

**MINUTES of meeting of the Old Buckenham
Green Working Committee
held on 16th February 2026 at 19:00
at Old Buckenham Methodist Church**

**Old Buckenham
Parish Council**



The minutes are recorded in line with the terms of reference for meeting and the numbered items on the agenda. Copies of the Agenda will be issued alongside the final ratified minutes.

Present: Sally Honour (SH), Richard Lindner (RL), Lesley Evison (LE), Stan Burton (SB), Alison Frank (AF) Daren Butler (DB)

Apologies: There were no absences or apologies

In Attendance: Naomi Baily

Also present: members of the Public

Meeting opened: 19h00

Chair signed as approved:

Date:

Vice chair signed as approved:

Date:

Minute

Action

26.02. 02 Acceptance of the minutes from the January meeting was postponed to the next meeting on 13th April 2026

26.02. 03 The pathway leading towards the school has wild flowers in it, it was suggested that this needs to be cut at the end of each year. LE followed this up with the Parish Council and confirmed that the Parish Council handyman would cut this area of grass.

The resident who requested a piece of wood from a fallen tree has received the wood they requested.

Finding a specialist for the work on Rod Alley pond is ongoing.

The 2023 tree survey still needs to be located.

Washing of the Old Buckenham sign is still out-standing.

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Owl and Bat box count, There appears to now only be one bat box and no Owl boxes.

DB pointed out that Owl boxes can be supplied at reasonable cost readymade and that one option would be to make some and to obtain some readymade ones.

Naomi Baily said that once a decision had been made how many owl and bat boxes we wanted and if kicks could be sourced she will enquire if the High School would like to be involved in making any, the parish council may be able to subsidise the cost of materials. It was also suggested to approach the youth club to see if they may be interested in constructing some.

The Owl boxes need to be installed this year to provide for the Owls next year.

26.02. 04 With regard to the GWC structure, as Sarah Dye is currently unable to continue to be on the GWC committee Stan Burton has moved position and is now a representative for the Green Rights Holders. Daren Butler has now joined the committee as the second Parish Council representative.

RL will contact the Lord of the Manor and enquire as to whether he would like to appoint a proxy to represent him on the committee.

SH felt that there needs to be some succession planning and asked if there needs to be a change in structure to help with future proofing, and that there was a need to be proactive rather than reactive.

SB pointed out that the original charter drawn up by the Green Rights Holders states that the committee can only have:

2 Green Rights Holders

2 Parish Councillors

2 Members of the public

The only other additional member of the committee can be the Lord of the manor or a proxy for the Lord of the manor.

It appears that the only way the structure can be altered is with the agreement of all the Green Rights Holders.

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It was suggested that the current structure be maintained but to ask for volunteers to be on the committee to manage specific projects, though these volunteers would not have any voting rights. These specific projects would be in addition to the management of the grass, trees and ponds.

It was agreed that Ian Coyle (IC) would continue to take the minutes on a voluntary basis and that the Parish Council Clerk would step in if IC was unable to attend or if any legal advice was needed, though it was noted that there would be a financial charge if the Parish Council Clerk was in attendance at the meetings.

26.02. 05 Harrys Wood, this has been moved forward to the next meeting.

26.02. 06 Future volunteering dates:
7th March - to pick up fallen branches and litter around the Green.
22nd April - Activity to be confirmed.
9th June - Activity to be confirmed.

26.02. 07 AOB The committee thanked SB for all his work on Ottomer Pond. There is a ditch on private land where the drain pipe drains to, the ditch has become overgrown and is not functioning as it should. The land owner has been asked to clear the ditch. The Parish Council have asked the Flood Protection Agency if they can come and inspect the ditch, The Flood protection Agency also has the power to impose an enforcement notice to clear the ditch if deemed necessary.

The first full cut of the green has been postponed until July as it was felt that the Green was too wet for the grass to be cut, however there is a planned perimeter cut in May.

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There will be a wild area left at the back of the Green from the pylons back through the wooded area (See January minutes) This will be communicated to residents via the village social media accounts.

Regarding the replacement of dead trees, these need to be a native non flowering tree, and any tree that is removed needs to have a new tree planted.

There may be some budget available for some bramble removal.

Naomi Baily suggested that AF and IC could start looking to see if there was any funding available for specific projects.

There may be an increase due for the Wayleves.

AF will follow this up

EDF Need to trim the trees by Manor Pond.

AF will follow this up

26.02. 08 Items for Next agenda:
To brainstorm future projects.
Activities for future volunteering events.
Harrys Wood.
Chapel car park, could this be cleared and tidied by the GWC, Parish Council and Youth club.
Parking around the Green.

26.02. 09 To Confirm date of next meetings

13th April 2026
29th June 2026
7th September 2026
16th November 2026

All meetings will be held at 7.00pm, the Methodist Chapel, Old Buckenham unless notified otherwise.

26.02. 10 Meeting Closed at 20.45

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