

Minutes of Fulmer Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th June 2024 at the Cricket Pavilion, King George V Fields, Fulmer Common Road SL3 6JN at 8.00pm

PRESENT:

Mr D Brackin (DB)	Chairman
Mrs S Simkins (SS)	Deputy Chairman
Mr I Bocock (IB)	Councillor
Mrs F Hall-Drinkwater (FH-D)	Councillor
Mr P Khanghura (PK)	Councillor
Mrs K Robinson (KR)	Councillor
Mrs L Du Toit (LdT)	Councillor
Mrs P Vahey (PV)	Parish Council Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Santokh Chhokar (SC) Buckinghamshire Council Councillor

POLICE:

Not present.

PRESS:

Not present.

PUBLIC:

There were no members of the public present.

1. **Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
2. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Buckinghamshire Cllr Jaspal Chhokar.
3. **Police Update:** The following three notifications had been received from Thames Valley Police:

- TVP South Buckinghamshire Social Media Summaries for the month
- TVP and Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter
- News of the newly formed Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Fulmer
- Information about Buying Tickets Safely.

The Chairman reported on the visit to the recent Fulmer Parish Council surgery by Fulmer's PCSO and the conversation and discussions had. Other duties allowing she was planning to attend again on June 25th.

ACTION:

- Advertise widely to residents the opportunity to meet the PCSO.

Action: PV

4. **Public Quarter Hour:** There were no members of the public present.

5. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 7th May 2024:** The Minutes having been previously circulated prior to the Meeting were reviewed and accepted as an accurate record of the business conducted at that Meeting and were recommended for signature by the Chairman of that meeting.

ACTION carried forward from April 9th:

- Investigate transfer of ownership and responsibility for maintenance with Bucks Council (BC).

Action: PV



6. **Buckinghamshire Councillors Report:** Cllr S Chhokar reported on recent fly tipping that had been cleared in Fulmer Lane and Stoke Common Road. He had also noticed the road works to be carried out in June in Fulmer and asked if there was gully cleaning being carried out. The Chairman confirmed that the LAT was clearing the culvert under Fulmer Common Road at gate 2 to Fulmer Rise Estate.

Cllr S Chhokar asked if there were any issues with parking in Fulmer? The area on the pavement near Fulmer Place on Fulmer Road was discussed. Although one resident had talked to the police and was following their advice to park 10m from the bend in the road and to give enough space to allow pedestrians to pass others were not. The owner of the apartment that had a doorway onto the area had agreed to 'No Parking' signs on the wall, however these were unenforceable. Cllr Khanghura suggested a large planter.

Cllr S Chhokar reported that BC's street cleaning policy was being reviewed. As the filming was no longer going ahead in Fulmer it was agreed the BC policy didn't need further follow up.

Cllr S Chhokar reported that the single person's Council Tax discount was also being reviewed and would be going out to consultation, the link being on BC's website. The review of the Community Boards was still on-going.

7. **Communications:** The response from local MP Joy Morrissey to correspondence from a resident on the subject BC's highway maintenance had been circulated. The residents issue with BC's waste collection teams had been reported to BC, however there was yet to be a response. The state of Stoke Common Road and the danger it presented to cyclists had been reported to BC.

8. **News & Activity from Local Government & other Community Partners:** The Chairman and Clerk had continued to attend Local Government and Community meetings, details of which were available in the Council Dropbox.

The Chairman asked for renewed focus to be placed on the Welcome to Fulmer new residents pack and getting all residents signed up to the email database. The Clerk suggested a village wide campaign on social media, the village Noticeboards, and leaflets at events to encourage people to sign up. Given the data format it was difficult to distinguish who the email addresses belonged to so which households had signed up. The Chairman reported that he had signed up for all the Community Bard Action Groups.

The Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP) annual report had been circulated as had their request for a grant again this year.

The Council RESOLVED to approve the CVRP grant for 2024-25.

Cllr Simkins asked if CVRP were also interested in the invasion of Drooping Sedge which was becoming endemic near the Watersplash and along Cherry tree Lane to the entrance of Fulmer Rise Estate.

ACTION:

- Ask CVRP re the Drooping Sedge when next in touch.

Action: PV

Cllr Bocock reported that he was finding communication with BC's Footpaths team frustrating. There had been no action of the footpath he reported in October 2023 except to say it was fixed which it patently was not. Neither had there been any action taken regarding the closure of the Beeches Way. Compared to the great two-way conversation with the local LAT the view was it could be better. The Chairman notice that at the next Clerk's Forum the Footpaths team were attending and asked her to raise the two issues.



The Chairman commented that the Town and Parish Newsletter published periodically by BC was useful.

9. Finance & Governance:

The Clerk had previously circulated the Financial Summaries, Budget Reports and Bank Reconciliation Reports for all the Fulmer Parish Council Accounts for the periods ending May 2024 which were accepted by the Parish Council. Copies of the Bank Reconciliation reports for each account are appended to these Minutes.

June Payments

FPC

Budgeted

Mailchimp subs	14.94	Y
Street light maintenance (June)	33.60	Y
Clerks salary, allowances & expenses	2279.44	Y
HMRC tax & NI	448.31	Y
Employers Pension contribution	52.08	Y
Payroll services	15.00	Y
Weekly Briefing	145.00	Y
Roots Grass cutting	546.94	Y
Newsletter printing	440.00	Y
SLCC membership	36.00	Y

TOTAL 4011.31

FSCA

eDF electricity The Studio	221.79
The Studio rates	81.47
Tractor parts	123.71
Fire extinguisher maintenance	158.75

TOTAL 585.72

TOTAL 4597.03

The Clerk had previously circulated the Annual Budget documents updated with the end of year data and including the Community Board grant and corresponding expenditure. There were no questions.

10. Highways Maintenance & Environment:

The Chairman reported he was due to follow up with the LAT about the state of Stoke Common Road.

The Clerk asked for help in replacing a new battery in the MVAS, the Chairman suggested John O'Keefe who had looked after Gerrards Cross' MVAS when he had been on the GX Council. Cllr Khanghura also volunteered to help. She had the software to download the statistics collected by the unit.

A new Speedwatch site outside the Church had been approved by the Police and a session was planned for school drop off time.

11. Planning and Enforcement:

Five new Planning Applications for Fulmer had been registered since the last Council Meeting.

PL/24/1640/FA White House, Windmill Road SL3 6HF

The erection of a two-storey front extension and alteration to the residential annexe building.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1580/SA The Thatched Cottage, Fulmer Rise, Fulmer Common Road SL3 6JL

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed construction of single storey outbuilding.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1150/FA 1 Church Row Cottages, Hay Lane SL3 6HW

Removal of a garden shed and a greenhouse at the rear of the garden and the erection of a log cabin garden room.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1010/FA Joys Cottage, Windmill Road SL3 6HD

Demolition of existing building and creation of 3 homes with parking and associated works.

The Council RESOLVED to object on the following six grounds:

1. Not in keeping with the Conservation area the development is in.
2. Intensification of use from one dwelling to three and the impact on the openness of the Green Belt.
3. Intensification of traffic in a part of the village already noted as hazardous.
4. Height of the proposal exceeds the height of the existing building and overlooking of neighbours properties.
5. The proposed bin storage and the loss of light could be improved.
6. The exiting S52 agreement should be replaced by a similar effective S106 agreement should this development go ahead.

It was also noted the map was not accurately labelled and this need to be corrected.

PL/24/1441/AGN Small Acre Farm, Stoke Common Road SL3 6HA

Notification of agricultural or forestry development under Schedule 2, Part 6 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 for lambing shed.

The application had already been given permission as prior approval was not required.

Cllr Khanghura had previously circulated an update on all planning applications received, outstanding applications still requiring a decision and the progress of other applications.

Details of these can be found at:

<https://pa.chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk/online-applications/>

or email: planning@chilternandsouthbucks.gov.uk.

Cllr Khanghura had also recently contacted the planning team at Bucks Council to confirm that the outstanding old planning applications were still awaiting decisions which they confirmed they were.

12. Community Matters:

- **FSCA & KGFF:** Cllr Du Toit had previously circulated a report on the progress of the developments at KGFF and the FSCA.
- **Allotments:** The Clerk reported the private allotment site in Gerrards Cross was closing so there were 7 allotment holders who may potentially want an allotment in Fulmer. There were already takers for the 3 ½ allotments that were empty. However, some of the other allotments were in a bad state and not kept to the standards in their tenancy agreements. She proposed notifying these tenants and asking them to either remedy the situation or give up their tenancy. It was obvious that many of the allotments were not in state to be worked and would take too long to weed and clear. She proposed engaging a contractor to do that, weed killing initially then rotavating the allotment. For allocation of the allotments priority was always given to Fulmer residents then it was a first come first served basis on a waiting list.

- **ACTION carried forward from May 7th:**

- Investigate cherry tree and deer protective fencing.

Action: PV

- **Speedwatch:** This had been reported on at Agenda item 10 highways.

- **Fulmer Conservation Volunteers and Best Kept Village Competition:** The Clerk reported that last year's hanging baskets were still on the lampposts and need to be removed. Cllr Khanghura volunteered to help. The new tubs had been placed by the memorial bench in the village centre and planted up. There were complaints about the standard of the grass cutting through the village by the current contractor. The Clerk reported she had been in touch with Amersham Town Council who had contracts in place with many of the neighbouring Towns and Villages for their grass and hedge cutting and explained what they could do. She suggested the next step was to draw up a specification of what was needed to obtain quotes. There was also a discussion about what tasks needed to be carried out for BKV.

ACTION:

- Draw up a specification for grass and hedge cutting in the village.
- Contact Zoe Ford at BC for information as to how FPC could get paid for devolved services.
- Contact Rosie Tunnard at BC for BC's grass cutting schedule and the areas cut for Fulmer.

Action: PV

- Draw up a list of BKV tasks and people willing to help.

Action: IB

The Chairman also suggested a list of tasks to be carried out around the village by the Conservation Volunteers be drawn and sates for people to get together to carry them out. There followed a discussion on how to encourage more residents to volunteer to keep their village in good order which included naming a date for a Bucks Litter pick and asking BC for the kit.

ACTION:

- Draw up a list of tasks and dates including a date for the Bucks Litter Pick.

Action: IB

ACTION carried forward from May 7th:

- Ask VH Committee for the code for the VH automatic gate.

Action: PV

- **Footpaths:** This item had been covered at Agenda item 10 Highways.



13. Date of next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting to be held Tuesday 16th July 2024 at 20.00hrs.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 22:48 hrs.

Signed.....
D Brackin Chairman

Dated..... 16 July 24