**BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING of Buckland & Laverton held on MONDAY 12th May 2025 7:30pm at Laverton Village Hall

**Present**

Mr D White Chair

Mrs J Harvey Vice Chair

Mr D Lewis

Mr S Arkell

Mr K Steele

Mrs Lorraine Jones – Parish Clerk

10 Parishioners

**1.Apologies**

P McCanliss

Tim Elliott

Jonathan Milton

Rob Jones

Eric Bradley

Paul Blakeman

Gen Manager Buckland Manor

David Gray

John & Sue Cluley

Julie Stickler

Mike Nolan

**2. The Minutes** of the previous AGM were read by the Chair and agreed as a true record. (20th May 2024)

Unanimous.

**3. Matters Arising.**

Signs these are now on order it has been decided to order directional 4 signs. We may need to order more perhaps 1 to be placed at the junction of The New House.

**4.Chairmans Report**

The chairman welcomed the parishioners to the meeting. The precept was left at £9750.00 no change from the previous years.

The bridlepath remains in good condition.

Planning applications have not been as straight forward as previously. The application to build a large property on the field owned by Mr & Mrs Carter received a considerable number of objections but despite these objections TBC granted permission. There is an ongoing problem with the road leading up to Top Farm Buckland (renamed as Springfield Farm)

Speed monitors were used last year and the survey results revealed that the traffic travelled below the statutory limit most of the time.

A full report is on file.

**5. Borough Council Report**

No report was provided on this occasion.

**6. County Council Report**

Cllr Gray provided a report although he is no longer in office.

Finance – there has been high inflation during the last 12 months this is due to numerous factors.

Many local councils have had to raid their reserves, Cheltenham B.C. have been forced to sell assets including car parks.

Glos C.C. has strong finances and has published a budget to generate a small surplus for 2024/25

Roads and infrastructure is much improved, although the B4632 had been fully repaired, it recently had further work carried out due to gas leaks!!

The section of B4632 from Toddington to Winchcombe will be resurfaced within the next few months.

A full report is on file.

**7. Laverton Neighbourhood Watch Report**

We continue to forward NHW messages via the Parish Clerk.

There has been very little crime in the parish over the last 12 months.

We must continue to be vigilant, Paul stressed to ring 999 if you see a crime taking place.

Scamming has become a big problem, treat all requests for information as suspicious.

A full report is on file.

**8. Highways & Footpaths.**

No report.

**9. Finance Report**

The Government statements and AGAR were signed by the Chairman and Clerk at the AGM held earlier this evening.

 The accounts have been inspected by Mr Iain Selkirk.

We are exempt from external audit by PKF as Income and Expenditure is below £25,000.00 However a spot check is always a possible request by PKF.

Expenditure was lower than last year this is due no maintenance on the bridlepath work, there were no large expenses during the year. We anticipate that the defibrillator at Laverton Village Hall will need replacing in the near future.

The full report is on file.

**10. Village Hall Report**

Stuart Murray is now the chairman of LV Hall. Colin Foster is treasurer.

There are a few new committee members. There have been no major expenses in the year, it is anticipated that the village hall will need decorating in the near future.

There are many events on the calendar, Fish & Chip supper is very well supported.

A fitness class is held weekly and proving to be popular.

A full report is on file.

**11. Thynne & Weymouth Charitable Trust**

No Report

**12. PCC/Burial Ground Report**

Church services in 2024 followed the usual pattern, average of 10/15 participants at each service.

The scheduled programme of repairs continues.

The PCC finances remain steady, there are two restricted funds. The Fabric Account and the Cemetery Trust Account. Overall, there is a modest surplus of funds.

The 200 Club remains to be a good source of income.

All report is on file.

**13. Any Other Business**

Edward Wiggins pointed out the roads in Buckland are atrocious, he believes this is due to the heavy traffic. The clerk will contact Jacob Cotterill at Glos Highways Dept., There is deer poaching in Buckland.

Diana Black pointed out that the bench on the Village Green is in poor condition. The Chairman agreed with her, we shall investigate purchasing a new bench.

Jinney Wilson mentioned that the village green had been cut, Paul Raymont thought it benefitted from the cut. The grass was cut early this year to the detriment of any wild flowers, which will not be allowed to grow and re-seed.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

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