

Minutes of Fulmer Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 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
	Mrs F Hall-Drinkwater (FH-D)	Councillor
	Mr P Khanghura (PK)	Councillor
	Mrs K Robinson (KR)	Councillor
	Mrs P Vahey (PV)	Parish Council Clerk
IN ATTENDANCE:	Cllr Jaspal Chhokar (JC)	Buckinghamshire Council (BC) 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 Fulmer Parish Cllrs Mr Ian Bocock and Mrs Lorette Du Toit.
- 3. Police Update:** All notifications received from Thames Valley Police, Local Neighbourhood Watch and Buckinghamshire Council Community Safety team were available in the Council DropBox. The Chairman was aware he had an outstanding action to meet the new Police Sergeant and Constable covering the Fulmer area. There was a report from Cllr Hall-Drinkwater about the recent road traffic incident of the car driving into the Church wall. The driver was known to the Police and had been remanded in jail for this and other offences. It was noted that a member of the congregation leaving the Church at the time had a close miss.
- 4. Public Quarter Hour:** As there were no members of the public present there was no PQH.
ACTION carried forward from September 10th:
 - Contact Pinewood Studios re the speed limit and ask for a meeting with the new Police Sergeant.
Action: DB
- 5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 15th October 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 the meeting.
ACTION carried forward from April 9th:
 - Investigate transfer of ownership and responsibility for maintenance of grass verges with BC.
Action: PV
- 6. Buckinghamshire Councillors Report:** Cllr J Chhokar reported there had been road traffic accidents on the A413 and A40 which had involved fatalities hence the focus of the

Bucks network safety Team on these roads. He hoped the bigger Police team would bring about improvements in Police attendance too. Hawkswood Lane was scheduled to be resurfaced, however Stoke Common Road was going to be a 2026 project. The drainage work in Stoke Common Road was discussed agreed that it was happening in the wrong place. The alternative was the LAT fixed it and sent an enforcement notice to encourage the project manager at Fulmer Wood Farm to get back in touch. Cllr J Chhokar reported that Buckinghamshire Council emptied all gullies once a year. Cllr Simkins brought up the fact that there were other properties with water problems, for example at gate 3 of Fulmer Rise Estate. Send a list of other sites for Cllr J Chhokar to follow up. Bucks Council was waiting to hear what its Local Government Funding Settlement would be from the new Government. The government's recent IHT changes relating to farmers and the imposition of VAT on private schools had been discussed at a Full Council meeting. Similarly, Bus Services and School Transport. There had been no more news on the issues concerning the noise complaints around the Mosque. Cllr J Chhokar asked for a list of the complaints. Similarly, there had been no more news from the gates installed at gate 2 to Fulmer rise estate blocking the Beeches Way. there were some outliers.

ACTION:

- *Send list of complaints about the Mosque from residents to Cllr J Chhokar.* **Action: PV**

7. Planning and Enforcement:

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

PL/24/3610/PNE Furzeney, Fulmer Lane SL3 6JA

Notification under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015, Part 1 of Schedule 2 Class A for: single storey rear extension (depth extending from the original rear wall of 6.0 meters, maximum height 4.00 meters, eaves height 2.85 metres).

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/3402/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/24/3269/SA Fernaces Cottages, Fulmer Common Road, SL3 6JW

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed use of existing outbuilding as residential accommodation, ancillary to the dwelling to be constructed on Plot 4.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/2932/SA The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, SL0 0NR

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed relocation and reconstruction of ornamental garden feature.

The Council RESOLVED to support the application.

PL/24/3296/EU Fulmer Chase Farm, Hay Lane SL3 6HJ

Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use: application to establish commencement of building works approved under PL/19/1060/FA – Erection of two dwellings with associated stable blocks, parking, landscaping, and vehicular access following demolition of existing dwelling, buildings on site and removal of hard standing.

db

The Council **RESOLVED** to comment to establish if the environmental conditions imposed on the original permission had been met and ask for proof of the extent of the boundaries of the property.

ACTION carried forward from July 23rd:

- Reconnect with Ben Krauze who had shown an interest in developing the land at the Pickeridge on behalf of his employers. **Action: PV**

A question was asked if any permission was required to convert the Farm and coffee Shop at the Black Horse Pub into a Classic car Showroom?

ACTION:

- Establish with Bucks enforcement team whether permission for the change of use was required. **Action: PK**

A question was also asked as to whether the trees at Huyton Fold, Windmill Road SL3 6HD were subject to Tree Preservation Orders?

ACTION:

- Contact Bucks Council re above TPOs. **Action: PV**

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.

8. Community Matters:

ACTIONS carried forward from June 11th:

- 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

ACTION carried forward from May 7th:

- Ask VH Committee for the code for the VH automatic gate. **Action: PV**

FSCA & KGFF: The Chairman informed the Council that all the monies invested in the Studio building had been paid back to the Council. He asked that the success of the Fulmer Sports and Community Association regarding the renovation of the Studio into a thriving and sustainable community asset be noted. Similarly, the Council together with funding from Bucks Council Community Board had significantly improved the front entrance to improve access and security.

Cllr Du Toit had previously circulated a report on the progress of the developments at KGFF and the FSCA including the acceptance of the resolution at the recent FSCA AGM to appoint Fulmer Parish Council as the sole managing trustee of the KGFF charity. This change has also been approved by the Charities Commission. Finally, she reported on the success of the Fulmer Fireworks event which had raised about £3000 for the charity. The Chairman asked that a letter from the Council be sent to Linda McKenzie thanking her for all her efforts in making the event such a success. In addition, as a small token of appreciation the Council approved a budget of £25 to send some flowers to her. There were no questions regarding news of other developments in the report.

ACTION carried forward from May 7th:

- Investigate cherry tree planting and deer protective fencing for the tree.

Action: PV

St James Church Fulmer: Cllr Hall-Drinkwater reported there had been over 160 members in the congregation for the last service to be held by Associate Minister Jill Roth. The Chairman asked that a letter from the Council be sent to Jill Roth thanking her for all her efforts as associate Minister to Fulmer. Likewise, as a small token of appreciation the Council approved a budget of £25 to send some flowers to her.

ACTION:

- *Organise flowers for Linda Mckenzie and Jill Roth.*

Action: DB

- 9. Communications:** The Chairman had corresponded with the engineer at Transport for Bucks regarding the replacement of the footbridge over the Alderbourne by the Watersplash. The question was asked whether the replacement bridge would be wide enough to accommodate a push chair or bicycle handlebars?

ACTION:

- *Investigate the width of the replacement footbridge.*

Action: DB

- 10. 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 Council had been asked for an increased grant from the Colne Valley Regional Park as in previous years.

The Council RESOLVED to approve an increased grant of £250 (to include VAT) for 2025.

ACTION:

- *Inform CVRP of the increased grant.*

Action: DB

The Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common team had recently held a presentation evening in Fulmer Village Hall to discuss how local landowners could help with protecting the local wildlife. Given the late notice no-one from Fulmer had been able to attend, however the Chairman was now in touch with the team and had indicated his interest in attending future events on the topic. He was also interested in how they would integrate with planning locally.

The Chairman had responded to the NALC consultation on allowing Cllrs to attend Parish Council meetings remotely.

The Chairman had also attended the recent BMALC AGM representing Fulmer Parish Council.

He had also laid wreaths for the Remembrance Day services at Pinewood Studios and where he had renewed contact with Iver Cllrs and St James Church, Fulmer.

11. 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 October and November 2024 which were accepted by the Parish Council. Copies of the Bank Reconciliation reports for each account are appended to these Minutes.

November Payments

FPC

Budgeted

Mailchimp subs

14.94 Y

Street light maintenance (Nov)	33.60	Y
Clerks salary, allowances & expenses	2578.13	Y
HMRC tax & NI	565.20	Y
Employers Pension contribution	52.92	Y
Payroll services	15.00	Y
Weekly Briefing	145.00	Y
Allotments water rates	17.82	Y
Grant FSCA	1250.00	Y
Allotments training	90.00	Y
Parish Insurance mid- term adjustment	90.36	Y
SLCC Subs	240.00	Y
Hedge & grass cutting	1283.74	Y

TOTAL 6376.71

FSCA

The Studio rates	81.47
Electricity The Studio	224.19
Mower repairs	646.68
Fireworks	3252.00

TOTAL 4204.34

TOTAL 10581.05

December Payments

FPC

Budgeted

Mailchimp subs	14.94	Y
Street light maintenance (Dec)	33.60	Y
Clerks salary, allowances & expenses	2100.14	Y
HMRC tax & NI	457.58	Y
Employers Pension contribution	52.92	Y
Payroll services	15.00	Y
Weekly Briefing	145.00	Y
Allotments water rates	17.82	Y
Signage access project	187.80	Y

TOTAL 3024.80

FSCA

The Studio rates	81.47
eDF the Studio electricity	367.25

TOTAL 448.72

TOTAL 3473.52

The Clerk reported on the recommendations from the recent meeting of the Finance Committee as follows:

1. The proposed Budget for the financial year 2025-26 had been circulated.

The Council RESOLVED to approve the budget.

2. The proposed Precept for 2025-26 had been circulated. The Chairman gave a brief explanation of how it had been calculated noting that the tax base for Fulmer had not changed in a few years and asked if this was true given there were new properties in the village. It was also noted that year on year 3% rise for the last 5 years had enabled the Council to keep up with inflation. However, this year the rise in Employers NI was significant for the Council and had to be budgeted for.

The Council RESOLVED to approve an increase in the precept of 4.99% equivalent to £165.78 for a Band D property.

3. FPC's Standing Orders had been reviewed to incorporate the suggested changes to the terms Chair from Chairman and Vice Chair from Vice Chairman.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Standing Orders.

4. There having been no updates to the Councillor Code of Conduct

The Council RESOLVED to re-adopt THE Councillors Code of Conduct.

5. FPC Financial Regulations had been reviewed and amended in the light of a new recommended template from NALC.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Financial Regulations.

6. A new revised Risk Assessment Schedule had been circulated.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Risk Assessment Schedule.

7. Fixed Assets Register. The revised FAR had been circulated having been updated to show assets that had been disposed of and those acquired together with the values of the sums insured as provided by the Council's Insurance Company.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised FAR.

8. Financial Reserves Policy. There having been no changes to the Financial Reserves Policy

The Council RESOLVED to re-adopt the Financial Reserves Policy.

9. Clerks Employment Contract. The Clerk's Employment Contract had been updated to reflect the new template recommended by NALC.

With the agreement of the Clerk the Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Employment Contract.

10. The updated list of suppliers to the Council had been circulated.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised list of suppliers.

11. The proposed dates for Fulmer Parish Council meetings and surgeries for the Municipal year 2025-26 had been circulated.

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the proposed dates for 2025026.

12. The grant request from the FSCA had been circulated.

The Council RESOLVED to continue its support of the FSCA and approved the £5000 grant, to be paid in 4 equal quarterly instalments.

ACTIONS:

- Investigate the basis of the Tax Base for Fulmer.
- Forward dates to Cllr Hall-Drinkwater.

Action: PV

Action: PV

12. Highways Maintenance & Environment:

Cllr Bocock had submitted a report as follows;

It was proposed to carry out a litter pick on Saturday 19th December, but not in January. There had been no Speedwatch sessions so far this month. He asked if there was any feedback from the Police on the recent RTA crashing into the Church wall. He was now in a position to submit the Weight Limit Application.

ACTION carried forward from October 15th:

- Produce pricing on two new MVAS signs.

Action: PV

13. Date of next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting to be held Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 20.00hrs.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 22:00 hrs.

Signed.....
D Brackin Chairman

Dated.....7/1/25.....