

**FULBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

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**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021

7.00pm

**Venue** The Parish Church of St James

**Present:** Councillors Dr Peter Burns (Chairman) PB  
Mr Malcolm Taylor MT  
Mr Robert Warner RW  
Dr Filipa Ferreira FF

OCC Councillor Mr N Field-Johnson

Parish Clerk Mrs Sarah Ebeling

Parishioners attending: Martin Weller

**Apologies:** WODC Councillor Mr D Cotteril  
Mr Mike Thompson MTN

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

FPC	Fulbrook Parish Council
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
POF	Parishioners Open Forum
WODC	West Oxfordshire District Council
OALC	Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils
NALC	National Association of Local Councils
CHA	Cottsway Housing Association
TVP	Thames Valley Police

**1 Parishioners Participation**

Nothing to report.

**2 Declaration of interests**

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

**3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

Minutes of the last meeting were signed by the Chairman.

**4 Amenities**

**4.1 Queens Platinum Jubilee Event**

Martin Weller discussed the event and asked the councillors the following questions.

1. If the event is held under the umbrella of the Parish Council will it be covered by their insurance.  
**Clerk has emailed OALC to confirm**
2. It is hoped that the council will be able to make a donation to the costs of the events.  
**The PC would like to make a donation – the amount has yet to be agreed.**
3. Will the council temporarily cover costs incurred prior to the sale of tickets eg toilet hire.  
**Yes the PC will cover any upfront costs.**
4. Is there a council official able to make a formal risk assessment  
**BW has agreed to carry out the risk assessment**
5. Are there any safeguarding issues eg photography? Who is the councils Safeguarding Officer?  
**The PC don't have a Safeguarding Officer – PB to talk to the Church Wardens about their safeguarding.**
6. Do we have to notify any other agencies eg police, WODC etc..  
**PB to draft an email to PCSO Darryn Moulding.**
7. There will be a at cost pay-bar. We will need a license. Is it taken out by the council or the organisers?  
**MT to apply for the license.**
8. We have hired toilets for previous events. How many do we need and did we have separate male/female units. Can anyone remember where they were hired from?  
**Last time we hired 2 units that were for joint use.**

A discussion was also had regarding setting up a sub-committee of volunteers to help with the planning. **Clerk to send Martin all the councillors email addresses.**

**5 Vacancy on Parish Council**

**5.1 Co-opting of Filipa Ferreira**

Filipa has signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and has been given a copy of the council's code of conduct and a form for the registration of interests which when completed will be sent to WODC for their records.

**6**     **Matters Arising**

## 6.1 Trees in Orchard Row

These trees were last trimmed 10 years ago and a parishioner's from the Rickyard have said that they are now causing problems for them.

**BW to contact Mark Bufton for a quote.**

## 6.2 Trees in Beech Grove opposite Orchard Row

There is an overgrown hedge causing obstruction making the road too narrow and could cause potential problems if left much longer.

**BW to add this to the quote from Mark Bufton**

**PB to write a letter to the house where the hedge is coming from to let them know**

## 6.3 Westhall Hill Pond Clear Out

PB was advised by a parishioner that the pond is very overgrown and in need of a clear out. Normally however this is carried out by the residents of Westhall Hill.

**7**     **Reports from County and District Councillors**

Report from OCC Councillor Mr N Field-Johnson attached to the end of these minutes.

**8**     **Planning**

No current planning applications to discuss

**9**     **Speedwatch**

**PB to review how to download the data and then FF to analyse the data.**

**10**    **Playpark**

Councillors have agreed on which company to use for the playpark upgrade.

**Clerk to email company to arrange some changes to the original plans and get a updated quote.**

**11**    **Financial Statement**

**11.1** Financial statement for July/August agreed at the meeting.

**12**    **Climate Change**

Nothing new to report

**13**    **Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of FPC will take place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7:00pm to be held in the Parish Church of St James the Great.

## **ANNUAL REPORT FROM CLLR NICHOLAS FIELD-JOHNSON**

### **OCC BUDGET 2021/22**

On 9<sup>th</sup> February, OCC approved an annual balanced budget. New investments and high levels of protection for frontline services are the chief features of the budget that Oxfordshire County Council set for 2021/22 and beyond.

A 1.99 per cent rise in basic council tax will take place from April plus an extra one per cent which would be required to be spent on adult social care under national rules, making a total of 2.99%.

The capital programme shows that OCC is investing £1.4 billion into infrastructure across the county that will help with the planned growth to deliver much needed houses especially affordable homes so that residents can look forward to a safe and secure home to live in.

Over the coming decade OCC is investing:

£260 million in schools

£617 million in Major Infrastructure projects

£338 Million in Highways improvements

£70 million in property improvements

£9 million in vehicle and equipment replacements with a focus on our target of being Carbon neutral by 2030. It is an important target for the County Council that highlights our green credentials. OCC has already reduced its carbon emissions by 40% since 2009 as well as achieving recycling rates of almost 60% - the best of any County Council.

An extra £400,000 is proposed for highway maintenance focused on additional resource for vegetation and drainage clearance plus supporting the roll out of a trial currently being undertaken enabling parish councils to implement 20mph schemes in their villages.

### **SAVING OUR WINDRUSH - RIVER TESTING EQUIPMENT NOW IN PLACE.**

I am pleased to report that Burford has now installed its own river testing equipment.

This is due to all those readers who have kindly donated to the Save The Windrush Campaign.

**Windrush Against Sewage Pollution** (“WASP”) will manage the sophisticated testing equipment based in the Burford area, and will be responsible for the continual assessment of the river. This equipment will allow the local community, via WASP, to trace the releases of sewage from storm drains and elsewhere into our river and provide a comprehensive picture of the scale of pollution from what is described as the routine dumping of untreated sewage in some areas. This will include measuring turbidity or murkiness of the river as well as the dissolved oxygen levels, temperature, PH, conductivity and oxidation reduction potential. These are recognised indicators of sewage pollution and as well as giving an overall running health-check, will most importantly measure changes and provide an early alert to pollution incidents to help to track them down to the source.

Thames Water continues to be criticised for its continual dumping of raw sewage into our rivers, especially for the long-term events which, when caused by groundwater infiltration (as many are) are not legally permitted. Now that we have professional testing equipment the Windrush can be monitored and excess discharges identified, effectively ensuring that there is a great deterrent to pollution from any source in place.

### **Ensured HGV ban in Burford was approved.**

After 15 years of stalemate and with the help of the Burford Town Council, one of my first tasks was to ensure that OCC approved and implemented the HGV ban which came into place in October 2020. It is on an initial 18 month trial period which hopefully will become permanent.

HGVs have caused significant damage to buildings and the Victorian underground pipes which meant that action had to be taken. It was also seriously damaging the tourist industry in Burford.

### **Speeding in our Villages – 20mph is plenty campaign.**

Speeding remains a major problem in our villages and I will continue to back the 20mph speed limit in our villages and have provided funding for the 20mph signage in Burford and also supported the campaign and signage for Swinbrook.

### **Supported Burford School safe crossing over the A40.**

I have continued to support and campaign for a safe crossing across the A40 in order to ensure that pupils from Burford School can cross the A40 safely. A new bridge would have been the preferred option but high costs led to the decision to implement a controlled crossing instead.

### **Active user and supporter of Fix My Street and to repair potholes.**

OCC has drafted in more staff to carry out inspections and contractors Skanska are sending out more teams to carry our repairs. An additional Dragon-Patcher is now in action on the road network travelling round on an 'inspect and fix' basis on the rural network. There is also good news in the form of almost £1m in extra funding from the Department for Transport in recognition of damage done to the roads by bad weather. This money will be spent on road patching later this year as that will give longer lasting benefits and better value for money. Defects that make roads hazardous will be dealt with within 24 hours as usual. Remember, if a defect has paint markings around it then it has already been scheduled for repair and does not need a new report. In the past year, OCC's own machine, along with the shared Dragon, has fixed over 21,000 potholes. It is expected that the new one, over the next twelve months, could fill up to 14,000 more.

### **Continue to support local charities through my Priority Fund.**

I support and fund various projects in my Division:

**Carterton:** Supported local bus service and two Food banks to assist residents.

**Brize Norton:** Supported speed limit signage and the Humble Bumble café.

**Burford:** Raised funds for HGV signage and 20 mph signage

**Swinbrook:** Provided funds for 20mph signage and also two CCTV cameras

**Asthall:** Provided funds for village signage.

**Taynton:** Provided funds for village sign.