

FULBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday 14th July 2020 7.00 pm

Venue Zoom video conference meeting

Present: Councillors: Mr P Burns (acting Chairman) PB
Mr R Warner RW
Mr M Taylor MT
Mr M Thompson MTN

Clerk: Mrs K Kekwick (Clerk/RFO)

OCC Councillor Mr N Field-Johnson NFJ

WODC Councillor Mr D Cotterill DC

1 Parishioner was present: Mr Brian Wright

For convenience the following abbreviations may be used in some instances in these minutes.

FPC	Fulbrook Parish Council
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
WODC	West Oxfordshire District Council
OALC	Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils
NALC	National Association of Local Councils
CFO	Communities First Oxfordshire (formerly ORCC, Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council)
CHA	Cottsway Housing Association
TVP	Thames Valley Police

1. Election of Chairman

1.1 PB has asked to hold off on decisions regarding the election of a new Chairman until the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting. He may have other commitments in the near future which would mean he could not take over the role. He will continue for the time being as Acting Chairman.

2. Co-option of new Councillor

PB reported that Mr Scott Williamson had emailed saying that the present situation regarding COVID19 made it impossible for him to devote time to FPC, and so he was unable to commit to being a Councillor. PB thanked him and hoped that perhaps future circumstances would allow Mr Williamson to change his mind.

3. Declaration of Interests

There have been no changes to Councillor's interests, and there were no interests to declare regarding items on the agenda.

4. Minutes of Meeting held 28th May 2020

Minutes to be signed at the first opportunity, when a face-to-face Council Meeting is permitted. **Clerk**

5. Matters Arising

5.1 New Speedwatch initiative: please also refer to Nicholas Field-Johnson's report and related discussion: item 6.1

Need to check the Speedwatch camera against the list of approved devices as supplied by PC Hookham. Clerk to provide details. TVP have stated that they fully support the Speedwatch scheme, but that FPC will need to hold off on any new initiative until after the COVID19 pandemic is over. Question was raised as to the cost of purchasing vehicle activated warning signs. It would make sense to have one at the Burford end of the Village. DC suggested contacting Don Griffin (01993 822811) who had researched the purchase of 2 such signs for Burford. DC thought that a battery-powered version cost in the region of £2300. **PB**

5.2 Playpark inspections are an insurance requirement. However, cannot open the Playpark whilst COVID19 is about since FPC unable to supervise children and social distancing. Meanwhile RoSPA has carried out their inspection and their report should follow shortly. **Clerk/RW**

5.3 It was agreed that the Councillors will clear access around the salt bins previously inspected. They need to be ready in time for WODC to re-supply them, probably in October.

5.4 Payment has been made.

5.5 MT reported that the War Savings Account was set up as a charity for the purchase of a Village Playing field. The income accrued from the capital was to be used for the benefit of the Village. MT suggests transferring the endowment to income; once this has been minuted a form can be obtained from the Charity Commission to allow this money in its entirety to be used for the benefit of Fulbrook Village. **MT**

6. Reports from County and District Councillors

6.1 NF-J reported that there is pressure to convert OCC into a Unitary Council incorporating other County Councils, on the basis that "bigger is better". He is against this as a proposal, as is WODC. The latter provides a good service under difficult circumstances. He will ask for FPC to voice their opinion regarding this when appropriate.

Regarding speed limits through Fulbrook, he confirms that it is improbable that there will ever be a 20 MPH speed limit through the Village. The Village is on a major A Road and does not have the benefits of multiple historic buildings, as is the case in Burford. However, he is pressing for there to be a regular Speed van check once a month.

Finally, NF-J reported that a lot more roads had been repaired during the lockdown, helped by lower traffic levels.

6.2 DC reported that the HGV ban through Burford had been delayed due to the company manufacturing signage only re-opening recently. Currently only temporary signs are being used. An ANPR camera is to be installed and Burford Town Council will identify vehicles and initiate prosecutions via WODC Trading Standards. BTC are looking for a part-time employee to handle this.

Guildenford car park expansion plan has been rejected on the grounds it will affect the bio-diversity of the river and banks. BTC does not own the land and therefore has no control over this aspect.

At present no-one is working in the WODC offices so planning matters are delayed. A question regarding whether it would be possible to return to receiving printed versions of the planning applications; otherwise the small size of PC screens makes it very difficult to visualise plans online.

PB to write to Giles Hughes CEO of WODC and Planning, regarding this problem.

7. Financial Statement

7.1 Figures for May and June agreed.

7.2 Clerk confirmed that the audit has been carried out and signed off by John Yeatman. **Clerk** and **PB** to sign off the physical documents.

8. Spending Review

Suggestion made to use the Fulbrook Newsletter to request ideas from the public.

PB

MT proposed offering financial support to local residents so as to help improve insulation in housing. This would tie in with the Government scheme to subsidise insulation, to provide up to one-third of £5000. A local Charlbury company offers detailed home surveys for £75 and the FPC could make a contribution towards that cost: possibly up to £50 per survey. The Government scheme starts in September. MT to provide further information regarding costs for next meeting.

MT

9. FPC Asset Register

No changes required to existing valuations.

10. Asset of Community Value

The Playpark is leased for another 7 years so need for any action to protect it until the approach of the lease renewal.

11. COVID19

It was noted that local residents had been very appreciative of all the effort put into helping during the pandemic.

12. Planning

Mullions application still under consideration.

13. Village Amenities and Website Update

13.1 As before, MT reported that both the Plant Sale and the Spring Village Clean-up had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. MT to coordinate with Lyn Bibbings in order to arrange direct coordination with residents for the next Village Clean up. **MT**

13.2 Clerk confirmed that Amenities section of the Website had been updated.

14. Dog Poo in Beech Grove

Suggestion made that a note could be placed in the Fulbrook Newsletter. Seemingly the problem relates to one specific area of land, where poo bags are being thrown over a wall. **PB**

15. Climate Change

Please refer to Item 8 Spending Review

16. Gigaclear Update

The fibre cabling has now been finished. Gigaclear congratulated for their prompt response to any issues and a job well done.

17. Recruiting a new Clerk/RFO

Clerk confirmed that she is willing to remain in post until the end of September. PB to place an advert on the Fulbrook Village Facebook page and with OALC. Will also consider a Clerk that carried out such work for several Parishes. **PB**

18. Other Business

18.1 PB to contact Laurence Balbes regarding Burford and District Society representation **PB**

18.2 RW confirmed that the Storage Shed was now at Manor Farm. Need to make sure that there is a working power supply available. Two filing cabinets will be transported there afterwards. **RW**

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 7pm via video conference. Anyone interested in joining the meeting should contact clerk@fulbrookvillage.net

