

## BUXHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Council meeting held on Monday 12 February 2024 in Buxhall Village Hall

**Councillors Present:** David Steed (DS) (Chairman), Les Basham (LB) (Vice Chairman), Emily Byam (EB), Chris Hall (CH), Mike Drury (MD), Scott Martin (SM) and Graham Mitchell-Rowlands (GMR).

**In Attendance :** District Councillor Nicky Wilshere (NW), County Councillor Penny Otton (PO), Tina Newell (TN) (Clerk and three members of public).

The meeting started at 7.15pm due to the late arrival of the Clerk.

120224/01     **Apologies for absence:** As all Councillors were present there were no apologies.

120224/02     **Declarations of Interest:** None received.

120224/03     **Dispensation considerations:** There were no requests for dispensations prior to or at the meeting to consider.

120224/04     **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the draft minutes from the meeting of 15 January 2024 prior to the meeting and resolved to accept these as a true record of the decisions made; DS signed the minutes from reference 150124/01 to 150124/62.

### **Public Forum:**

120224/05     All Councillors confirmed District Councillor NW's report had been received prior to the meeting, a full copy of which is appended to these minutes. NW confirmed a meeting has been arranged with neighbouring Parish Council's and land owners to consider the impact of recent flooding on local parishes on Monday 19 February 2024 at Gt Finborough to which GMR and TN are attending as representatives from Buxhall Parish Council; Mid Suffolk District Council's plan for an £18m Skills and Innovation Centre in Stowmarket has passed a major milestone and will go before MSDC planning committee on 14 February 2024.

120224/06     A resident expressed disappointment at the lack of detail concerning the flooding of a dwelling in the minutes of the January meeting and asked if there will be a kerbside collection for glass noting Buxhall's glass recycling bin was removed over one year ago.

Signed: *David Steed*

Dated: *18 March 2024* 1

- 120224/07 DS confirmed the purpose of the minutes of any Parish Council meeting are to record the decisions made by the Council rather than conversations.
- 120224/08 All Councillors confirmed receipt of County Councillor PO's report prior to the meeting which is appended in full to these minutes. PO asked if the new telephone number for the Blue Badge scheme could be advertised (03456 066 077); a reduction in the speed limit along the Lower Road is due to go before the cabinet but it is looking fairly favourable; there have been so many requests from Parish Councils to replace/maintain road signs that despite Buxhall Parish Council's comprehensive audit of road signs there is some doubt if funds will be available to action all/any of them.
- 120224/09 A resident asked if there was any update on the light pollution mentioned at the January meeting; DS confirmed this meeting is an extra ordinary one to consider a planning application and therefore actions from January will be brought forward to the scheduled March meeting.
- 120224/10 Noting the recent internal flooding experienced in his dwelling a resident expressed concern noting the rain forecast for later this week; noting the priority SCC are placing on internal flooding TN and PO agreed to contact Suffolk County Council to ask what actions they will take to prevent further flooding.
- 120224/11 NW and PO left the meeting.

**Planning:**

All Councillors considered the following planning applications relating to Buxhall received since the last meeting:

- 120224/12 DC/24/00062 Change of use of land for the stationing of a mobile home for occupation by a rural worker working at West End Farm Kennels  
West End Farm kennels, Worlds End Lane, Buxhall IP14 3ED  
All Councillors noted this business offers a comprehensive service to the whole County including the police force and agreed it is not only a commercial concern as it houses strays. After consideration all Councillors resolved to SUPPORT this application requesting two conditions are applied: the mobile home must be removed once its use ceases and it is to be used only for the purpose incidental to the business.

120224/13 Councillors noted the following planning decisions made by the District Authority since the last meeting relating to Buxhall to include:

DC/23/04927 Meadow Cottage, Purple Hill, Buxhall IP14 3DH

MSDC:GRANTED BPC: No objection

The permission granted shall only authorise the use and occupation of the accommodation for purposes incidental and ancillary to the principal dwelling known as Meadow Cottage and does not permit the use of the accommodation for a separate household.

120224/14 After consideration all Councillors agreed Buxhall does not require a People and Places plan.

**Finance:**

120224/15 **Bank Reconciliations:** The bank reconciliation for the period ended 31 January 2024 as supported by bank statements, was available to all Councillors prior to the meeting; CH, as a non-bank signatory, confirmed the bank reconciliations as presented agreed to the bank statements showing a balance of £67,755.23; £14,733.11 in the Community account £1,677.73 in the Business Premium account and £51,344.39 in the Unity Trust account.

120224/16 **Reserves:** All Councillors received the reserves account prior to the meeting and noted the general reserves account is 48.73% of the Precept and in line with general recommendations

Councillors noted the following receipt since the last meeting:

	From	Details	Gross £
120224/17	UK Power Network	Wayleave	18.94

All Councillors approved the following gross payments to be made by internet banking confirming a full schedule, supported by invoices had been received prior to the meeting:

	Payee	Details	Gross £
120224/18	Tina Newell	Salary and re-imburements	249.12
120224/19	HMRC	Tax	43.80

120224/20	Buxhall Village Hall	Hall Hire	30.00
120224/21	Bacton Solutions	Printer repair	36.00
120224/22	Les Basham	Padlocks	17.50

120224/23 All Councillors agreed to spend up to £100 on a vandal proof information board to be sited on the playing field.

**Governance:**

120224/24 All Councillors resolved to increase the procurement levels in the Financial Regulations from £213,477 to £214,904 for goods and services and from £5,336,937 to £5,372,609 for public works (construction).

120224/25 **Any other Council business for information, to be noted, or for inclusion on a future agenda:** Internal control review, review of risk assessments, replacement notice board, bank mandates.

120224/26 **To note the date for the next scheduled meeting as Monday 18 March 2024.**

120224/27 The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.52pm.