

BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at 8pm in the Reading Room on Monday 12th May 2025.

Present: Cllrs Bourke, Gowrley, Husband (Chair), Jones, Pryor, and Steed.

In attendance Surrey County Council (SCC) Cllr Helyn Clack, Mole Valley District Cllrs Budd, Keay and Potter, and the Clerk.

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- (1) Cllr Husband was proposed as Chair by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Pryor. Council **resolved** to approve the appointment and Cllr Husband signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Chair.
- (2) Cllr Jones was proposed as Vice Chair by Cllr Husband and seconded by Cllr Gowrley. Council **resolved** to approve the appointment and Cllr Jones signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Vice Chair.

2. Apologies for Absence

- (3) Council **resolved** to accept apologies from Cllr Cox.

3. Declarations of Interest

- (4) None.

4. Requests for Dispensations

- (5) None.

5. Minutes

- (6) Council **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th March 2025. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as a correct record.

6. Open Forum

- (7) Cllr Husband welcomed SCC Cllr Clack and MVDC Cllrs Keay and Potter to the meeting.

Abandoned Cars

- (8) Council noted a recent parish update had included an item on abandoned cars in the centre of the village. Cllr Husband, having checked everyone present had taken the opportunity to read the item invited input. A useful discussion ensued and all agreed the need to encourage residents to submit reports, ideally accompanied by photographs, per the guidance set out in the update. **Action:** All.

Local Government Reorganisation

- (9) Responding to an invitation issued by Cllr Husband to provide updates on the government led initiative to reorganise local councils in Surrey into Unitary Councils:
 - (i) MVDC Cllr Keay advised the final proposal for two unitary areas submitted on 9th May by Surrey County Council has the support of MVDC;
 - (ii) SCC Cllr Clack advised financial projections for two and three unitary proposals had been prepared against a base case on one unitary; and
 - (iii) All present expressed concern as to what action the Government will agree to take to address the unsustainable debt identified in these projections.
- (10) Council noted:
 - (i) the next stage of the reorganisation requires the Government to consider the multiple proposals it has received and to decide which route it wishes the local councils to implement; and
 - (ii) as MVDC has been selected as a pilot for the autumn launch of one or more Neighbourhood Boards, SCC Cllr Clack suggested Council consider what community engagement will best equip Council to serve its local community.
- (11) Cllr Husband took the opportunity to express thanks to SCC Cllr Clack for her support at Buckland's recent Annual Parish Meeting that had included providing residents with an update on the Local Government Reorganisation and chairing the interactive session that had followed.

MVDC Cllrs Keay and Potter left the meeting to attend Headley Annual Parish Meeting.

- (12) Council **resolved** to consider Highways as the next item in order to benefit from the presence of SCC Cllr Clack.

7. Highways

Highways – Maintenance

- (13) Council **resolved** to ask SCC Cllr Helyn Clack to:
- (i) support its repeated request for reconstruction of the A25 roadside footway between The Pheasant and the driveway to Buckland Court to be accorded top priority to ensure the work can be undertaken as soon as practicable; and
 - (ii) seek clarification from SCC Highways on the likely date for completion of the remedial work in the vicinity of the drainage work undertaken in April 2024 to address a wet spot on the A25 Reigate Road, a short distance to the west of The Pheasant. **Action:** Clerk.
- (14) Council **resolved** to ratify the request issued to SCC Cllr Clack asking for her support to secure a commitment from the relevant Highways officers that no centre carriage or edge of carriage white line markings will be applied to the carriageway of Old Road following the surface dressing currently scheduled to be applied at the start of July, consistent with Council's adopted policy on signs and road markings. **Action:** Clerk.

Highways – Street and Footway Cleaning

- (15) Council noted:
- (i) Amey operatives cleaning the traffic islands along the A25 Reigate Road through Buckland had appreciated the messages of thanks they had received from passing walkers and cyclists; and
 - (ii) SCC appointed contractors had completed the first cut of the verges in the middle of April;
 - (iii) An update provided to MVDC had expressed appreciation for the joint effort and hope that it will now be possible for Amey to undertake that final push to expose the kerbs between Rectory Lane and Tapwood Lane.
- (16) Council noted:
- (i) a Streetworks license has been issued to allow the installation of traffic lights on the A25 Reigate Road to facilitate the edging out of the A25 roadside southern footway between the western boundary of Pheasant pub west and the eastern boundary of Little Court;
 - (ii) this section of work includes the footway to the inside of the high containment kerbing (installed January 2024), a steep incline which lacks any support along the footway edge to prevent soil falling onto and obstructing the footway; and
 - (iii) the signage and hazard posted located in this verge require cleaning.
Action: All to encourage reports to be submitted via Fixmystreet to highlight any requirement for signs to be cleaned.

SCC Cllr Clack left the meeting and MVDC Cllr Budd joined the meeting.

8. Formalities

Policies, Procedures and Schedules subject to Annual Review

Policies and Procedures

- (17) Council, having reviewed each of the following policies and procedures, **resolved** to adopt each, otherwise unchanged, for a further 12-month period:
- (i) Scheme of Delegation, Complaints Procedure, Policy on the management of unreasonable complaint behaviour, Dignity at Work Policy, Data Protection Policy Retention and Disposal Policy, Code of Conduct, Arrangements for dealing with Standards Allegations under the Localism Act 2011, and Freedom of Information Publication Scheme. **Action:** Clerk to refresh review dates and publish updated versions; and

- (ii) Data Protection Procedures (Privacy Impact Assessment Procedure, Subject Access Request Form, Data Security Breach Reporting Form and Consent Forms), Privacy Notices and Registers to record decisions to share personal data with third parties and disposals of personal data undertaken to comply with GDPR. **Action:** Clerk to refresh review dates.
- (18) Council **resolved** to amalgamate the Digital Communication Policy and Management of Transferable Data Policy into one document to be called Council's IT Policy with the content otherwise unchanged.
- (19) Council noted the Clerk had circulated a draft update to the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to incorporate changes made to take account of changes to legislation relating principally to procurement, as reflected in the latest Model Documents circulated by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). Council **resolved** to adopt the updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. **Action:** Clerk to refresh review dates and publish updated versions.

General Power of Competence

- (20) Council noted that:
 - (i) Parish and Town Councils in England were given the General Power of Competence ('GPC') in the Localism Act 2011, sections 1-8;
 - (ii) The GPC gives a council 'the power to do anything that individuals generally may do' provided in so doing other laws are not broken and the council acts reasonably;
 - (iii) Before a Council can exercise the GPC, full council must decide and resolve it meets the two eligibility criteria and minute the resolution;
 - (iv) The eligibility criteria are set out in a statutory instrument known as the Parish Council (GPC) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and, at the time of the resolution require the number of Cllrs elected at the previous ordinary election or subsequent by-election, to equal or exceed two thirds of Council's total number of Cllrs and the Clerk to hold a relevant sector-specific qualification;
 - (v) Thereafter Council must revisit its decision and make a resolution to re-confirm its eligibility at each relevant Annual Meeting; and
 - (vi) Council had last adopted the GPC on Monday 13th May 2024.

Council, having confirmed Council continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria, **resolved** to adopt the GPC as set out in the Localism Act 2011, sections 1-8 until the next Annual Meeting.

Public Contracts Regulations 2015 statutory guidance

- (21) The Clerk reminded Council of the need to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 statutory guidance that requires all local authorities, including Parish Councils, to publish performance data on their website pages to show the proportion of valid and undisputed invoices paid within 30 days and to disclose the amount of interest due (whether paid or not) on invoices settled late.
- (22) The Clerk advised Council that 100% of valid and undisputed invoices had been paid within 30 days during the 2024/25 financial year and that no interest had been charged or paid on invoices.

Councillor Responsibilities

- (23) Council **resolved** to appoint Cllr Husband to represent Council at the 2025 Surrey ALC AGM, currently scheduled to be held on Thursday 13th November 2025 at Silvermere Golf Club, Cobham and to appoint Cllr Jones as alternate. **Action:** Clerk to advise Surrey ALC, and, in due course, to make a booking.
- (24) Council **resolved** to appoint Cllrs Bourke, Gowrley and Steed to serve on the Finance Committee alongside Cllr Husband (Chair) and Cllr Jones (Vice Chair).

- (25) Council **resolved** to appoint Cllr Cox to serve on the Personnel Committee alongside Cllr Husband (Chair) and Cllr Jones (Vice Chair).
- (26) Council **resolved**:
- (i) to appoint Cllrs Bourke, Cox, Gowrley, Jones, and Pryor to serve on the Planning and Licensing Committee;
 - (ii) to appoint Cllr Jones as Chair until the next Annual Meeting;
 - (iii) to require an agenda to be published at least three clear days prior to meetings; and
 - (iv) for members of the public to be admitted to observe meetings of the Planning and Licensing Committee; and
 - (v) for meetings to include an Open Forum to provide an opportunity for public participation.
- (27) Council **resolved** to appoint the following representatives for the 2025/26 year:
- (i) Cllr Husband, as Chair, to continue to represent Council on the St Mary the Virgin Church Yard and Church Fabric Fund and, with support from Cllr Gowrley, to champion delivery of the objectives set out in the Buckland Village Pond and Green Management Plan, 2022-2027, adopted 10th January 2022;
 - (ii) Cllr Jones to champion matters relating to Community Wellbeing;
 - (iii) Cllr Cox to represent Council on matters relating to Airports and Airspace and represent Council at the 2025 GACC AGM;
 - (iv) Cllr Steed, with support from Cllr Pryor, to represent Council on matters relating to Highways and Railways;
 - (v) Cllr Pryor to undertake the weekly asset check and to represent Council on matters relating to Surrey Police, and, with support from Cllr Bourke, Countryside Access (rights of way); and
 - (vi) Cllr Bourke, with support from Cllr Gowrley, to represent Council on matters relating to Active Travel and Climate Change and Biodiversity.

9. Finance and Risk Management

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25 (“AGAR”)

AGAR – Internal Audit

- (28) Council noted:
- (i) a pack of financial information, comprising the Annual Return and a set of supporting schedules that had included the bank reconciliation, full year financial analysis (including a comparison of the current year financial accounts vs budget and prior year), analysis of allocated reserves, fixed asset register, risk assessment and minutes had been provided to Peter Barclay, Council’s Internal Auditor.
 - (ii) the internal audit, which had been completed during April 2025, had not raised any issues; and
 - (iii) the Annual Internal Audit Report, and duly completed page 4 of the AGAR, had been circulated to Cllrs.
- (29) Council **resolved** to adopt the internally audited accounts for the 2024/25 financial year ending 31st March 2025.

AGAR – Annual Governance Statement

- (30) Council noted:
- (i) a review of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls, a process that had included a review of the Financial Regulations and consideration of the then latest updated Risk Assessment had been completed on 10th March 2025;
 - (ii) the fixed asset list had last been reviewed on 10th March 2025 and replacement values for those assets had since been reviewed prior to obtaining Insurance quotes for the year commencing 1st June 2025; and
 - (iii) the renewal quote of £300 obtained from Zurich Insurance, equal to the 2024/25 premium remained competitive.

- (31) Council, having concluded its system of internal control remained effective, **resolved**
- (i) that the risk assessment (last updated on 10th March 2025) remained relevant and effective; and
 - (ii) to accept the renewal quote of £300 obtained from Zurich Insurance.
Action: Clerk to process renewal.
- (32) Council **resolved** to adopt the 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement. Accordingly, page 5 of the AGAR was signed by Cllr Husband, Chair. **Action:** Clerk to sign the statement and add the minute reference.

AGAR - Accounting Statement

- (33) Council noted:
- (i) Unity Bank had, on 31st March 2025, applied:
 - (a) an £18 Q1 service charge to the current account; and
 - (b) Calendar Q1 interest of £166.26 to the instant access savings account;
 - (ii) A Vat refund of £646.45 had been credited on 12th March 2025.
- (34) Council noted the following two payments raised between 10th March 2025 and 31st March 2025:
- (i) £100.18 including £18.36 Vat had been paid to G Burley and Sons Ltd for one grass cut completed in March 2025; and
 - (ii) £6.88 travelling expenses, including 58p Vat had been paid to the Clerk.
- (35) Council noted Cllr Jones had verified the bank balances entered on the bank reconciliations prepared for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st March 2025 against the bank statements, initialled both sets of documents, and confirmed that no exceptions had been identified in the transactions reported between those dates.
- (36) Council noted Sheena Boyce, Responsible Financial Officer had signed the 2024/25 Accounting Statement to certify page 6 of the AGAR presents fairly the financial position of Council and properly presents its receipts and payments.
- (37) Council **resolved** to approve the 2024/25 Accounting Statements for the year ending 31st March 2025. Accordingly, page 6 of the AGAR was signed by Cllr Husband, Chair.
Action: Clerk to add minute reference.

AGAR – Certificate of Exemption

- (38) Council, having reviewed the criteria set out on page 3 of the Annual Return, **resolved** to certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.
- (39) Council noted Sheena Boyce, Responsible Financial Officer had entered the gross income of £23,129 and gross expenditure of £17,819 onto page 3 of the AGAR.
- (40) The Certificate of Exemption was signed by Cllr Husband, Chair, and Sheena Boyce, as Responsible Financial Officer. **Action:** Clerk to add the minute reference and submit the Certificate of Exemption to PKF Littlejohn, the external auditor.
- (41) Council **resolved** to set the period for the exercise of public rights for the 2024/2025 Accounts to start on Tuesday 3rd June 2025 and end on Monday 14th July 2025.
- (42) Council **resolved** to adopt the 2024/25 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) report.
Action: Clerk to submit report to MVDC.

Transparency Regulations

- (43) Council noted that consistent with prior years, the following information for the 2024/25 financial year will be published on the village website before 3rd June 2025: Annual Internal Audit Report, Internal Audit Letter, Annual Governance Statement, Annual Accounting Statement, an analysis of year on year significant variances, end of year bank reconciliation, a schedule of “2024/25 Payments with a value of at least £100 ex-Vat”, a summary of Councillor responsibilities for 2025/26, and a completed Notice of Public Rights. **Action:** Clerk.

(44) Council noted:

- (i) the 2024/25 CIL report will be published on the website;
- (ii) a schedule of additional information for the 2024/25 financial year will be published in line with good practice for Councils with income or expenditure falling between £25k and £200k for ease of year to year comparison; and
- (iii) a link to the 2025 Financial Guidelines had been circulated to all Cllrs.

Fixed Asset Register and Risk Register

(45) Council, having reviewed the Fixed Asset Register and Risk Register, **resolved** to adopt both registers without change.

Account Payments and Receipts

(46) Council noted payments of:

- (i) £212.71 to Surrey ALC Limited (NALC: £39.45, Surrey branch £173.26)
- (ii) £384.00, to allow the volunteer webmaster to settle the Design Lynx annual charge for domain hosting, web space, disk space and bandwidth for bucklandsurrey.net for the year commencing 1st April 2025;
- (iii) Zoom Video Communications Inc, £77.94 incl. £12.99 Vat, One-year pro zoom licence; and

had been issued in accordance with minutes 2024/25:224 and 2024/25: 312.

(47) Council **resolved** to approve the following payments:

- (i) Turtle Engineering £239.99 including £40.00 Vat, Defibrillator battery;
- (ii) Design Lynx £73.20 including £12.20 Vat, Enhanced memorial block page to front village website;
- (iii) Peter Barclay, £137.60, Internal Audit £125.00, mileage £12.60;
- (iv) Zurich Insurance, £300.00, Annual Premium;
- (v) Josh Flynn Gardening Service £204.00 including £34.00 Vat, Grass cutting – two cuts during April;
- (vi) HMRC £251.18, PAYE liability re: April salary payment;
- (vii) HMRC £251.38, PAYE liability re: May salary payment; and
- (viii) Sheena Boyce, £10.90 including £1.82 Vat, Consumable materials to facilitate amenity repairs.

(48) Council **resolved** to make monthly payments to the Clerk, by Standing Order with Unity Trust Bank, on the 19th day of each calendar month and schedule a review at the next Annual Meeting. It was noted that the

- (i) Clerk's salary for 2025/26 is calculated by reference to Salary Scale Point 27;
- (ii) monthly payments include a home working allowance and re-imbursement of £8.50, including £1.42 Vat, per month, for the provision of a Parish Council telephone number and associated call forwarding and messaging service by Virtual Landline.

(49) Council noted the following receipts into the Parish Council bank account since 1st April 2025:

- (iii) £11,018.00, comprising the first instalment of 2025/26 precept (£8,883.50), concurrent grant (£1,195.00) and council tax support grant (£462.00);
- (iv) £65 contribution from MVDC re litter picking collected during 2024/25; and
- (v) £37.50 donation raised through the sale of walk booklets.

10. Planning

New Planning Applications

(50) Council noted an update from the Clerk, that following consultation with Cllrs who serve on the Planning Committee, the following actions had been taken:

- (i) SCC 2024-0107: The retention and use of a wooden hut for storage purposes, the siting and use of two shipping containers for storage and administrative purposes, the siting and use of a toilet, the siting and use of an emergency demountable tent/gazebo, and the use of an existing hardstanding area for vehicular parking, all in association with the approved water based recreation afteruse of the former silica sand quarry [part retrospective] at Tapwood Quarry Reigate Road, Buckland. No objection.
- (ii) SCC 2024-0177: The continued extraction and processing of silica sand and transportation off site of sand, an amended interim restoration scheme for Park Pit, an amended programme of working for Tapwood Quarry, an amended dust action plan and dust management scheme, an amended groundwater monitoring scheme; and an amended restoration and aftercare scheme at Buckland Pits (Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit) until 31 August 2014 without compliance with Conditions 1 (Approved Documents), 3 (Time limits) and 7 (Restoration) of planning permission ref: MO10/0847 dated 26 February 2016 to enable a revised maximum water level within Tapwood Lake [retrospective] at Park Pit and Tapwood Quarry (Buckland Sandpits), Reigate Road, Buckland. No objection.
- (iii) MO/2025/0196: Lift to 3 metres for pedestrian clearance and crown reduce by approximately 2-3 metres, back to old pruning points only by removing limbs no greater than 0.075 metres in diameter, one Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*) by the village pond. Application withdrawn rather than see MVDC attach a Tree Preservation Order.
- (iv) MO/2025/0312: Tree works to a Norway Maple on land adjacent to Oaklands, Slough Lane, Buckland, RH3 7BL. No comment;
- (v) MO/2025/0394: Tree works to a pine tree leaning into the neighbouring property to The Grange, Rectory Lane, Buckland, RH3 7BH. No comment;
- (vi) MO/2025/0384: Erection of a self-build dwelling and associated works on land adjacent to Tranquil House, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DR (within 20 metres of Buckland). Council had asked MVDC to:
 - (a) require the applicant to amend the documents to include the route of the public right of way, to highlight the updated documents to Surrey Highways and add SCC Countryside Access to the list of consultees; and
 - (b) give significant weight to any concern the Heritage Environment Officer might express relating to the proposed removal of any part of the brick walls fronting the curtilage which are a recognised and valued feature of Betchworth street scenes.

(51) Council noted:

- (i) a change had been made to the description published for MO/2025/0141 to now read “Extension of existing car parking area with associated lighting at The Pheasant, Reigate Road, Buckland, RH3 7BG”;
- (ii) technical information for the floodlights had been added to the documents listed on the MVDC website; and
- (iii) as Council’s earlier response sets out its request for MVDC to require the applicant to live by the commitments made to the local community when Brunning and Price acquired The Jolly Farmers Council **resolved** not to submit any further comment.

- (52) Council reviewed application MO/2025/0454, which seeks permission to create 3 pitches on the existing gypsy site, 1 No. communal dayroom and associated soft, hard landscaping and boundary treatments at Evergreen, Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DB and noted this site is allocated for 'up to 3 additional gypsy and traveller pitches' under Policy DS7 of the Local Plan adopted in October 2024.

Council, having considered the assessments set out in the APP/C3620/A/04/1140562 appeal decision, and the MO/2021/0584 Case Officer Report, **resolved** to ask MVDC to attach a condition that mirrors Condition 2 of permission MO/2021/0584 to safeguard the human rights¹ of each of the individual members of the family of the applicant.

Planning Notifications

- (53) Council noted the following Local Planning Authority planning notifications:

- (i) SCC 2024-0107: The retention and use of a wooden hut for storage purposes, the siting and use of two shipping containers for storage and administrative purposes, the siting and use of a toilet, the siting and use of an emergency demountable tent/gazebo, and the use of an existing hardstanding area for vehicular parking, all in association with the approved water based recreation afteruse of the former silica sand quarry [part retrospective] at Tapwood Quarry Reigate Road, Buckland. Granted; and
- (ii) SCC 2024-0177: The continued extraction and processing of silica sand and transportation off site of sand, an amended interim restoration scheme for Park Pit, an amended programme of working for Tapwood Quarry, an amended dust action plan and dust management scheme, an amended groundwater monitoring scheme; and an amended restoration and aftercare scheme at Buckland Pits (Tapwood Quarry and Park Pit) until 31 August 2014 without compliance with Conditions 1 (Approved Documents), 3 (Time limits) and 7 (Restoration) of planning permission ref: MO10/0847 dated 26 February 2016 to enable a revised maximum water level within Tapwood Lake [retrospective] at Park Pit and Tapwood Quarry (Buckland Sandpits), Reigate Road, Buckland. Granted
MO/2025/0131: Erection of a single storey rear extension incl. a raised platform and steps down to rear garden at Wensden, Reigate Rd, Buckland, RH3 7EB. Approved with conditions;
- (iii) MO/2025/0164: Fell a row of conifer trees at Rana, Old Rd, Buckland, RH3 7DZ. Deemed no objection;
- (iv) MO/2025/0196: Crown lift to 3 metres for pedestrian clearance and crown reduce by approximately 2-3 metres back to old pruning points only by removing limbs no greater than 0.075 metres in diameter a Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*) by the village pond. Application withdrawn;
- (v) MO/2025/0313: Erection of a linked detached two storey side extension following demolition of the existing conservatory at Yew Tree Cottage, Reigate Road, Buckland, RH3 7BG. Refused;
- (vi) MO/2025/0384: Erection of a self-build dwelling and associated works on land adjacent to Tranquil House, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DR. Refused;
- (vii) MO/2024/0859: Conversion and change of use of barn to one dwelling Barn north of Wonham Lane, Wonham Lane, Betchworth, RH3 7AD. Appeal dismissed;
- (viii) MO/2024/1220: Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural storage barn of 22 metres x 9.10 metres at Crossways Kennels and Cattery, Crossways Farm, Station Road, Betchworth, RH3 7DF. Appeal allowed;

¹ European Convention on Human Rights, Human Rights Act 1999, Article 8: Right to a home and a private life as referenced in section 10.10 of the Case Officer Report for MO/2021/0584.

Planning Policy

(54) Council noted

- (i) a response had been submitted to thank MVDC for providing Council an opportunity to comment on a Draft Affordable Housing Policy and to confirm Council did not have any points to raise;
- (ii) MVDC had advised a consultation on draft Design Codes for Dorking, Leatherhead, Bookham and Fetcham, and Ashted would be launched in May and run for 8 weeks. **Action:** All to review the draft codes and provide feedback to the Clerk to support a consultation response.

11. Amenities and Volunteer Activities

(55) Council **resolved** to record a vote of thanks to:

- (i) Buckland Estate for preparing a “perfectly sized” hole and to Alan Brindley and Martin Boyce who installed the base plate fixing and subsequently erected the flagpole in time to fly the Union flag on Easter Sunday; and
- (ii) Alan Pryor for sourcing additional signage and rejuvenating the soldier silhouette and John Bloomfield and Alan Pryor for positioning the installation to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day.

(56) Council **resolved** to record votes of thanks to:

- (i) each and every resident who had turned out to help at the recent litter pick;
- (ii) to Cllr Jones for liaising with MVDC, preparing the risk assessment and providing on the day supervision for the event; and
- (iii) MVDC contractor Amey for the prompt collection of 13 sacks of litter collected by volunteers.

(57) Council **resolved** to

- (i) submit an application to SCC Cllr Clack for a £500 grant towards the cost of a replacement defibrillator for installation in the existing cabinet in the centre of the village; and
- (ii) authorise the Clerk, subject to confirmation of the grant, to place an order for a replacement defibrillator.

12. Consultations and Communications

(58) Council noted the requested crime report had advised five incidents between 10th March and 12th May 2025; single reports relating to a two vehicle collision, an altercation after a two vehicle collision, concern for safety of a vulnerable individual, trespass into a local quarry, and driving whilst using a phone.

(59) Council noted the Clerk had attended:

- (i) three briefings, arranged by the Society of Local Council Clerks, to enable clerks working in areas subject to local reorganisation to hear from Clerks in areas that have already experienced a change to Unitary Authorities and the appointment of Mayors to head up Strategic Level Authorities;
- (ii) a briefing convened by Surrey ALC to provide an update on stakeholder briefings attended by the Surrey ALC County Officer with SCC and the eleven district and borough councils across Surrey; and
- (iii) an interactive session hosted by MVDC for parish councils and resident associations.

- (60) Council noted consultations had invited comment:
- (i) on a draft Surrey Hills Management Plan 2025-2030; and
 - (ii) via a SCC survey designed to help understand how they use and enjoy Surrey County Council's owned and managed countryside spaces,
- and items had been published on the village website to highlight these opportunities for residents to express their views.
- (61) Council noted links to information hubs hosted by SCC and the group of district and borough councils have been published within a news item on the village website.
- (62) Council noted updates issued by the NALC, Surrey ALC, SCC, MVDC, Surrey Police, Surrey Hills Board, Surrey Hills Society, GACC and Gatwick Airport had been circulated to Cllrs and key information published within parish updates.

13. Forthcoming Meetings

- (63) The Parish Council will next meet on Monday 14th July 2025 and meetings are subsequently scheduled to be held in the Reading Room on the following dates:
- 2025: 8th September; 10th November;
 - 2026: 12th January; 9th March, 11th May, 13th July, 14th September and 9th November.
- (64) Cllr Jones will attend the Betchworth Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 19th May 2025.
- (65) Cllr Husband will attend the Surrey Branch of the National Association of Local Councils AGM and Autumn Briefing on Thursday 13th November 2025 in Cobham.
- (66) The 2026 Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 23rd March 2026 in the Reading Room.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45p.m.

Sheena Boyce, Clerk

email: parishcouncil@bucklandsurrey.org.uk

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