

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th JANUARY 2024 AT
8.00 PM IN WEST WYCOMBE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs Mr S. Cope, Mr N. Harris, Mrs V. Smith, Ms C. Rowland, Mrs K. Cheshire, Mrs E Copley

In attendance:

Mrs S. Henson - Clerk, Buckinghamshire Cllr Mr D. Hayday, Mrs A Wright

APOLOGIES: Cllr Mr J. Carstensen (health), Buckinghamshire Cllr Mrs O. Hayday

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS BY MEMBERS RELATING
TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – None declared.

CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Minutes for above meeting were agreed by those Councillors present and signed by the Chairman.

Councillors confirmed that they will continue to accept and approve Cllr Carstensen's absence at meetings due to his current health issues and look forward to his return to the Parish Council.

Clerk's Report

1. The Clerk has handed out thank you gifts to our volunteers within the community.
2. Clerk has spent many hours talking with Barclays Bank regarding their recent letters and threat to close our account. It now seems that when the account was opened 38 years ago there was only one suitable account and that came under the category of Charities; they are now wanting those accounts, where applicable, to become Business Accounts. The Clerk has done all she can, with the internal auditor as witness, to ensure that we can keep our account open and that it is now down to Barclays to make the changes – apparently our account number and debit card will not change. We now wait, for the third time for the KYC Team (Knowing Your Customer) to ring back.
3. Clerk has provided information to the Waste Team and DVLA regarding the non-taxed vehicle parked in the High Street which has now been moved to Beechwood Road. The MOT runs out in early February, and it can then be considered an abandoned vehicle. The van parked on the pavement opposite Gerrard Court is taxed and MOT'd and has now been moved onto the drive of an adjacent house.
4. Clerk has forwarded a photo to Waste and Cleansing of the large waste bin which has been sitting by the Beechwood Road bus stop for months and has filled up with water and rubbish and over Christmas with old carpet.
5. Clerk has submitted the request for our Precept for 2024/25 at £43,500.
6. Clerk has confirmed with Buckinghamshire Council that we would express an interest in continuing with Devolved Services based on the assumption that the figure offered would be no lower than the current year.
7. Clerk is in communication with Castle Water as their accounting system makes no sense – we are in credit, but they are still charging us, and we need a proper explanation as to why!
8. Glynn Spratt has dug out the drainage grips in Toweridge Lane.
9. Christmas tree lights will be taken down on 26th January. Clerk will put out cones, signs and red and white tape to prevent people parking in the working area.

MEETING CLOSED FOR PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
MEETING REOPENED

314.1 Correspondence received – 15th December 2023 – 11th January 224

1. Buckinghamshire Council daily and weekly updates and press releases – links put on website.
2. BMKALC updates -training and National Planning Policy Framework – emailed
3. Monthly website traffic - emailed
4. Notification of the roadworks connected with the Molins site – emailed
5. Thank you notes from West Wycombe Chamber Choir and West Wycombe Mother and Toddler Groups for the donations made to them in December.
6. Confirmation of our order to book a play equipment inspection by The Play Inspection Company.
7. Request from ESI Licensing & Legal Consultancy about obtaining permission for a fast food van in the Pedestal Playing Field - emailed. Councillors discussed this and unanimously agreed that we would not permit this as it could have several impacts on our community as well as the fact that we are in the AONB and it is adjacent to a Conservation Area.

8. Buckinghamshire Council indicating they will want payment in advance for the High Street project – emailed. Clerk has replied that we still have not had a meeting with the new contractors and that the public consultation has not taken place which may change everything, and we would not forward any money until we have more certainty on everything.
9. Latest Community Speedwatch Letter – emailed
10. Information on Biodiversity Duty – handed out at the meeting, Agenda item for February

314.2 Planning Applications & decisions:

Applications: 23/08006/FUL -7 Copperfields High Wycombe

Householder application for internal alterations, relocation of french doors, relocation of kitchen windows and creation of additional hard standing for increased parking spaces – no objection

Decisions: None issued on current applications

314.3 To report any highways issues

Clerk has asked Sparkx to repair the oldest lantern at the top of Church Lane.

Clerk and Cllr Hayday have been chasing Highways about the replacement of the speed signs at the entrance /exit to Oxford Road.

Clerk has provided information to the Waste Team and DVLA regarding the non-taxed vehicle parked in the High Street which has now been moved to Beechwood Road. The MOT runs out in early February, and it can then be considered an abandoned vehicle.

The van parked on the pavement opposite Gerrard Court is taxed and MOT'd and has now been moved onto the drive of an adjacent house.

Clerk has forwarded a photo to Waste and Cleansing of the large waste bin which has been sitting by the Beechwood Road bus stop for months and has filled up with water and rubbish and over Christmas with old carpet – it was removed the next day.

Clerk has confirmed with Buckinghamshire Council that we would express an interest in continuing with Devolved Services based on the assumption that the figure offered would be no lower than the current year.

Glynn Spratt has dug out the drainage grips in Toweridge Lane.

Clerk has noticed that many of the Chorley Road, road repairs undertaken several years ago are 'opening up' as it appears that they were not sealed properly.

Clerk had asked the landscapers at 6 Chorley Road to clean up the pavement, they assured her they would but this needs to be checked.

Clerk has been chasing Buckinghamshire Council about the flooded area near Kitty's Lodge Buckinghamshire Council have emailed us indicating they will want payment in advance for the High Street project. Clerk has replied that we still have not had a meeting with the new contractors and that the public consultation has not taken place which may change everything, and we would not forward any money until we have more certainty on everything.

314.5 To approve the accounts for January 2024 - appendix 2

The Clerk handed out budget sheets showing the year-to-date expenditure and income against budget.

It was resolved to approve the accounts for January.

314.6 Members Questions

Cllr Cope asked what was happening about the street light repairs – Clerk checked and lights 2,5,6,12,16,19 were reported in September/October; lights 11,14,20,21 were reported in October/November and 2,3,9, 23 in November/December. Clerk will undertake an audit and with Cllr Hayday's support will chase any ongoing issues.

314.7 Date of next meeting –8th February 2024 at 8pm West Wycombe Community Library adjacent to The Swan PH. Apologies were given by Cllr Mrs Cheshire.

Appendix 2

Payments to be made in January 2024

Castle Water (dd)	£15.09	Allotment water
Avery Labels (Debit card)	£20.88	Stationery
Mrs S Henson (BACS)	£681.44	December salary
Mrs S Henson (BACS)	£29.25	November/December mileage
Bucks Council (BACS)	£251.46	January pension
HMRC – online (BACS)	£146.64	Tax & NI

Acorn Landscaping (BACS)	£692.72
TBS Hygiene (BACS)	£154.80
West Wycombe Community Library	£80.00
SLCC (BACS)	£416.40
The Chiltern Society (BACS)	£256.20
Glyn Spratt (BACS)	£80.00
SLCC Membership(BACS)	£148.00
Giff gaff (debit card)	£6.00
Smart Numbers (dd)	£23.99
Southern Electric (dd)	£27.25
Southern Electric (dd)	£240.89
Castle Water (dd)	£7.12
Total	£3278.13

Highway grass, burial ground, Pedestal strimming
December collections
Meetings in January, February, March and interview night
Replacement Clerk advert
Footpath clearance for 2023
Grips in Toweridge Lane
Transferable to new Clerk
Monthly charge for mobile
Monthly service charge
Feeder pillar energy
Street light energy
Burial ground water

Statement of account as at 1st January 2024

Opening balance as at 1 st December	£47728.58
Less December payments	£ 7547.63
Total	£40180.95