.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9594

To ratify the decision made between meetings to make a donation to Frieth church for £150 for the light over the winter period

All in agreement, ratified.

Minute 9595

To approve the accounts for December 2021; to approve the accounts January 2022 and signing of cheques; to approve the budget for 2022/2023; to set the precept demand to Buckinghamshire Council

The accounts were available at the meeting for inspection.

Accounts paid in December 2021

<u>Accounts paid in December 2021 – Cheques signed following cancelled meeting</u>	
Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	622.04
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	194.83
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	35.05
Reids Playground Maintenance	720.00
SLCC – annual subs	144.00
War Memorials Trust membership subs renewal	20.00
ACL Armstrong – 7/7 South Ward grass cutting	668.57
ACL Armstrong – Frieth grass cutting October	288.00
ACL Armstrong – maintenance extra to schedule from 2020 and 2021	1608.00
ACL Armstrong – Frieth grass cutting and clearance 2020	1032.00
ACL Armstrong – South ward grass cut 6 and 7 of 7 installments 2020	1337.14

Skirmett Village Hall – hire	35.00
Mrs Lorna Coldwell – stamps and stationery	88.98
Frieth Church – donation for light over winter	150.00
Total	6943.61
<u>Accounts to be paid in January 2022</u>	
Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	622.04
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	194.83
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	27.34
CG Balkwell and Son – Pheasants Hill hedge cutting	84.00
SSE – quarterly supply charges	278.89
Hambleden Village Hall – hire	30.00
ICO – renewal fee	40.00
Mrs L Coldwell – working from home annual allowance	500.00
Mrs L Coldwell – overtime payment, 12 hours in 2021	179.52
Hambleden Valley Group – Hambleden Valley magazine sub	27.00
Total	1983.62
Balance as 1st November 2021	78213.21
Less November payments	(3701.69)
Balance as of 30th November 2021	74511.52
Less December payments	(6943.61)
Balance as of 31st December 2021	67567.91
Of which CIL Funds	6618.95
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Unrestricted Reserves	40948.96

Film Fund Account

Total of all funds at 1st November 2021	5925.87
Money ring-fenced for Frieth Village Hall clock works	(1000.00)
Total of all funds at 31st December 2021	4925.87
Unrestricted reserves	3925.87

Accounts approved.

Budget approved.

Cllr Rowley proposed increasing the precept by 4% to £33280. This will be a 3.76% increase to a Band D property from last year. All in agreement. Clerk to inform Buckinghamshire Council of the precept demand.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9596

Members questions: including any items for the next agenda

- 1. **Cllr Hussey** – the Chiltern Rangers have been in touch about the Fingest Lane scrub bash, suggesting dates at the end of January. He has approached Frieth Natural History Society for volunteers and suggests contacting Greener Henley also.
- 2. **Cllr Webb** – asked to whether a tree could be planted for the Platinum Jubilee, in Hambleden churchyard where the old beech tree was felled. Someone has a tree that they are willing to donate.

Action:Clerk – Future Agenda Item

- 3. There is no update currently regarding Thames Water and the problems in the village.
- 4. Cllr Webb is still liaising with the contractor regarding repairs to the bridge in Hambleden.
- 5. The Tithe Map is going to be taken to a specialist for advice next week.
- 6. A resident has asked if a road sweep can be done from the Manor House into the village. Cllr Eaton will speak with the landowner about this.
- 7. **Cllr Jackson** – has received a complaint about potholes in the parish and how they are filled, specifically the one in Parmoor which is regular occurrence and has reappeared. Clerk to report via Fix my Street.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9597

To consider all recent applications received from Buckinghamshire Council detailed below and any other planning applications submitted and published on the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Portal between the circulation of the agenda and the meeting if appropriate

[21/08614/CTREE – Kiln House Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Dismantle 1 x Ash (T5) and prune x 2 Lime to secondary and tertiary points (G6) by reducing crown height by approximately 3 - 4 metres to enhance natural form and reducing crown spread by approximately 1.5 - 2 metres to enhance natural form respectively – **no objection**

[21/08621/CTREE - White Gates Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Removal (felling) of 9 x Leylandii, 2 x Privet, 2 x Cotoneaster, 1 x Birch & 1 x Cherry – **no objection**

[21/08622/FUL – Colstrop Farm Colstrop Lane Hambleden](#) – Erection of replacement barns for continued farming use to include the provision of a rural workers dwelling – **No objection, however we feel that in light of climate change there is a missed opportunity for collection of rainwater run off from the roof. We note that traditionally, local farmers would have installed a "Chiltern Cistern" for this purpose.**

Planning Application Decisions made by Buckinghamshire Council since previous meeting

[21/07946/CTREE – The Barn Hambleden Village Hambleden](#) – Crown reduce by 0.5 metre, back to previous reduction points x 1 Horse Chestnut (T11), re-pollard by 2.5/3metres x 1 Willow (T12), crown reduce by one metre x 1 Cherry (T13), fell to ground x 1 Aspen (T17) and crown lift to 5.2metres and trim back to border x 1 group of mixed various trees (G1) – Not To Make a Tree Preservation Order

[21/07848/FUL – Burrow Farm Hollow Lane Rotten Row Hambleden](#) – Engineering operation to create a wildlife pond and associated vegetation (part retrospective) – **Application Permitted**

[21/06783/LBC – Greenlands Henley Business School Henley Road Hambleden](#) – Listed Building application for upgrading of heating system – **Application Permitted**

[21/07611/CLE – The Bungalow Scotchy Lane Skirmett](#) – Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of property by persons not solely or mainly employed in agriculture or forestry or a dependent or a widow or widower of such a person – **Grant Certificate of Lawful Use** (PC not consulted)

Minute 9598

To confirm the dates for next meetings as:

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 14th February – Frieth Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 21.14.

Signed Date