**FULBROOK PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**A meeting held at St James Meeting Place on Wednesday 18th December 2024, 7.00pm**

**Parish Councillors present:** Cllr Malcolm Allsop, Cllr Richard Marsh, Cllr Pat Barbour, Cllr Chris Rowntree

**Clerk:** Sara Hall

**Present**: Hugo Ashton Nicholas Field Johnson

**Also present (public attendees):** Niel Barbour, Jill Campbell-MacDonald, Victoria Marsh, Pat & Michael Ferrett, Claire Milner, Robin Campbell, Brian Kay, Martin Weller and Elaine Allsop.

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** No apologies received.
2. **Register of Interest Forms and Declaration of Interest:** Noted.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Cllr Allsop approved and signed the final minutes of the Parish Council meeting of18th November 2024.
4. **Public Speaking and Reports.**
   1. Report from West Oxfordshire District Councilor. Hugo Ashton gave an update on the timetable for Local Plan (to be published for consultation end February/early March 2025) and reported on policy towards devolution and proposals for England to come within Mayoral Combined Authorities.
   2. Report from Oxfordshire County Councilor. Nicholas Field Johnson reported an extremely busy and unpleasant period dealing with floods, loss of winter fuel levy for pensioners and changes to inheritance tax for farmers. No progress has been made in relation to Burford bridge and he asked for written support from FPC. **Action**: FPC to write to OCC to express concern about delays to work on Burford Bridge.
   3. **Public Speaking:**

Victoria Marsh asked Hugo Ashton for sight of the counts on the 2nd and 3rd of October 2024 on Burford Bridge.Neil Barbour asked about any recent correspondence regarding aggressive pigs (none). Martin Weller asked about enforcement of 20mph speed limit.

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. The Clerk read out a letter received from owners of Yew Tree Cottage regarding the clearance of land next to their property. Niel Barbour, as Footpath Warden, and Cllr Pat Barbour reported on the impact on the footpath, land behind Yew Tree Cottage and the resulting issues relating to a suspended tree over-hanging the playground. Niel Barbour reported that the clearance of the land and footpath went beyond the notice issued by OCC earlier this year regarding a split willow tree next to the footpath. As heavy machinery was used to clear the land, planners needed to be given prior notice. A CAMs case number has been recorded in respect of the clearance and remedial work to the footpath will be started in Spring 2025. Cllr Allsop has reported the matter to the enforcement team on the advice of Cllr Ashton. Cllr Barbour reported the issue regarding the suspended tree to OCC, the police and WODC but has not received an adequate response. The playground has been closed until the matter is resolved. **Action**: Nicholas Field Johnson asked Cllr Barbour to send correspondence regarding the tree to him to take the matter forward.
   2. Report on visit by Highways Engagement Team: Cllr Allsop reported on visit, in particular the proposals for Superusers to report on state of roads and asked for volunteers. This proposal and the possibility of bollards on the verge in the village to prevent cars parking and obstructing view for drivers will be an agenda item for the next meeting. **Action**: Clerk to add item to next meeting’s agenda.
   3. Defibrillator: Cllr Barbour confirmed defibrillator checks have been recorded on website for benefit of emergency services. New defibrillator pads have been received and training is available. **Action**: Cllr Barbour will investigate setting up a training session for all volunteers.
   4. Electronic Speed Signs: Cllrs noted a continuing concern that cars are overtaking cars driving within the speed limit which is dangerous. The issue of enforcement was discussed. **Action**: Cllr Rowntree will investigate funding for a portable speed sign.
   5. Update on ownership of pillbox. Clerk reported that land is unregistered and that this issue was raised at the Highways Team Meeting. **Action**: Clerk to check with Highways Team.
2. **Financial Matters**
   1. Cllr Marsh reported on precept and the draft budget was unanimously approved by Cllrs.
   2. Cllrs agreed that the war memorial fund will be ring-fenced until charity objects have been reviewed.
   3. Cllr Marsh noted bank balance £13,492.55 as of 3rd November 2024.
   4. TSB bank form will be amended and returned by Cllr Marsh who now has a direct contact at TSB.
3. **Website Update.** Clerk reported that the website is ready to go live subject to payment of invoice.
4. **Village play park update.** Cllr Barbour reported that the Burford Festival Truste

es have kindly donated £1500 for the playground. Cllr Barbour has received two quotes for works in the region of £3,000. Cllrs agreed that these will be reviewed in March/April 2025 as FPC’s spending is reviewed.

1. **Planning Update.** Cllr Allsop reported that WODC has put a holding objection regarding biodiversity in respect of the planning application at High Meadow. The application for two car parking spaces at Star Cottage has been withdrawn.
2. **Correspondence.**
   1. Clerk confirmed none other than those discussed at this meeting.
3. **Future Council Meetings.** Next meeting to be at 7pm St James Meeting Place **Monday 17th February 2025 and thereafter on every third Thursday of every month, ten meetings a year.**
4. **Agenda and items for next meeting.** None.

Published 6th January 2025 Sara Hall Clerk & RFO to the Parish Council clerk@fulbrookvillage.net