

# Old Buckenham Newsletter



September 2025

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OLD BUCKENHAM PLAYERS  
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For more info

Old Buckenham Players  
present  
an evening of short plays  
and long monologues



**Lies,**  
*Fate's Thread*  
a one act play by Steven Bean



**Spies**  
By Maris McCann  
*I Spy*  
and  
007 at 70 Gets in a Pickle  
By Richard Crawley



**Somebody Dies!**  
By Richard Crawley  
*The Unreliable History of Jack the Ripper*  
By Jenny Devaux  
*The Choice*



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This amateur production of Fate's Thread is by arrangement with Stagescripts Ltd. Others by arrangement with the author.



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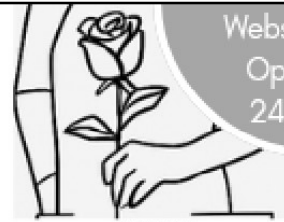
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**This month's newsletter is sponsored by Helen and Colin Beales who are renewing their vows this month in All Saints Church after 20 years of marriage. Congratulations to them.**

If you are interested in 'sponsoring' an issue, it is a nominal cost of £10. You can now book for 2026 if you like as all the remaining months this year are taken. Should you have a special occasion that you wish to celebrate you may be able to share a month with someone else.

## **Local Government Review**

Currently, Norfolk has one county council and seven district councils. Each of them run different services. The county council handles things like roads, social care and libraries, while districts handle waste collection, leisure centres, planning and housing. The county council accounts for approx. 85% of local government spending in Norfolk and the districts account for the rest. The Government wants to replace county and district councils in two-tier areas like Norfolk with unitary authorities, which run all services headed by a Mayor. In December 2024, the Government published its devolution white paper and announced a priority programme

for areas interested in devolution and local government reform and invited the county council and the district councils to submit their views.

In March 2025, Norfolk County Council and the District Councils (including Breckland) submitted draft interim submission reports. In May 2025, the Government gave its feedback on the interim submissions from the county and district councils.

NCC and the Districts need to provide a final submission of their preferred options to the Government by Friday 26 September 2025. The minister will then decide which route to take in the fullness of time.

More detail of what this may mean for residents can be found

**The Old Buckenham Newsletter is published monthly and distributed free in and around Old Buckenham.**

**The editor is Ron Brewer of 'Crockslea', Cake Street, Old Buckenham, NR17 1PS who you can email with your news or your queries about advertising by going to *obnewspostbox@aol.com***

**You can also keep up with the latest village news and see photos of the latest activities by going to *http://oldbuckenham.blogspot.com***



on both Breckland District Council and Norfolk County Council websites. Search for *Local Government Reorganisation and devolution - Breckland Council* and *Local government reorganisation - Norfolk County Council*

### Multitude of plays

Old Buckenham Players present an evening of short plays and long monologues with a murder and mystery theme (see front cover). Presented 'in repertoire' the same actors have taken on roles in multiple plays.

Act 1 will be Fate's Thread, by Stephen Bean. Act 2 features plays and monologues by local authors. Richard Crawley gives us 007 at 70 Gets in a Pickle and The Unreliable History of Jack the Ripper.

In the Unreliable History we venture deep in to the life, psyche, and murderous tendencies of Jack the Ripper. All, of course, in an entirely believable and accurate manner.

From Jenny Devaux we have The Choice, based on a true story. A tale of a decision made in a dream. Could it have changed everything?

I Spy by Maris McCann tackles the truth about what happens when



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M15 decides to go on a recruitment drive.

All accompanied by the usual reasonably priced bar and raffle.

Please be aware that this production is probably not suitable for children due to its themes.

Unless your child knows all about what Jack the Ripper got up to in his free time, you are likely to have some very awkward questions for you on the way home...

### Produce Show time

Remember that the annual Produce and Handicraft Show is on Sunday 7 September at the Village Hall. All exhibits should be





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brought along between 9.30am and 11am. An Old Buckenham car boot will also be held on the Recreation Area behind the Village Hall. Any available pitches will be sold on the day for £5. Stall holders can arrive between 8am and 9am. Buyers to arrive from 9am and car boot closes at 2pm. The public are allowed in to the Hall to see who has won the various classes and trophies from 2pm with presentation of prizes at 4pm. So feel free to make a full day of it and see if prizes can be won! For more details contact residentof-oldbuckenham@hotmail.com.

## **All Saints services in September**

*Tuesday 2 September*

10am Holy Communion followed by coffee and chat

*Sunday 7 September*

10am Group Holy Communion at St Mary's Banham (No service at All Saints)

*Wednesday 10 September*

7.30pm A time for Quiet Reflection, led by a lay member of All Saints Church

*Sunday 14 September*

9.30am Holy Communion for Harvest

*Sunday 21 September*

9.30am Lay-led Morning Prayer

*Sunday 28 September*

9.30am Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to come along to any of the All Saints services. If

you would like more details please visit the website "A Church Near You" and search for Old Buckenham.

## **Bingo is back**

Church Prize and Cash Bingo returns to the Village Hall on Saturday 27 September starting at 2pm. Donations of raffle prizes warmly welcomed to Alison at The Old School House on the Green. (Also thanks to the kind person who left a raffle prize in the Church recently.)

## **Looking for an owner**

Left in All Saints Church maybe at Gerry Norton's funeral at the end of May were a pair of black framed 'Easy reader' reading glasses. Please contact Alison at The Old School House for more information.

## **Village Hall news**

The Village Hall Management Committee met on Wednesday 6 August. Those present were Chair Gina Stanfield, Secretary Ian Coyle, Treasurer Graham Dye, Hall Manager and Booking Clerk Stacey Reed, Tracey Hayden, Alison Frank, Teresa Kemp, Pete Twissell, Jenny Devaux, Terry Cook and Eileen Oliver. Apologies for non attendance from Jay Lucas

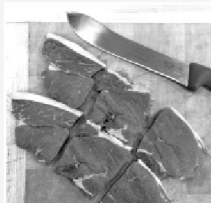
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Occupation of one of our homes will be for a single person who can live independently; No pets are permitted;

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Trustees will have absolute discretion as to whether to allocate a home to any applicant, but will give priority to those considered to be in most need. In the event of more than one applicant having similar needs, preference will be given to an existing or previous resident of Old Buckenham.

Further information and an application pack can be requested by calling 01953 860457 or emailing [admin@rcah.org.uk](mailto:admin@rcah.org.uk). Assistance completing the form can be provided if needed.

and Chris Dalton.

Minutes of last meeting were agreed by all present and signed by the chair. Names of committee members who have offered to act as Trustees have been confirmed as Eileen Oliver, Gina Stanfield and Graham Dye. With regard to the deliberate act of vandalism to the Hall, (crime reference number DP-19401-25-3636-IR04) the police have been in touch and their intention is to continue to pursue the matter. The Hall Manager will obtain a written quote for the most robust, durable and maintenance free method of replacing the damaged pipe covering.

A local resident kindly offered to fund two new microwaves for the Hall and these have now been purchased and are now in use. The issue with Meta/Facebook is ongoing, Hall Manager will continue to investigate options regarding the Village Hall Facebook page. It was suggested to ask the Parish Council if there was a possibility of being able to have a section on the Parish Council Facebook page. The Village Hall website is currently being updated.

The committee thanked Eileen and all the volunteers for their help with refreshments during the Airshow weekend. The sale of refreshments raised over £600 for the Village Hall.

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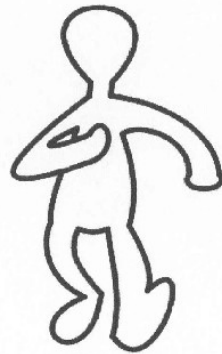
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It was noted that there was some difficulty in parking for volunteers at the Village Hall, and that needs to ensure that there is parking available next time for volunteers. 'Walk' of the Village Hall premises for risk assessment and checking for any necessary repairs and damage will take place at 7pm before the regular committee meeting at 7.30pm.

Looking at the 19 month period from January 2024 to the end of July 2025 showed there was an overall deficit on ordinary operating activities of £55. This however excludes the major costs of £8,608 on the car park in 2024 and £6,037 this year on the curtains. Overall the reserves now stand at a little over £20,000 a figure which includes non cash and non-liquid assets such as fixed assets. With annual running costs

of around £19,000 the treasurer has recommended that there should be no further large outlays until the reserves have increased.

The Booking Clerk was happy to report that bookings continue to increase. She has also asked that people holding regular events at the Village Hall give as much notice as possible for any cancellations or changes.

Electrician will be starting work next month. It has been noted that the current florescent lighting is now obsolete and that replacement florescent tubes are no longer obtainable. This will mean that the current florescent lighting will need to be replaced with LED lighting. Need to find the most up to date versions of all current policies and also check that all policies that are required are in place. It is requested that all current policies (electronic

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and/or paper versions) be passed on to the secretary.

The Primary School PTA have asked if the Village Hall can confirm the arrangements regarding the parking permits. The Treasurer will forward the details to the Secretary to pass on to the PTA.

It was noted that the salt bins are presently being used as rubbish bins. It is the Committee's understanding that the salt bins fall under the jurisdiction of the Parish Council and the Committee have asked if they could be removed if appropriate.

Posters have been received for future events. A date for the Ornithology talk has been suggested for Friday 7 November (to be confirmed when booked). Suggestions for future events included ballroom dancing and/or line dancing classes. Also contacting Slimming World and or Weight Watchers local consultants

to see if they would be interested in hiring the hall for regular meetings. St John Ambulance have enquired regarding holding regular meetings at the Village Hall. They have also enquired about storage of equipment. Hall Manager will enquire as to what size and type of storage they would require.

It has been requested that an email be sent to regular users as a gentle reminder to ensure that all lights are turned off before leaving the hall.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3 September starting at 7pm.

### Events in September

*What's on in the Village Hall this month.*

***Mondays*** - Beavers 5.30pm and 7pm followed by Scouts from 7pm to 9pm.

***Tuesdays*** - Zumba with Lou 9.30am to 10.30am.





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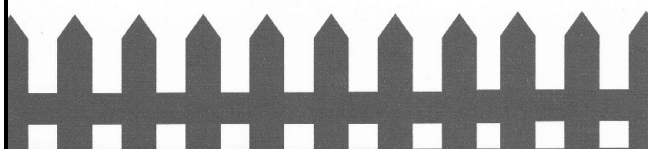
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Yoga with Desie from 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

Every other Tuesday is Tuesday Tales from 10.30am to 12 noon. Explorer Scouts also meet bi-weekly 7pm to 9pm.

*Wednesdays* - The pop up shop is from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Cubs 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Luncheon Club is usually held on the second Wednesday of the month

Women's Institute meet on third Wednesday of month

*Thursdays* - Pilates with Amanda 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Old Buckenham Players 7.30pm to 10pm

Parish Council meeting first Thursday of month 7.30pm to 10pm.

Social Circle second Thursday of month 7.30pm to 10pm

*Fridays* is Fawns (term time only, baby and toddler group) 8.30am to 10.30am

*Saturdays* for Zumba with Simone

9am to 10am

*Sundays* is Wargamers from 2pm to 6pm

One off events in September are: First Aid with KM First Aid 8.30am to 4.30 pm on Thursday 4 September

Old Buckenham Players production of Lies, Spies and Somebody Dies Friday 5 September and Saturday 6 September at 7.30pm

Clairvoyant Evening is Friday 12 September at 7.30pm

Kismet Sound Bath on Friday 26 September at 7.30pm

Church Bingo on Saturday 27 September 2pm to 5pm

From Tuesday 16 September there is a new baby massage group starting weekly called TotsTime (9.30am to 11.30am). Initially booked in for 12 weeks with the plan to move forward with baby yoga and then a music and movement class.

October has regulars as above with one off-events (so far) of LoreFolk production on Friday 10 October at 7.30pm and Church Bingo on Saturday 18 October 2pm to 5pm.-

## Parish Council in August

*The following notes were written by the newsletter editor from the draft minutes and so may contain information that is changed at a later date.*

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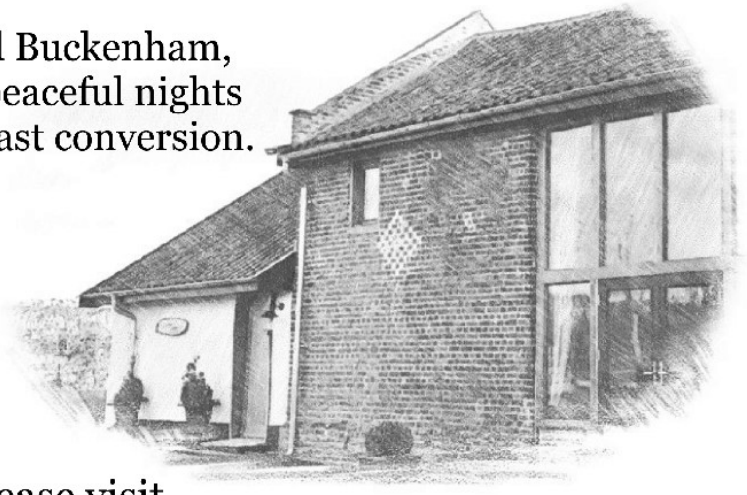
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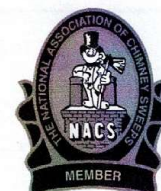
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Old Buckenham Parish Council met on Thursday 7 August. Those present were Councillors Naomi Bailey Chair), Doug Irons (Vice Chair), Stan Burton, Lesley Evison, David Taylor and Pete Twissell. Apologies for non-attendance had been received from Steve Gowers. Also attending were Megan Elvin (Clerk) and Steve Askew (District and County councillor) together with 14 members of the public. The minutes of the July meeting were approved (4 in favour).

***Declarations of interest.*** Stan Burton said that his band had been booked in to perform at the Ox & Plough.

***Financial matters.*** The Community account balance presently stands at £26,373.14.

Payments of £25,335.68 were approved (5 in favour). These included salaries for the clerk and RFO, money for the community car drivers and £24,000 paid in to the new parish council bank account.

***Councillors' reports.*** Steve Askew said on the Fen Street assessment. – “Some initial positive feedback. Officer advised who reviewed the data feels there is a case to reduce the current speed limit to 30mph. This is being put to the safety manager for further assessment” He encouraged villagers to engage where we can on both Norfolk

County Council and Breckland websites concerning devolution. The new structure being proposed would mean the merging of Norfolk and Suffolk with a mayor at the helm. (see page 1). The electric vehicle infrastructure team is trying to expand their network further to install electric car charging points and would like to engage more with local communities. Highways want a full assessment done on the drainage assessment on B1077 (Puddledock). It will probably be next year for this to happen.

Lesley Evison is still gathering information to update the Welcome Pack. David Taylor said that the Jira account has been suspended due to lack of use. Should we wish to continue we would need to add new tasks on there.

Pete Twissell said that the Village Hall Facebook page has been shut down due to an accusation of fraud. He asked if the Village Hall could use the Facebook page of the Parish Council but was advised that the Parish Council would need to discuss this further to make a decision. He also asked when are the Precept applications due in. They go out in September and October and applications will be needed back before the end of October.

# OLD BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## CONTACT DETAILS

*For general enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk. If you do not have internet access you can drop a letter into the parish council post box at the village hall*

Parish Clerk Megan Elvin  
[clerk@oldbuckpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@oldbuckpc.co.uk)

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

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07826 375356

Donna Oakley, (RFO),  
[pc99oakley@gmail.com](mailto:pc99oakley@gmail.com)  
01953 860125

Copy for the October  
newsletter will need to be with  
the editor by

**Wednesday 20 September**

Contributions by email to  
[obnewspostbox@aol.com](mailto:obnewspostbox@aol.com)

Doug Irons has started looking at policies. The Financial Risk assessment needs to be completed as well as the Quarterly audit. Formal apologies were given to David Tranmer as the Council delayed completing his application form for his Car Show in August. Naomi Bailey asked that any correspondence with the Councillors and other members of public or businesses to copy her in as well as the Clerk. She had been in contact with Rupert Rawcliffe, Lord of the Manor, as his son has created a website for the Lord of the Manor which has been added to the Council website. A small amount of topsoil has been placed near the bus shelter on Abbey Road to try and build the bank up to prevent parking on the Green. At the Saturday Surgery at the beginning of August three residents came along. Questions were asked on what has been done in the village and she replied that lots of little projects have happened such

as the Green Working Committee, Speed Watch and drainage work. Another point raised was what is being done to recruit new council members. Have suggested that the next Saturday Surgery in September will be a recruitment morning as well. Would be good to have some new recruits. Also asked if there is a local historian in the village. There is not currently anyone who could be a village archivist and suggested forming an Old Buckenham Heritage Group. Asked for this to be put in the village newsletter.

The Clerk had received a report from a member of the public that there was potentially Japanese Knotweed growing at the allotment. This is an invasive species and is illegal if it spreads onto someone else's property. She had been and inspected the plant. It is not Japanese Knotweed, but European Spindletree which is not an invasive species and will not cause any lawsuits should it spread. Correspondence had also been received from a member of public, re the planning application for the "Stables" on Hargham Road.

Highways have come back with their report and have advised that a footpath and visibility splays will be required. The only way for this to be achieved is if the oak trees

which have a protection order on them are removed. The correspondent felt this will change the look of Hargham Road and that the trees should not be removed as they are protected. Wanted his views to be given to the Council and other members of the public. The Council have yet to receive an updated planning application for this; once we have received it, they will be able to discuss in detail and make a decision.

The Local Government Services Pay Agreement of 2025 has been finalised. They have been backdated to April this year and employers are encouraged to implement the pay award as swiftly as possible. The pay award for Band 18 which is the grade of our clerk has increased to £16.35 per hour (currently on £15.21 per hour). Proposal to support this pay increase was approved (6 in favour).

Steve Gowers has had a letter from Norfolk Police telling us that the Community Speed Watch set up is to be brought in line with that of Suffolk. This means that the signs warning people that "Speed Watch" is about will be changed. Instead of being 100 metres from the Speed Watch site it will now be 25 to 50 metres. It will be standardised and new positions will be sent to



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**Betty Stacey on 01953 454790**

or email us on  
**[oldbuckenhamwi@gmail.com](mailto:oldbuckenhamwi@gmail.com)**



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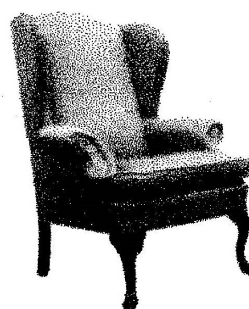
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Norfolk Police. It is important that this change is in the minutes as it could generate a few complaints.

***New planning applications.*** Wash Farm, New Buckenham Road, NR17 1PW. Demolition of redundant adjoined outbuildings to enable proposed 2 storey extension to existing dwelling farmhouse. Highways safety improvements with new road access (existing access blocked) and necessary visibility splays (remove existing hedgerow) and set in new mixed native hedge. Rebuild to new alignment, relocate and re-roof existing associated barns/outbuildings to improve appearance of the site as a whole (PL/2025/1022/HOU). No issues. A proposal to support was approved (6 in favour).

Semere, Church Lane, NR17 1RP. Various tree work including felling holly and plum trees, trimming other trees and planting new plum trees (PL/2025/1043/TCA). No issues. A proposal to support was approved. (6 in favour).

Land off Abbey Road, NR17 1PZ. Upgrade existing access (historic/informal farm access), suitable for future use by 44-tonne timber lorries. Access shape will be altered to ensure vehicle swept paths are correct, radius of bellmouth to be kerbed and access

surface to be asphalt (PL/2025/10-53/FMIN). A member of public voiced their concern regarding this saying that the lorries should not be using Abbey Road due to the schools as it would be unsafe for the children and residents. Road is narrow in places along Abbey Road and need to think of the Health and Safety of the public. The road floods often. It was recommended that the parish council does not support it. Should it go ahead the village do not want the lorries to go through the village. Proposal not to support was agreed (5 in favour 1 abstained).

***Green Working Committee update.*** Sally Honour, the GWC chair reported on their last meeting on Thursday 10 July. They reviewed the position on the Green, talked about a tree survey and going out to tender on tree surgeons. A volunteer day had been organised on Wednesday 16 July to clear saplings in the small woods.

Plan was discussed about the cutting of the Green. The wildlife habitat means there needs to be a balance to let the wildflowers to grow. This influences when the Green is going to be cut. Wish to maintain the two parts of the Green in the same way in 2026 as

this year. Will be going out to tender for a three-year agreement and predict the costs will be £6,000-£7,000 per annum. Request to the council is whether they are allowed to go out to tender for the 3-year plan to contractors. The Parish Council agreed to this.

The 2025 budget was set at £2000 and were aware of an overdue wayleave payment of £2479 so total budget £4,479. £1235 went out for emergency tree work and thought that these payments were out of the parish budget not that of the GWC. Could the Parish Council please investigate this. For the July cut the contractor hired additional equipment which improved efficiency and provided a better cut. However this came at a significant cost to the contractor and he has approached the GWC for an increase on this year's estimate of £750. Propose that this is accepted to allow the October cut to go ahead. This will be an extra £300 from the Parish to pay towards this. A proposal to approve this payment was approved (4 in favour and 2 abstained as they are part of the GWC)

*Seats on the Green.* Stan Burton said the bench by the Village sign was welded to H girders which have been concrete into the ground. There were three options –

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cut the H girder which would leave metal posts in the ground, go in and break up the concrete or sand back the rust as it is not too bad. Pete Twissell to go out and clear the concrete pad and bench will be sanded back.

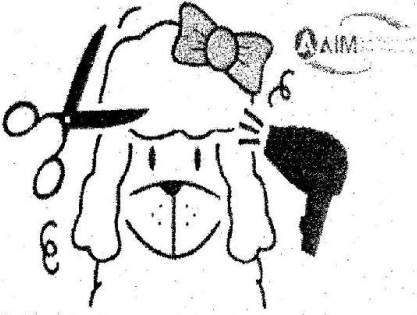
***Solar Farm update and benefit deed signing.*** Waiting for advice to come in regarding the signing of the deed. Need to make sure everything is as clear as possible.

***Parking update (ongoing).*** Correspondence from Paul Beale from the High School. The Staff car park is well on the way. Very grateful for being offered the use of the Green for the open evening – does not think he will need to use it.

***Ottomer Pond (ongoing).*** Stan Burton has made a start. He has dug out some of the area where the sump is due to go. Will be built on a 2ft square paving slab and this will be secure and do the job.

***Christmas Tree location.*** Dave Tranmer at Ox & Plough has agreed to have the Christmas tree on the Green and supply the electricity. Proposed Sunday 7 December for the light switch on. Dave Tranmer to be asked what his plan is for the farmers' market if he is hoping to use the Green for it.

***Playground and parking signs update.*** An annual inspection of



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the playground needs to be organised. A risk assessment and safety check on the playground has been made by Steve Gowers. Mainly surface area of the playground that needs maintenance and he will get quotes for this to be carried out.

***Salt box by the Village Hall.*** There are two salt boxes in the car parks and they have not been used as a salt box, only as an occasional bin. The Village hall is proposing that these are removed as they belong to the parish. Naomi Baily proposed that one is placed at St Andrew Close to replace the broken one and the other at Marchfield Way as the road is brick weave and this gets very icy and dangerous. The Clerk to look into informing NCC of the changes. A proposal to agree the repositioning of the bins was approved (6 in favour).

***Footpath along the Green.*** Steve Gowers has liaised with a resident who goes across the Green with a mobility scooter and almost falls off it due to the unevenness. An email has been sent to Highways to get this resurfaced.

***Defibrillator location update.*** Not had any success in volunteers coming forward to have the defibrillator on their property. The defibrillator cabinet that we currently have requires electricity to

maintain a consistent temperature for the defibrillator to prolong the battery life. You can buy pre-insulated cabinets which do not require electricity. The defibrillator would need to be checked more regularly and the batteries may need to be replaced sooner. Cost of these range around £450. We can insulate our current cabinet ourselves and get the same result. £25 cost for insulation. This would negate the need for an electrician to install the Defibrillator, also reducing the costs to the council. A proposal to insulating the cabinet itself was approved (6 in favour). The Parish Council are currently waiting for another response back from the Church Rooms and Steve Gowers is dealing with this. In the meantime it is proposed to install the defibrillator outside the old butcher's house should there be answer from the Church Rooms. To be installed by the end of September.

***Drainage outside Hargham Road Cottages.*** Still waiting for quotes. Trees and greenery obstructing road signs. On Hargham Road and Fen Street there are bushes growing over from someone's garden that obstructs the view and forces cars to pull out into the road to see. Naomi Bailey to try and get this cut back while liaising with the Clerk.

### *Old Buckenham Airshow traffic.*

Stan Burton watched on both Airshow days at the Village Hall. It took 25 minutes to get to the village hall from the other side of the Green. There was a no right turn sign at the end of the village hall road forcing residents to drive through the Airshow traffic. This is unfair. Also there was dangerous parking on the Green during the Airshow, up to the junctions and blocking views. The Chair and the Clerk to discuss with Matt Wilkins at Old Buckenham Airfield to discuss better management of their traffic and also provide more cones blocking the bends and junctions around the Green. Potentially ask if the schools could provide additional parking for the Airshow.

### *Pay as you go sim card for Clerk.*

Megan Elvin does not wish to give out personal number as does not work the same set number of hours every day. Naomi Bailey suggested a point of contact phone. Doug Irons suggested a point of contact Sim to use in the Clerk's phone. This number can then be used to contact and leave a voicemail where the Clerk would be able to get back to you. A proposal to get a PAYG sim was approved (6 in favour). The Clerk to liaise with David Taylor

regarding best one to get and potential of a landline number that will ring to a mobile number – this can be easily transferred when the Clerk is on holiday.

### *Clerk probationary period sign off.*

The probation period was six months and had a mini PDA to set targets going forward. Megan Elvin has passed her probation period.

*Lloyds banking update.* All able to get into the accounts. Query over the approvals for payments.

Someone starts the online payment then two approvers will get correspondence to approve this. Donna Oakley and Megan Elvin have been set up as approvers. Bank details will be required from the Community Car drivers.

*Public participation* There is an issue with the website and unable to print off the agenda. Doug Irons to look into this.

Few years ago before the present councillors were in place, the public was allowed to request items on the agenda. Megan Elvin advised that as long as the request is in two weeks before the meeting, the item can be added if deemed a relevant discussion point. Can the Public participation be earlier in the meeting to allow members to leave sooner if they wish? This is being discussed.

*Items for next agenda.* Formation of Old Buckenham Heritage Group, Old Buckenham Airshow traffic management, policy for benches on the Green, Allotments, Parking, Ottomer pond, Christmas tree event, Solar Farm, Defibrillator update, Drainage on Hargham Road and Footpath along Green update.  
*The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 4 September in Old Buckenham Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.*

### **Have we an archivist?**

The Parish Council is considering setting up an Old Buckenham Heritage Group. If you are interested in being part of this group please pass your details on to the parish clerk so that this matter can be discussed at the September or October council meetings. Thank you.

### **Locals still talking**

Hi yew up sa Red Van Man, we hent spok for ar cupal orf munfs, thart we hent, sa Ole Man orn tha Green. Wis thart?, corse thar be ar lort orf important fings be ar goen orn in ar vilarg.  
Wel thar cut tha Green, arn a rite gode job tha did tew. Thern thar wus tha Parish Council Annual meaten. Howe did thart goe?

Wel Red Van Man, we did sar we won't tark ar bote polartiks, but sum wun sar thart wus rite emoshanal. Ufers reken it wus lik ar self arpresheashun socity gaferin. Nuf orf thart. Thart thar tital, wots thar orl ar bote.

Wel let me sa we arsoshate thart wit tha Boyes arn Gals hew gav thar lives, soe us ole begars code due ar own fing ovar tha lars eightie yers or soe. Due yew nowe thars onli ar bote a few orf them left nowe, tharl sone orl be gor! Most orf em ar in ther late nineties sum ar a hundred plus, makes yew fink don't it.

I lisen to tha news orn TV arn rede them thar papars, arn sum times fink hent thart orl hev harpen ar for. Ar orl world, arn cuntrie is ar changin fase. Wen yew git tew ar age, wen orl thar love ken giv yew is memories, sum gode, sum bad, we musen fergit thart. Yew be ar getin rite morbid Ole Man. No I ent, Red Van Man, let us fink orf sum fings thart haped in thar past, wuns we remenbar wuns wot made us rite frit art tha time, ufers we wus proud orf.

Go orn then, I orlas remenbar wot my ole Dad sed wunce. He arn Mum ust tew cook rabbits for tha German arn Italian prisionors orf War in 1947. I sed tew him ar

few yers later, why did yew dew thart?, yer or soe agoe yew wus shootin art each ufer. He sa Tha wus jus blokes lik us ar dewin wot tha wus told. Dint yar Uncle win tha Military Medal in tha Far East?, inquired Red Van Mad. Thart be rite, he orlas sed he wus ar duen wot he wus told. Hatred wont involved, taks ar lort orf belerven dont it. Corse thar wus tha heroes tew. Remenbar them thar fluds in 1953? I fink it wus ar late January nite ar masive storm hit Hunston, waves drivern bie gale force winds fluded thar town. Thar wus this young American Service Man stashuned ner bie, his role wus tew tri arn help American pilorts shood thar aircraft crash in tha Wash. I fink he lived in ar beech hut, he wus equipped wit ar large rubar dingy arn ar Military radio. Wen tha fluds hit, he cont git eny wun orn his radio arn cont start tha out bord mortar orn tha dingy. He herd cries fur help frum pepal in trubal. Orn his own fur sevrul hours he waded frew tha watar pulin his dingy behin him. He rescued 27 Men, Women arn Children. Exhausted he collapsed. Wen interviewed bie tha E.D.P. he sed thar wus no wun tew help him, arn he wood orlas remenbar tha scremes fur help orf

pepal who drowned orn that orful nite. He wus ar true hero! He wus arwardid tha George Medal, tha first non British Man tew due soe. I remenbar thart, sa Red Van Man, wunt his name Reis Leming? A pop grope corled tha Broad Side Boys composed ar song ar bote them tha flunds, I fink yew carn still git ar copy its worf ar lisen.

Arter tha War tew replace tha boyes who dint cum home, tha Goverment hed tew import pepal tew help us frum ovar seas. Tha first orf em came ovar frum Jamaica orn ar bote named Windrush, for meney in this cuntri, it wus tha first time tha hed seen ar coloured person. Thay maned porsishuns arn worked very hard. Imargrushun is wun orf ar biggest problems we face tew day. Tha difference twixt tha populashun in tha erlie fifties arn now bie rite different, ar lital ole island carnt cope, stil tha cum legal or not. Meney dunt work arn ar a drain orn ar resources. I ofen wundar wot thart them boys arn gals who lorst their lives fiten for us wood fink ar bote it. I darsen sa, sa Red Van Man. Finally, yew no yew ar getin old wen yew no longar care thart yew dunt care eny mor! Cherio together.

## Old Buckenham Community Car service

*The following drivers are providing a service to take people to the doctors or to hospital appointments and can be contacted at:*

**Robin Curtis - 01953 860736**

**John Frost (Attleborough only) - 01953 860841**

**Lorna Gedge - 01953 860669**

**Alison Hannah and David Hannah - 01953 861261**

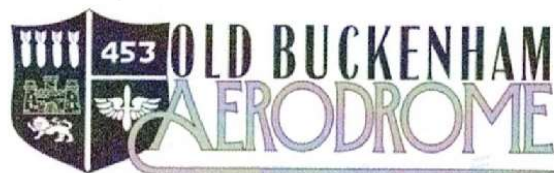
## Diary dates for September

*Here are details of some of the events going on in the village this month*

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 2    | Coffee and chat, All Saints Church, 10.30am    |
| Thursday 4   | Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm           |
| Friday 5     | Youth Club returns, Methodist Chapel.          |
| Friday 5     | Old Buckenham Players ,Village Hall, 7.30pm    |
| Saturday 6   | Old Buckenham Players ,Village Hall, 7.30pm    |
| Sunday 7     | Car boot sale behind Village Hall, from 9am    |
| Sunday 7     | Produce Show, Village Hall, open to public 2pm |
| Wednesday 10 | Luncheon Club, Village Hall, 10am to 1.30pm    |
| Friday 12    | Clairvoyant evening. Village Hall, 7pm         |
| Sunday 14    | Windmill open for tours, 1pm to 4pm            |
| Friday 19    | Mobile Library throughout village from 10am    |
| Wednesday 20 | Copy date for October newsletter               |
| Friday 19    | Mobile Library throughout village from 10am    |
| Thursday 25  | Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm        |
| Saturday 27  | Church Bingo restarts, Village Hall, 2pm       |

Regular happenings in the village are the Old School Bookshop open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays between 10am and 4pm, the Fawns (for parents and their pre-school children) in the Village Hall each Friday morning in term time from 9am to 10.30am, the Old Buckenham Singers in the Methodist Church every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm, the village Youth Club meets on Fridays at the Methodist Church at 6.30pm and 7.30pm and the Shelf Pop Up Pantry is in the Village Hall Memorial Room every Wednesday from 9.30pm to 11.30am.





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