

# **CHEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING**

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER 2025 AT 7PM IN THE PAVILION**



## **156/25 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Present - Cllr C. Fee (Chair), Cllr A. Hollett (Vice Chair), Cllr D. Bevan, Cllr K. Oastler, Cllr M. Kehoe, Cllr D. Nabbs, Cllr L. Firmin and Roz Roberts, Clerk.

Cllr Chris Poll, Buckinghamshire Council

1 member of the public was in attendance.

### ***Apologies:-***

Cllr T. Richards – Tennis Match

Cllr Peter Brazier - Buckinghamshire Council – Village Meeting

## **157/25 PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

## **158/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations made.

## **159/25 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council's November Monthly meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.

## **160/25 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLORS**

### ***Cllr Poll***

Advised that the next Buckinghamshire Council Policy Meeting would be on the 18<sup>th</sup> December where the Buckinghamshire Draft Local Plan would be discussed. This had to be ready for publication by December 2026.

There was a discussion about the 2026-2027 budget. Cllr Poll advised that he was on the Budget Committee. Budget proposals would be ready by February 2026, and it was likely that the grant from Central Government would be reduced by £38-£47 million across the 3 remaining years of the current government's term. This may not sound a lot but over the 5 years this equates to a considerable loss of funding.

An increase of 4.99% in council tax was expected.

### **Updates**

**Cheddington – Condition of footpaths** – Clerk to contact Cllr Brazier.

**Adoption of Orchard Manor** – Clerk had received an email from Darryl Bonsor, Buckinghamshire Highways (BH). The recent works were carried out in preparation of BH adopting the site. However, as it is currently on its mandatory 12 months maintenance period it is still the responsibility of Persimmon.

Mr Bonsor advised that BH could see no reason why the development would not be adopted around October/November 2026, however it was the responsibility of the developer to contact BH before the end of the maintenance period to organise a pre-adoption inspection.

### **Planning Application Comments**

Cllr Fee asked Cllr Poll if there had been any update regarding the visibility of comments on the Buckinghamshire Planning application portal. It was noted that Decorum and Central Bedfordshire Councils for example, can see comments with names redacted. Cllr Fee enquired why Buckinghamshire Council could not do this to? Cllr Poll advised that they took these measures to protect the personal information of individuals under GDPR rules.

Cllr Fee asked that surely all councils should have the same planning application access. She asked who the PC could write to and lodge a complaint. Cllr Poll said that it was unlikely that this would help as the decision had been made.

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Clerk would send an email to Buckinghamshire Council's new Interim Chief Executive Sarah Ashmead in January, and if no response within 4 weeks, would then contact Buckinghamshire Council's own complaints team and then the independent Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO).

**161/25 CLERK'S UPDATE REPORT - to note updates to ongoing matters:**

- **Cheddington Neighbourhood plan** - Nothing to report.
- **Barratts - Land at Gooseacre - Tree** – Nothing to report.
- **Connecting Path Suggestion at Recreation Ground** – On hold until Café Container and MUGA decided upon.
- **Cheddington Roll of Honour plaque** – Nothing to report as Clerk/Chair need to visit Buckinghamshire Council archives.
- **Tennis Club Netting** – Clerk wrote to Chair of Tennis Club re. update and timescale for replacement nets but no response to date. Clerk will contact the Tennis Club again.
- **Play equipment for the Recreation Ground** – Joe Houston, Buckinghamshire Council had confirmed funds were now available and to proceed with the order. Clerk contacted new account manager at Wicksteed and asked for a site meeting to check location due to café container/MUGA projects.
- **Streetlighting** – Quote to supply and install 2 LED Micro Highway Diamond light fittings, £775.50 + vat was circulated and agreed.
- **MUGA Update** – Clerk met on site with Darren Spittles from Caloo Limited on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November. He sent through a quote and case studies of 'local' MUGAs. Cllr Nabbs and Cllr Kehoe agreed to visit these and report back at the January meeting. Clerk will forward information received from Darren Spittles to both councillors.
- **Website Update** – Clerk had undertaken her 1<sup>st</sup> training session and has already uploaded/amended the Parish Council documents. She will continue to work through the other sections and update accordingly, then arrange a meeting to go through the site and send final draft across to all for comment.
- **Richy Dennehy's memorial picnic bench at The Green** – Picnic table received. Clerk waiting on a suitable date for installation.
- **Allotments Update** – Rose Nightingale showing potential tenants around the vacant plots. Clerk and Chair to have another inspection to check on the polytunnels and pond.
- **Grounds and Hedge Maintenance tender 01.03.26-28.02.29** – Tender went out 7<sup>th</sup> November. Clerk has shown around 7 contractors. To date 3 tenders back. Simon Barrow, current contractor, not tendering.

Date for meeting to discuss tenders was set for 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15pm in Cheddington Pavilion.

- **Café Container** – Deposit paid on 10<sup>th</sup> November and Clerk met with Daniel Slavin from New Forest Containers on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Mr Slavin will instruct planning company to submit planning application. Will keep the PC updated accordingly.
- **Youth Café** – No update.
- **Bucks Council re. footpaths** – Clerk emailed Paul Foot to find out who to contact regarding a survey. No response to date. See Bucks Cllrs Update – minute ref. 160/25.
- **Pavilion** – Air Source Heat Pump annual service took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December.
- **Abandoned car at Cheddington Recreation Ground**. Clerk advised by PCSO Mike Coker that he had visited the registered owner's address in Milton Keynes, but their current location is unknown, which makes tracing them difficult.

The vehicle is taxed and MOT'd, but it does not have insurance, which further complicates tracking the owner. Unfortunately, as the vehicle is on private land, this is considered a civil matter. The Clerk would report it on Fix My Street.

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- **The Green** – The planting of 2 new trees, donated by the WI and the Parish Council, at The Green was agreed. Clerk To contact Alex Razak and suggest a maple tree from the PC.
- **Methodist Chapel** – 100L water butt donated by Parish Council.
- **FF Grant 11 a side pitch at Rec** – Verti draining carried out on the 24<sup>th</sup> November by Elite Sports Turf. For info a verti-draining machine uses solid, vertical tines to punch holes deep into compacted soil relieving compaction, improving drainage, increasing oxygen, and promoting healthier root growth for resilient grass.

## **162/25 CORRESPONDENCE, CONSULTATIONS AND CIRCULARS**

There was no correspondence to be discussed.

## **163/25 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS/MEETINGS ATTENDED**

### **GDPR course – 18th November 2026**

Cllr Oastler thought that it was a worthwhile course, and she would circulate the notes once received. There was a discussion about email correspondence, CCTV and photographs taken at public events.

## **164/25 FATAL INCIDENTS AT THE CANAL**

Cllr Kehoe advised that since October 2024 there had been 3 fatal incidents along the Cooks Wharf to Marsworth stretch of the canal and if the area was widened it was 9+ incidents. Agreed that the Clerk contact The Canal and Rivers Trust to ask if it was doing anything, mitigation wise, to help e.g. improved lighting, life buoys etc.

## **165/25 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The December 2025 payments, in accordance with the financial report, were checked and signed off prior to the meeting by Cllr Fee and were countersigned by Cllr Bevan.

## **166/25 PLANNING MATTERS**

### ***To Consider Applications Received via Buckinghamshire Council: -***

**PL/25/4402/FA - Location: 40 Mentmore Road, Cheddington, Buckinghamshire, LU7 0SD** - Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with one residential 4-bed house –

No objection

**PL/25/5708/PNAD - Foxons Farm, Horton Road, Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire, LU7 9DY** - Prior notification application (Part 3, Class Q) for change of use and conversion of an existing agricultural barn into 1 dwelling – No objection although noted not in our area.

### ***To Receive Determinations by Buckinghamshire Council: -***

No applications received.

## **167/25 REPORT ON ANY URGENT MATTERS**

**Orchard Manor Zebra Crossing** - Resident raised the issue of safety again at the zebra crossing.

Clerk would write to Persimmon/Buckinghamshire Highways to see if the hedge near the crossing could be reduced so that users of the crossing could be clearly seen on approach. Clerk to also ask Paul Foot, LAT, about a flashing zebra crossing warning light/sign.

## **168/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will be the January monthly meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

The meeting finished at 8.35 pm.