

Minutes of the MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL on Monday 09 December 2024 at 7:30pm at Denham Grove Hotel, Conference Wing, Tilehouse Lane, Denham UB9 5DG.

Councillors:	Cllr S Williams (SW) – Chairman	Cllr A Head (AWH)
	Cllr J Walsh (JW)	Cllr B Keen (BK)
	Cllr A Hans (AH)	Cllr E Austin (EA)
	Cllr M Heath (MH)	Cllr G Hollis (GH)
	Cllr W Davey (WD)	AM J Griffiths-Heath (JGH)
	Cllr S Jefferys (SJ)	AM N Abadjion (NA)
	## Cllr M Goonesekera (MG)	# = Apologies received
Clerk:	Derek Wilson	## = Apologies not given

Meeting was voice-recorded

Agenda No	Minutes	Action
20241209/01	Welcome and Apologies for Absence Welcome to Cllr J Chokkar (Bucks Unitary Authority). Apologies were received from Cllr S Chokkar Cllr SW advised members present that this was not the room booked for our meeting and will be contacting the Hotel about the arrangement tomorrow.	Cllr SW
20241209/02	Declaration of Interests Under Section 33 Localism Act 2011 to grant dispensation to Councillors who may have incurred expenses whilst carrying out their duties as a Parish Councillor. Cllr AH declared an interest in item 10 Colne Valley Regional Park, as he is Treasurer of this organisation and will not take part or vote on this item.	
20241209/03	Public Session (not to exceed 15 mins – Standing Order 3 (e & F) and no member of the public can speak for more than 5mins, Standing Order 3 (g). No members of the public were present	
20241209/04	Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 5 November 2024. Proposed by Cllr AWH Seconded by Cllr JW Item 4 the school bungalow should be referred to as the Red Cross bungalow. Following this change - Members agreed. - Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 11 November 2024 Proposed by Cllr SW Seconded by Cllr MH – Members agreed. - Minutes of the Communities and Events meeting held on 19 November 2024 Proposed by Cllr AH Seconded by Cllr SJ Item 5 discussion followed whether The Styles should have a y or l in their name. Item 7 Moorefield Road should read Moorfield Road Item 7 New Denham and other locations switch off refers to 6 December 2024, should read 6 January 2025	

	Item 18 the word relevant should read irrelevant and it was agreed to remove this last part of the sentence from the comma onwards. Page 5 under committee members should read J Griffiths-Heath With these corrections the minutes were agreed by members present - Minutes of the Finance meeting held on 29 November 2024 Proposed by Cllr AH Seconded by Cllr AWH Item 6, point 2 discussion took place over the text, but this was explained to tighten up on wording previously drafted by NALC – Agreed by members present. Cllr JW referred to the point made just before the date of the next meeting about the hardware/software and the use of SharePoint to be re-emphasized. Cllr AH advised the members present that from March/April there will be no further paper copies issued by the office as members should be using their tablets instead of their mobiles or requesting paper copies. - Minutes of the Services meeting held on 2 December 2024 Proposed by Cllr MH Seconded by Cllr SW Item 13 Devolved Services arrangement with Bucks to be extended to 4-year contract was discussed. The tenders had been previously discussed at Services and at Full Council. Page 4 Item 23 Streetlights to be checked by Cllrs. Cllr SW had checked and reported the fault on No 231. Cllr EA still must check streetlight No 199. Action: Cllr EA to action Following the above changes – Members agreed to minutes.	EC/DC EA
20241209/05	Reports from Outside Bodies Cllr AH referred to Denham Cricket Club and advised members present that the club is making an application grant to HS2 for poles to be erected where the existing netting is on the cricket field to support the netting, and also looking for funding from the English Cricket Board. There have been no issues with neighbours since the cricket square has been relocated.	
20241209/06	Chairman's Report Cllr SW had circulated to members before the meeting a copy of her report. Attended a meeting of the Infrastructure & Highways group of the local community board, two Police Sergeants, Police Constable and PCSO were present to respond to issues being faced of shoplifting. The Pony and Trap racing along the highway has been escalated with the police and Bucks Council. Old Mill Road parking situation is out for consultation to implement double yellow lines to stop cars being parked and obscuring visibility splays. Attended 'Pride of Bucks' awards promoting the Memory Café and Afternoon Social events that take place in Denham. Gerrards Cross are hoping to do something similar. Attended former Councillor Samuel Sproul's funeral who served on this parish council for many years.	

	Attended the BMKALC AGM via Teams with Cllr MH, the connection was hopeless, voting handed to be done by show of hands, as software not working, no microphone for people talking from the floor. This will need to be improved if they are consulting with member parishes about having remote meetings in the future. Carols on the Green event had to be cancelled on Friday 6 December. The decision was taken at noon due to adverse weather conditions. Both schools who were going to attend the event cancelled. A general email communication should have been sent from the office, advising the cancellation. This is a point noting for future events.	EC/DC
20241209/07	Report from Unitary Councillors Cllr JC referred to the traffic lights being out on half of the Denham roundabout. This is having a significant impact causing several accidents to occur as the traffic coming off the M40 are simply not giving way. Temporary lights have been placed at the junctions. This issue is a National Highways responsibility and Bucks Council can only liaise with them. JC will ask Joy Morrissey MP to get this issue resolved. The railing under the bridge has been reported by Cllr JC to Bucks Council. Bakers Wood Rights of Way DEN/7/1 closure is due to water runoff from adjacent land, which has caused this issue. This is unauthorised discharge of water but trying to identify the responsibility is currently being checked. Bucks do not have the money allocation in this year's budget but are hoping that it will be allocated in next financial year's budget, as it is a major route through to Higher Denham. Cllr JW asked Cllr JC to ensure that Bucks do the necessary land registry checks. The budget for Bucks for next year is looking quite restrictive, as the change of Government may reduce the Revenue Support Grant towards local authorities that are considered affluent as they are particularly reviewing areas of deprivation. This figure is not known yet but both Unitary Cllrs feel it could be minus £14m, which in turn will influence service delivery. A rogue trader has been operating in Woodhurst Drive, using an untaxed, no MOT vehicle to trade from. This individual started in Ruislip and has come into Denham and action has been taken. The Syrup Lounge started operating last Saturday night. This application was originally submitted as a planning application, withdrawn and then a Certificate of Lawful Development submitted. Cllr JC spoke with planning and it seems granting of the certificate would hinge on how much of the premises is used as a restaurant versus as a bar. Cllr GH referred to the fatal accidents that took place at two separate locations in Denham. One in Tatling End by The Toby Carvery, and the other on the A413. The A413 accident may have been caused with ice forming on the road surface and speed. This is still under investigation. Martin Baker are proposing to build a relief road onto the A413 with a roundabout but they are currently looking at repositioning the road and need to carry out a new Environmental Impact Assessment, which can only be carried out in a particular part of the year. Having a roundabout located at	Cllr JC Cllr JC

	the junction of the A413 will reduce traffic speeds and the drainage system will need to be revaluated to reduce surface run off.	
20241209/08	Executive Clerk's Report Nothing to report.	
20241209/09	Buckinghamshire Parish and Local Elections 2025 As Buckinghamshire Council are having all out elections for both Parish and Unitary Authority on Thursday 1 May 2025. This does mean that every member retires from the Council and will need to complete a nomination form to be reappointed for the new term. Nomination forms will need to be completed for those members wishing to remain on the Parish Council (even if we don't have elections) and will need to be submitted through to Bucks Council offices in Aylesbury. These forms will not be available until at least mid March 2025 and the forms will need to be completed and taken to Aylesbury Council Offices up to 4pm on 2 nd April 2025.	
20241209/10	Colne Valley Regional Park Financial Contribution 2025/2026 Cllr AH declared his interest in this item, as Treasurer of the Colne Valley Regional Park. He gave the members an introduction to this item and then withdrew from the discussion. Buckinghamshire Council will be withdrawing their financial support for Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP) in 2025/26. This amounts to £95k support package to this organisation. The trust is currently contacting several organisations to see if anyone could assist them with this shortfall of income. Stewart Pomeroy from Colne Valley Trust sent an email communication requesting additional financial support, to see if the parish could maybe assist with increasing the usual grant by more than RPI. The members of the Council debated the item, as CVRP had usually obtained a grant of approx. £5,500 per annum, they look after Capswood and Northmoor Hill Woods, which is governed by SSSI protection. A proposed increase to the parish grant contribution of £8,000 was proposed by Cllr SJ seconded by Cllr MH. The remaining members supported the proposal with 1 member not recorded in the decision. The clerk to email Stewart with the increased amount to be paid in the next budget year.	EC
20241209/11	Neighbourhood Plan Cllr AWH advised members that work is ongoing on this with evaluating neighbouring Neighbourhood Plans that have taken place, and it is highly likely that a major review will need to take place on our Neighbourhood Plan. The frustrating issue is that Bucks Local Plan is out of date and although they are currently working towards a 2027 implementation there is no guarantee this date will be met. Currently, we don't have any indication on housing density numbers, although we have been made aware that the	

	Government has increased the density figures by 42% in Bucks Council area. Duty to Co-Operate was abolished by the previous Administration and has now been reinstated by the new Government, which may have an impact on the numbers allocated. Three planning consultancies have been approached with the view initially to carry out a health check on our existing plan, to identify weaknesses due to planning legislation changes and await their quotations. Iver Parish Council has recently completed their Neighbourhood Plan review and are looking at doing a separate Strategic Plan. The following paragraph has been transcribed from NPPF <i>Paragraph 14b of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) the neighbourhood plan contains policies and allocations to meet its identified housing requirement.</i> This means that certain site allocations will need to be identified, even if we don't know the required housing numbers from Bucks Council. This paragraph will mean that our revision to the 'Made' Neighbourhood Plan needs to be robust when it goes through to consultation and referendum. The recent consultation on the new revised NPPF 2024 will be released on Thursday 12 December 2024 by the Secretary of State Rt. Hon Angela Rayner MP. She has already given the green light to a large 84,000sq M Data Centre development in the Green Belt on the borders of Bucks/Herts. Cllr AWH left the meeting.	
20241209/12	Martinsfield Tomato Energy has been signed-up for a period of 12-months to supply Martinsfield. The provider of this energy to Martinsfield has no standing charge in their fees.	
20241209/13	Donation Request Former Councillor Samuel Sproul served a number of years with Denham Parish Council and would have been 96 years young this month. Considering his contribution to the Council it was suggested we should make a donation to Cancer Research UK. A discussion ensued on the level of contribution that should be made, as he was a serving Councillor. Also, discussion included a seat in his memory, an item to go onto the Services agenda for discussion. Cllr AH proposed the sum of £500 Seconded by Cllr JW – Agreed by the members present to make this contribution to Cancer Research UK. EC to ask The Financial to make the payment.	EC/DC EC/F&C
20241209/14	Highway Matters A412 works have now been completed through the balance of contributions from HS2. It does not appear as a muddy and the road does not appear flooded after the recent rainfall that has happened since the works have been completed. This area will continue to be monitored.	

	The Denham Roundabout traffic light issue has been reported earlier in the meeting about the chaos that has ensued with the traffic lights not working.																					
20241209/15	Denham Grove Hotel The room booked originally was 2/3 the size of this room. Cllr SW will take the matter up with the Hotel on Tuesday. It was also discussed why microphones had not been brought to the meeting. It was agreed to bring microphones for future meetings at this venue and to have one shared every two members on the Council. Need to cater for Gluten Free and Dairy Free.	EC/Cllr SW																				
20241209/16	Financial Matters and Reports Cllr AH gave an update on the financial position of the Council on the following items. 1. Flagstone Update – This enables the Council to achieve good interest payments across several portfolio accounts but does mean that the amounts are tied up for specific periods of time. These are re-evaluated when the accounts mature, and interest is paid. 2. Financial Budget Heading and work is underway on preparing the new budget and precept for the forthcoming municipal year 2025/26. The pipeline report is currently being prepared so if any members have specific capital expenditure to let Cllr AH know. 3. Financial Budget v Actual = Balance – We are on target to meet this year’s financial planning. 4. Payments Report for October/November 2024. A revised payments list was circulated at the start of the meeting showing an additional £3,372.00 bringing the total to £17,653.45 <table><tr><th colspan="2">Expenses over £500 + VAT for October/November 2024 (To Note)</th></tr><tr><td>Dr Tech – Monthly IT Charges – November</td><td>£631.32</td></tr><tr><td>Turfcare – MB Grass and Marking – November</td><td>£772.20</td></tr><tr><td>Contemporary Slate – Monolith</td><td>£1,135.00</td></tr><tr><td>Jog Post (PAID) – Newsletter Delivery</td><td>£772.60</td></tr><tr><td>WindowFlowers – Quarterly Maintenance</td><td>£2,156.62</td></tr><tr><td>SparkX – Christmas Lights</td><td>£6,120.00</td></tr><tr><td>Davey Tree Care – Tree Surveys</td><td>£1,740.00</td></tr><tr><td>Phillip Newell – Grass Cutting, Seeding Shrubs</td><td>£1,124.00</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£14,451.74</td></tr></table> Cllr AH gave a brief update on where we are with the Precept.	Expenses over £500 + VAT for October/November 2024 (To Note)		Dr Tech – Monthly IT Charges – November	£631.32	Turfcare – MB Grass and Marking – November	£772.20	Contemporary Slate – Monolith	£1,135.00	Jog Post (PAID) – Newsletter Delivery	£772.60	WindowFlowers – Quarterly Maintenance	£2,156.62	SparkX – Christmas Lights	£6,120.00	Davey Tree Care – Tree Surveys	£1,740.00	Phillip Newell – Grass Cutting, Seeding Shrubs	£1,124.00	Total	£14,451.74	
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20241111/17	Date of Next Meeting 13 January 2025 at 7.30pm, at Denham Grove Hotel, Tilehouse Lane, Denham UB9 5DG																					

Signed: Derek Wilson – Executive Clerk and RFO

Date: 10 December 2024

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Time	Day	Date	Meeting
10am	Friday	20 December 2024	Budget Meeting – Pre-Final Review
7.30pm	Monday	6 January 2025	Services Meeting
7pm	Tuesday	7 January 2025	Planning Meeting
10am	Friday	10 January 2025	Final Budget Meeting to approve draft budget
7.30pm	Monday	13 January 2025	Full Council Meeting to agree precept

Chairman _____ Date _____