

FULMER PARISH PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Fulmer Parish Council comprises 7 Councillors (embracing a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman) and the Parish Clerk.

The Fulmer Parish Plan is a document which has been produced to set out the commitment of the Parish Council to attempt to , as far as is possible , benefit the Parish residents.

The following items are the aims to meet this commitment.

1. HIGHWAYS:

a. Road and pavement conditions remain hazardous for motorists and pedestrians in several parts of the Parish.

b. Furthermore there is very limited parking in the centre of the village where the road is narrow and traffic is heavy during peak periods.

ACTION:

i. Maintain constant pressure on BCC Highways Dept. re footways/roads repairs and improvements. Individually report any new problems to BCC immediately.

ii. Re Parking: There are few, if any, practical solutions to this problem. Consultation with SBDC/BCC and Police reveal that yellow lines are not a viable option due to the decriminalisation of parking regulations. Yellow lines are now only installed where there is availability for a civil parking warden to supervise in the area.

iii. For parents taking their children to the Infant School, crossing the road in the centre of the village can be dangerous. Thus ensure that the School Flashing Warning lights are operational.

iv. Traffic speeding through the village remains a problem. Thus ensure that the Vehicle Activated Signs are always clearly visible.

v. Maintain the Street Lights in the Village.

2. PLANNING:

a. A Parish Councillor is delegated with the responsibility of scrutinising all Planning Applications and reviewing each Application with the members of the Parish Council at each Parish Council Meeting under the Agenda Item for Planning Matters.

b. The Parish Council recognise there is a need for affordable housing, however, this is limited as far as Fulmer is concerned.

c. The Green Belt in South Bucks is subject to consultation with a view to releasing some for housing.

d. The centre of the Village is a Conservation Area and therefore any development needs to take account of this.

e. The Flood Risk map includes the area adjoining the Alderbourne Stream.

f. Enforcement of breaches of Planning Regulations. Several enforcements have been in existence for a number of years without any follow-up action being taken to enforce them.

ACTION:

i. Ensure that the Green Belt is not violated except in exceptional circumstances, such as safety issues.

ii. Any attempt to make commercial usage of residential property in the Conservation Area should be subject to close scrutiny before any Applications relating to a change of use are submitted for planning consent.

iii. Although there is no record of flooding, the insurance implications for the properties concerned are serious and thus the Parish Council should try to indicate from where advice may be obtained.

iv. A number of Planning Applications have been granted to sub-divide gardens, resulting in large houses or flats being constructed. Where these are likely to change the character and density of the area they should be opposed.

v. Oppose any Applications which are merely replicas of previous Applications.

vi. Continue with persistent lobbying of South Bucks District Council Enforcement Team to take legal action in cases of infringement of Planning Regulations.

3. RECREATION:

a. Fulmer enjoys excellent sports and recreational and leisure facilities at the King George V Field on Fulmer Common Road.

ACTION:

i. Continue to provide both practical and financial support to Fulmer Sports and Community Association who maintain these facilities.

ii. Endeavour to actively encourage more members to join both the Cricket Club and the Tennis Club.

4. VILLAGE HALL:

- a. Support the activities of the Village Hall Committee.
- b. Ensure that the Defibrillator and the Notice Board are maintained.
- c. The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee provides a Report to the Parish Council for each of its Meetings.

5. FULMER INFANT SCHOOL:

- a. Support the School in its activities.
- b. Relevant members of the Parish Council to attend The School Travel Plan Working Group Meetings.
- c. The School Headteacher provides a Report to the Parish Council for each of its Meetings.

6. ST. JAMES CHURCH FULMER:

- a. Support the activities of the Church, particularly the Annual Community Service held in June/July.
- b. The graveyard is now effectively closed except for the burial of ashes.
- c. Currently full burials can be made at South Bucks Cemetery.

7. COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Support Fulmer Newsletter and contribute Parish Council items.
- b. Update the Gazetteer, when appropriate.
- c. Keep the Fulmer Village website updated.
- d. Review the need to update Fulmer History (Featuring Fulmer).
- e. Fulmer residents Group (FRG) was formed earlier this year and is a campaign group comprising a cross section of concerned residents that have come together to support the Parish Council on issues affecting the community. The FRG would be interested to hear views from residents before deciding on how to get involved in improving any situation. The Chairman of the FRG is Dr. David Kelly.
- f. The Parish Council hold an Annual Parish Meeting in May . Residents are encouraged to attend this Meeting because it serves as a useful Forum to get to know new residents and exchange information and ideas.

8. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION:

a. Fulmer has been fortunate in winning the Gurney Cup (and sometimes The Sword of Excellence) for many years.

ACTION:

i. We need to continue annual participation in this Competition.

ii. Encourage more volunteers to be involved with helping , ahead of the judging window which is during the month of June , as well as encouraging individual householders to ensure that the appearance of their gardens will contribute to the overall picturesque and tidy look of the centre of the Village.

9. ALLOTMENTS:

a. The Parish Council has 17 allotments for rental at the Recreation Ground for which the contact is the Clerk.

b. The Clerk has a waiting list of people who wish to rent an allotment.

ACTION:

i. Ensure that the rents are paid by 1 April of each year.

ii. Ensure that the allotments are always kept in a neat and tidy state.

10. FULMER CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

a. Volunteers are very much needed who are prepared to give up a few hours on a Saturday morning every few weeks. This is most valuable work and an opportunity to put something back into the Community.

ACTION:

i. Encourage more volunteers to join the hardworking FCV Team.

ii. The footpaths and bye-ways get overgrown from time to time. Richard Marshall inspects them on a fairly regular basis but walkers are requested to report any problems to him.

11. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

a. Support Fulmer Day, Fulmer Fun Day, Xmas Party and any other Community events.

12. TRANSPORT:

a. There is only very limited public transport through the Village.

ACTION:

i. Because of the ageing population in the village residents are encouraged to offer their assistance with transport, where possible.

ii. Ensure that the bus shelter is maintained in good condition at all times.

13. PINEWOOD:

Following the Government overruling of SBDC's refusal to grant Planning Permission, any further development by incursion of the green belt must be carefully monitored.

14. THE PICKERIDGE:

ACTION

Continue to exert pressure on South Bucks District Council Planning Department to ensure that this site is granted only a development which is acceptable to the residents of the Parish of Fulmer.

15. WATER AND SEWERAGE:

Individual owners are responsible for effective management. Those who are not on Mains Drainage and who either have septic tanks or treatment plants should be fully aware of the need for emptying regularly and/or servicing of such equipment. The Parish Council will take appropriate action for any infringement by owners of their responsibilities in this respect.

16. ARCHIVES:

Fulmer archiving material is held in a section of the BCC building in Aylesbury. If anyone has anything of interest for archiving, please contact Ken Peters.

CONCLUSION:

It is hoped that the foregoing covers all matters of interest and the Parish Council would appreciate the support of any other organisation that works for the well being of the Fulmer Community.

ACTION: The Parish Council will review the Plan annually , update as necessary and determine the priorities.

The Parish Council has a mandate for actions/decisions in its dealings with other agencies and authorities.

JUNE 2016