



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 8pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Fairford Leys Centre, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys**

**Present :** Cllrs Cole (Chairman), Poland-Goodyer, Baughan, James, Walland and Wylde  
K Gray (Clerk to the Council)

1 Member of the Public

The Chairman welcomed our newly co-opted councillor, Nik Wylde to his first meeting.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

To receive and accept apologies for absence notified to the Chairman or Clerk  
RESOLVED: To receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs Harvey (work commitment), Hritcan (Prior commitment), Andrew (work commitment), Blandford (illness), Wadlow (family commitment).

**2. Declarations of Interest**

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest  
To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)  
To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

- No declarations made and no dispensations requested.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Full Council Meeting**

To accept and sign the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 6/7/23 as a true record.  
RESOLVED: To receive, agree and sign the minutes of 6/7/23 as a true record.

**4. Clerk's Report**

To receive a report from the Clerk on matters dealt with and taking forward.  
**Maintenance works** carried out as per work schedule and in line with holiday/sickness absences. Hedge cutting has started as per regulations regarding nesting season (September to March). The Clerk reminded councillors of the regulations we have to adhere to in respect of tree and hedging works otherwise the council could be heavily fined. He also reminded councillors of the policies agreed by both the parish council and Buckinghamshire Council that no healthy trees will be cut down and only necessary maintenance works will take place, usually for health and safety reasons. There is no such thing as a right to light concerning trees. The only right to light may be earned under the Prescriptions Act 1832, by which a person must have enjoyed light to a window in the dwelling for 20 years before the obstruction appeared. Redress must then have been sought in court within 12 months of the light being blocked or the right will be forfeited. If successful then an easement may be granted (that is, the granting of a right over a piece of land as a legal privilege) allowing the free, unimpeded, access to light. Buckinghamshire Council Highways team are responsible for trees and shrubs on the main highways, the parish council is responsible for trees and hedging on land that it owns but there are a number of land areas not yet transferred to the parish council and these belong to Taylor Wimpey Developers as well as some paths/tree areas within Fairford Leys still belonging to Buckinghamshire Council. The Land Registry

clearly shows who owns what areas of land. If residents are concerned about land maintenance then they should contact the Clerk to the Paish Council for advice and correct information in who is responsible for what land areas. Weed clearance continues but there are also heavy restrictions on the use of chemicals and weather conditions allowing weed spraying.

**Brick Column** on community centre colonnade needs repair due to vehicle damage. Council agreed the cost of £4,335.96 and the Clerk will progress the works.

**Small Excavator** is required for riverine and overall maintenance works. It will be used for removing debris from the riverine and maintain the water course which is parish council responsibly for the land areas we own which the riverine flows through. The cost, £20k will come from the initial funding received for taking on the land. Council agreed to the purchase of the equipment and the Clerk will progress the purchase.

**Council Name Badges** have been ordered for Cllrs Harvey, Wylde and Hritcan.

**Street Light** on Hamden Square is broken and the Clerk was asked to raise the matter with Brown & Lee, the land agent for the owners.

**Recycling Bin** was requested, for use by the community centre, by Cllr James. The Clerk will discuss this with the centre manager as there will be a purchase and continued emptying charge.

### *Chairman to suspend Standing Orders to allow questions from the public & any reports*

#### **5. Questions from the Public & Reports**

- **Cllrs Adam Poland-Goodyer & Sarah James (Bucks Ward Councillor's Report)**

Aside from confidential casework, work has been progressing on

**Arcott Way/Keen Close** – Cllr Sarah James has been chasing this. Since the move to Bucks Highways from TFB it is hard to find dates for things that are scheduled to happen

**Aylesbury Garden Town** – Cllr Poland-Goodyer has (again) been chosen by the Southern Parishes (including CPC) to be their representative. This was communicated to AGT in August. We are yet to hear back.

**Community Events** – It has been great to see the Community BBQ being used in earnest at both FITs and MITs. again, another call if there is other equipment people think we need

**Prebendal Farm Street Food Event** – After radio silence from Bucks Council, Cllr Poland-Goodyer suddenly got approval on the 6<sup>th</sup> September (for an event in July '23). We are trying to see if we can pull together an event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September

**Community Garden** – Just needs work scheduling (I believe)

**Oxford Road Resurfacing** – Hopefully the (longer than expected) works did not cause too much disruption over the summer (aware of 4-way light issue), but hope you all agree it was worth Cllr Poland-Goodyer and Cllr James chasing this one relentlessly.

It is worth noting that the Aylesbury Community Board has a new vice-chair in Denise Summers after the stepping down of Cllr Susan Morgan.

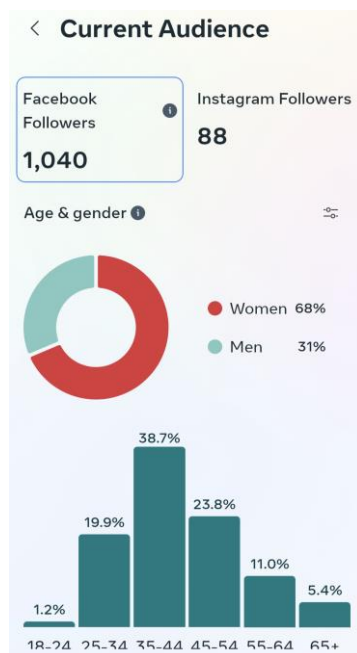
There have been refreshed priorities: Making Aylesbury a great place to live and thrive; we will be working with partners to:

- Support residents to come together and increase community spirit within their local neighbourhood through the delivery of community-based initiatives (this screams to me more community spaces in our redundant parks).
- Provide opportunities for residents to develop new skills.
- Develop a volunteering strategy for Aylesbury.
- Support exploration around the physical and environmental impacts of vaping

- Influence behavioural change to improve road safety around our schools (interesting to note on this point that both the chair and vice chair opposed a motion for 20mph zones outside schools in Bucks in the July full council meeting in a motion proposed by Cllr Poland-Goodyer).
- Supporting Opportunity Bucks priorities identified by Ward Partnerships in Aylesbury North, North-West and South-West.
- **Cllr Baughan** gave an update on the arrangements for the Christmas presents and meal arrangements for children and families in the local schools. Last year over 100 children and their families benefited from Christmas dinners and presents kindly arranged by Cllr Baughan, volunteers and support and donations from local businesses as well as Hs2 community support.
- **Cllr Andrew** send the following information to council on his work related to the council's social media sites.

**Social Media** - we have hit some significant achievements in the past couple of months. We now have over 1000 followers on Facebook and our recently launched Instagram is approaching 100. Whilst Instagram is smaller, it worth mentioning it mirrors our Facebook content, so no real extra effort is required to maintain it, and has a generally younger audience.

Below is the follower number and demographics for Facebook which are quite interesting.



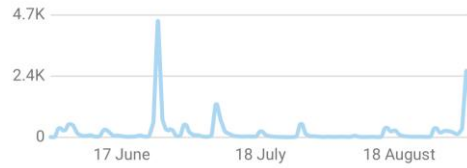
In June one post about Fair in the Square achieved the largest "reach" we have ever seen. That one post was seen by over 6,500 individuals. This was because it was shared onto many popular events and community pages time after time.

"Reach" is the best measurement of success when it comes to social media, as that's why the chart below is very good news. More and more people are interested in what we are posting.

Facebook Reach

**10.5K**

↑ 73.4% over last 95 days



Your Facebook Reach from 1 June 2023 - 3 September 2023 is **73.4% higher** than it was from Feb 26, 2023 - May 31, 2023.

**CPC Website** - Over the summer I have made many small adjustments to the website. I have improved pages, added images, and reworded or updated old text. I have not updated any sensitive or legal pages.

The homepage of our website now contains a feed of our Facebook posts., so even those who are not on Facebook can see those posts.

**Photography Competition** - Since launching the community Photography Competition in May we have had a fairly small number of entries. The quality of entries so far however has been high so picking a winner will be difficult. The competition is still open and is due to close at the end of October. I plan to conduct judging in a brief session before the November Parish meeting, all councillors are welcome to be part of the judging panel.

- **Cllr Cole** thanked all those involved in the successful arrangements for both the Fair in the Square and the Music in the Square events.

**RESOLVED: The Chairman to reconvene meeting under Standing Orders.**

**6. Decisions by the Resources & Personnel Committee and Leisure Committee Meetings**

Council is asked to receive and approve the minutes & decisions of the above Standing Committees, if the committees have met.

- To receive and accept the Resources & Personnel Committee minutes of 6/7/23.
- To note the Leisure Services Committee met this evening at 7pm (minutes to follow)

**7. Riverine Corridor Update**

To receive an update and make such decisions, as necessary.

- (a) the revised plans to be included in the two POS Transfers; It appears that revised plans will not now be required. Both TW's solicitor and Mary Locke (Bucks Council Legal Dept) have carried out further LR SIM's against the plans for Phases 4 and 5 which reveal that there is no land within Title Number BM217598 to be transferred to Buckinghamshire Council and therefore Panel 1 of the Transfer for Phases 4-5 will need to be amended accordingly.

In light of the above, TW, BC and CPC will need the Ernest Cook Trust's solicitor to clarify whether they need to revise their proposed amendments to the Phase 4-5 Transfer. Mary Locke has written to TW's solicitor to establish whether he will contact the Trust's solicitor in this regard.

- (b) a complete copy of the Transfer dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2001 between the Trustees of the Ernest Cook Trust (1) Admiral Homes Ltd., Bryant Homes Southern Ltd, Taywood Homes Ltd and Wimpey Homes (Holdings) Limited. TW's solicitor has confirmed that TW do not hold a complete copy of the Transfer. As ECT's solicitor referred to the 2001 Transfer in their correspondence with TW's solicitor in relation to their amendments to the Phase 4-5 Transfer, Mary Locke has asked TW's solicitor to request ECT's solicitor provides a complete copy of the Transfer.

## 8. Finances and Orders for Payment

To agree and authorise the following orders and retrospective orders for payment:

|                          |                        |                    |      |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------|
| • Charlies Butchers      | Fair in the Square BBQ | £255.00            | 3685 |
| • Sarah Walland          | Reimbursement – FitS   | £296.70            | 3686 |
| • Aylesbury TC           | Propane Gass – FitS    | £48.60             | 3687 |
| • S Webb                 | Reimbursement          | £101.71            | 3688 |
| • Aylesbury Concert Band | Fair in the Square     | £300.00            | 3689 |
| • PA Turney Ltd          | Maintenance            | £249.24            | 3690 |
|                          |                        | ▪ Cheque Destroyed | 3691 |
| • EWAD Ltd               | Fair in the Square     | £11,274.00         | 3692 |
| • PA Turney Ltd          | Maintenance            | £198.00            | 3693 |
| • PPL PRS Ltd            | Music Licenses         | £343.01            | 3694 |
| • PA Turney Ltd          | Maintenance            | £92.15             | 3695 |
| • Paul Carter            | Music in the Square    | £300.00            | 3696 |
| • David Santoro          | Music in the Square    | £250.00            | 3697 |
| • Ashley James Webber    | Music in the Square    | £300.00            | 3698 |
| • P Coombs               | Music in the Square    | £250.00            | 3699 |
| • PA Turney Ltd          | Maintenance            | £454.56            | 3700 |
| • Moonlite Productions   | Music in the Square    | £1,420.00          | 3701 |
| • XYZ Music Academy      | Music in the Square    | £120.00            | 3702 |
| • Charlie's Butchers     | Music in the Square    | £270.00            | 3703 |

To receive, note and agree/accept the Councils Financial statements, income and expenditure report. Emailed to all councillors.

## 9. Parish Burial Provision

The parish council to consider the future provision of burial space for residents of Fairford Leys in relation to the current provision provided by Aylesbury Town Council as the Burial Authority for Aylesbury Town.

To consider writing to Buckinghamshire Council to discuss possible land availability for cemetery purposes for Aylesbury or separately for the parish.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman, in liaison with the Clerk, write to Buckinghamshire Council to request they consider the purchasing/setting aside/S106 development money for future burial provision for both the Town, and Parish Councils surrounding Aylesbury.

## 10. Playgrounds Refurbishment

To receive an update on progress of works, grants, proposals and make any necessary decisions.

Update given by Cllrs Poland-Goodyer and James.

Webbs Meadow Playground refurbishment. The Parish Council has been awarded half the costs for the refurbishment of the playground from the Aylesbury Community Board. The remaining costs will be met by the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to speak to the

maintenance team on when this work could be started – hopefully before the end of this year so the council can claim the Community Board money.

RESOLVED: That Cllr James copies further plans/proposals to all councillors for sign-off at the October meeting of the council.

### **11. Gardenway & Aylesbury Garden Town**

To receive any updates and to make any necessary decisions in relation to parish council engagement and or actions required.

Cllr Poland-Goodyer has been chosen by the Southern Parishes (including CPC) to be their representative. This was communicated a number of times to the AGT officers at Buckinghamshire Council and we still await confirmation. The next scheduled meeting of the Garden Town Oversight Board is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (2pm-4pm).

### **12. Planning Applications**

To receive, comment and to either object, support or oppose the following planning Applications.

To consider late applications presented by the Clerk.

To consider Ernest Cook Trust Permission on all planning applications.

To note and formally agree decision/comments made under delegated authority.

- **23/02534/APP            1 Sandhill Way, Fairford Leys**  
Change of use of land to residential. Demolition of existing brick wall and erection of brick wall and railings.

RESOLVED: Object/Oppose

The parish council has been unable to view any plans for this proposed work and there is no documentation on the Buckinghamshire Council planning website.

Based on the information we have of the property site, we object to the changes as this would negatively affect the street scene and could cause problems with traffic.

The current area was planned to be open space as part of the overall Master Plan for Fairford Leys and in line with designed land areas creating open space look and safe visibility for traffic entering and leaving that part of the development into and from Sandhill Way.

We do not have any measurements of the height of the proposed wall, the design of the proposed railings and the possible impact this will have. There is also a tree on this land area – is this tree to remain?

### **ERNEST COOK TRUST COVENANTS**

**Permission is sought from the following residents regarding their properties:**

- **1 Sandhill Way, Fairford Leys**  
Change of use of land to residential. Demolition of existing brick wall and erection of brick wall and railings.  
RESOLVED: Permission Refused due to lack of information and possible negative impact on the overall design of Fairford Leys as well as the street scene and possible vision problems for traffic.

There being no further business of the Council, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_