

Minutes of Fulmer Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th May 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
	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, one member of the public joined the meeting briefly using the Zoom videoconferencing platform.	

- 1. Election of the Chairman of the Council:** Cllr. Brackin agreed to continue as Chairman. The Council duly elected Cllr. Brackin to serve as Chairman of Fulmer Parish Council for the year 2024-25 municipal.
- 2. Election of the Deputy Chairman of the Council:** The Council duly elected Cllr. Simkins to serve as Deputy Chairman of Fulmer Parish Council for the year 2024-25 municipal.
- 3. Declarations of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr. Brackin and Cllr. Simkins signed the Declarations of Acceptance of Office of Chairman and Deputy Chairman, respectively, for 2024-25.
Following the Acceptances of Office, the Chairman reminded the Council of the Seven Principles of Public Life. In addition, he reminded the Council of its role in representing Fulmer residents, communicating well with the residents and being aware of local issues. Keep Fulmer Special remained the Council's mission.
- 4. Allocation of Duties for Parish Councillors:** The Allocation of Duties for the Parish Councillors was agreed for 2024-25.
- 5. Ratification of Parish Council meeting dates for 2024-25:** the previously circulated Parish Council meeting dates for 2024-25 were agreed.
- 6. Apologies:** There were apologies from Buckinghamshire Cllr Jaspal Chhokar and Fulmer Parish Cllr Kathryn Robinson.
- 7. Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
- 8. Public Quarter Hour:** There were no members of the public present.

9. **Police Updates:** The following update and information from TVP Police had been circulated:

- Information re Burglaries in Denham.
- Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter.
- Saying safe from scams advise.
- Thames Valley Police Statistics released.

It was noted Matthew Barber had been re-elected as the Thames Valley Police Crime Commissioner (PCC). The Chairman had received a reply from the PCC to his letter about the provision of CCTV for Fulmer. He would be asking to be put in contact with the Smartville CCTV initiative.

10. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 9th April 2024:** The Minutes having been previously circulated prior to the Meeting were reviewed and subject to the addition of the attendance of Cllr Du Toit on Zoom for a period of time were accepted as an accurate record of the business conducted at that Meeting and were recommended for signature by the Chairman of that meeting.

Cllr Bocock asked if the ownership of the flower bed in the centre of the village had been established and who was responsible for its maintenance. Whilst owned by Buckinghamshire Council it was local residents in the nearby house who maintained it. It was agreed to investigate Fulmer Parish Council taking on ownership and responsibility for it.

ACTION:

- *Investigate transfer of ownership and responsibility for maintenance with Bucks Council.*

Action: PV

11. **Buckinghamshire Councillors Report:** Cllr S Chhokar expressed his disappointment at the bad weather experienced by Fulmer Family Fun Day (FFFD) the previous day. Cllr S Chhokar reported he had been involved with the correspondence between Bucks Film Office, Bucks TTRO team and Shepperton Studios w.r.t the forthcoming road closure for filming in Fulmer. He had also seen the leaflet that was to be dropped in houses potentially affected. The Chairman asked that the Village Hall committee be informed even though it was outside school term time. He had also taken issue with the diversionary route through the Watersplash (ford) which was unfit for driving through and a failed road. In his opinion the communication had been badly handled. Cllr S Chhokar reported he had asked for the protocol that Bucks Council should have followed. He committed to following this up. He also confirmed that Bucks Council would be paid for the facilitation. The Chairman suggested that the film company also consider a contribution to Fulmer in respect of the inconvenience it was going to cause residents.

ACTION:

- *Report back on Bucks Council's protocol for film locations.*
- *Check with Denham Parish Council whether they received compensation for filming in their parish.*

Action: SC

Action: DB

The Chairman reported he had met with the LAT and the manager of Fulmer Wood Farm to discuss a plan for re-ditching the Fulmer Common Road, Black Park Road and Cherry Tree Lane flood areas. It was noted there was a high-pressure gas main near the Black

Park Cottage gate which excluded the possibility of digging there. The gas suppliers Cadent would be consulted.

Cllr Du Toit expressed her concerns to Cllr S Chhokar about the length of time it might take Bucks Council to grant the licence required to start the KGFF new access project. It was agreed a plan including timelines was needed.

ACTION:

- *Contact the Community Board Manager to discuss Buck Council's timescales and their criticality to the success of the project.*

Action: PV

12. Community Matters:

- **FSCA & KGFF:** Cllr Du Toit had previously circulated a report on the progress of the developments at KGFF and the FSCA.

Cllr Du Toit reported that despite the weather FFFD had been enjoyed by all those who attended. Also, despite the weather and the lower attendance the event would probably break even owing to the sponsorship obtained before the event. It was noted Pinewood Studios had sponsored the event at £500.

Cllr Du Toit also discussed the proposed changes to the FSCA constitution and the relationship between the FSCA and FPC. It was suggested that Cllr Du Toit, the PC Chairman, FSCA Treasurer and the Clerk form a working group to review and amend the constitution with the intention of giving delegated authority to the FSCA. The Chairman described how once this was achieved, a short meeting separate to a PC meeting, would be held where the Parish Council acted as a Trustee to KGFF to ensure it was carrying out its duties properly as a Trustee. Fulmer Parish Council would be the sole Managing Trustee and it was envisaged the FSCA would be the Managing Partner.

It was proving difficult to find a Quiz Master for the Annual Parish meeting event so it was decided not to hold it this year unless a resident wanted to organise it at which point the Chairman would be happy to chair it.

ACTION:

- *Ask the KGFF General Manager to start organising village social events at the Clubhouse again.*

Action: DB

- **Allotments:** The Clerk reported she had two more Gerrards Cross Town Councillors had requested Allotments in Fulmer. She was also keen that the Best Kept Allotment competition was held this year as it was the Stoke Poges, Wexham and Fulmer Horticultural Society's 140th anniversary this year.

ACTION:

- *Ask Bev and Andrew Nealon to judge the competition.*

Action: PV

It was agreed that a tree be planted in memory of Edward Guinness and it was suggested a cherry tree near the cherry tree planted for the late Queen's Jubilee. It was also brought to the Council's attention that the protective cover around the current tree was coming undone and needed to be replaced.

ACTION:

- *Investigate cherry tree and deer protective fencing.*

Action: PV

- **Speedwatch:** Cllr Bocock reported a Speedwatch event had been organised for Friday but had been rained off. The team were going to start a trial outside the phone box for traffic coming down the hill into the village centre. Cllr Khanghura also suggested a site in Fulmer Common Road by the Bridgettine Convent.

- **Fulmer Conservation Volunteers and Best Kept Village Competition:** The Clerk reported that Fulmer had entered this year's Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition. It was suggested local resident Bev Nealon help co-ordinated the planting. She had already planted the planters at KGFF and the Village Hall team had done their troughs and planters.

The Chairman suggested a timetable of volunteer days to carry out work around the village and get involved in Bucks litter pick, the first day to be a litter pick day.

ACTION:

- *Ask VH Committee for the code for the VH automatic gate.* **Action: PV**
- **Footpaths:** Cllr Bocock reported that he had received a Bucks Council notification closing his report of the blocked footpath to the footpaths team as it had been fixed when it patently had not.

ACTION:

- *Report the blocked footpath again.* **Action: IB**
Where to hang the recently acquired picture of King Charles was briefly discussed with the Clubhouse being the favourite, whilst recognising it would be the FSCA who would decide if that were to be the case.

13. Communications: There were no new communications from residents that had not been dealt with previously in the meeting.

14. 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.
Colne Valley Regional Park had requested details of all the riparian owners along the Alderbourne River as they wanted to eradicate the Himalayan Balsom in the valley.

ACTION:

- *Send details of Alderbourne riparian owners to CVRP.* **Action: PV**

15. 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 April 2024 which were accepted by the Parish Council. Copies of the Bank Reconciliation reports for each account are appended to these Minutes.

May Payments

FPC	Budgeted	
Mailchimp subs	14.94	Y
Street light maintenance (May)	33.60	Y
Clerks salary, allowances & expenses	1956.97	Y
HMRC tax & NI	441.97	Y
Employers Pension contribution	51.53	Y
Payroll services	15.00	Y
Weekly Briefing	145.00	Y
Roots Grass cutting	546.94	Y

Internal Audit	600.00	Y
BKV	25.00	Y
BMKALC training	10.00	Y
KGFF Grant	1250.00	Y

TOTAL 5090.95

FSCA

eDF electricity The Studio	199.26
The Studio rates	81.47
Tractor parts	134.89

TOTAL 415.62

TOTAL 5506.57

The Clerk drew the Council's attention to the previously circulated recently completed Internal Audit Report and gave a brief outline of the recommendations made in it and asked for questions.

16. AGAR 2023-24: The Clerk had previously circulated the completed AGAR 2023-24 signed off by the Internal Auditor and asked for approval to submit to the External Auditor which was given.

17. 2024-25 Budget review: The Clerk requested this item be postponed to the next Council meeting to allow more time for review.

18. Internal Auditor: The Council **RESOLVED** to re-appoint Auditing Solutions Ltd. as the Internal Auditor for 2024-25.

19. Highways Maintenance & Environment:

The only Highways matter not previously covered was the Alderbourne Bridge which Cllr Bocock was going to send a Freedom of Information Request to Bucks Council requesting copies of the engineering reports from their inspection of the bridge.

ACTION:

- Submit FOI requests to Bucks Council.

Action: IB

Litter Bins at Black Park parking bays and the cutting of the grass verges was also briefly discussed.

20. Planning and Enforcement:

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

PL/24/1358/TP Kingfisher Lodge, Cherry Tree Lane SL3 6JE

T1 cedar - remove (TPO/BCC/1950/03)

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

DB

PL/24/1320/SA Rhode Cottage, Windsor Road SL9 8SW

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed loft conversion to include hip to gable and rear dormer.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1319/PNE Rhode Cottage, Windsor Road SL9 8SW

Notification under the Town and Country Planning Act (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 7.90 metres, maximum height 3.00 metres eaves height 3.00 metres)

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1310/FA The Thatched Cottage, Fulmer Rise Estate, Fulmer Common Road SL3 6JL

Construction of single storey outbuilding.

The Council RESOLVED not to object if planning permission were given conditional on a traffic plan to divert all construction traffic through gate 2 of Fulmer Rise Estate on Fulmer Common Road and the trees on the site were given protection.

PL/24/1281/TP Suncroft, Alderbourne Lane SLO 0NT

T1 oak – remove major deadwood, raise lower limbs over garage to 5m, T2 sycamore, T3 ash, T4 ash – fell to ground level, T9 hawthorn reduce to 5m from ground level, severing all ivy. (SBDC TPO 13 of 1972)

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1211/SA Fulmere, 18 Dukes Kiln Drive, Gerrards Cross SL9 7HD

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed incidental outbuilding for swimming pool and gym.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1177/SA Holly Cottage, Fulmer Common Road SL3 6JN

Certificate of lawfulness for proposed construction of a new building for garage and storage use incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling house.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/1174/FA Chase Cottage, Hay Lane SL3 6HJ

Demolition of single storey element and erection of single storey front/side extension, front rooflight and implementation of energy saving measures throughout.

The Council RESOLVED not to object.

PL/24/0976/FA Valley Cottage, Windsor Road, Gerrards Cross SL9 8SW

Conversion of barn into a dwelling house.

The Council RESOLVED to object as it intensification of use with urban paraphernalia in the Green Belt and the nationally important Alderbourne Valley.

There was also a discussion on whether the barn could be converted taking into account proper foundations etc.

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.

21. Date of next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting to be held Tuesday 11th June 2024 at 20.00hrs.
There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 22:30 hrs.

Signed.....
D Brackin Chairman

Dated..... 11 June 24.....