

#### COLDHARBOUR PARISH COUNCIL

www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk

Clerk: Mr Keith Gray JP, CiLCA, FSLCC

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Fairford Leys Centre Hampden Square Fairford Leys Buckinghamshire HP19 7HT

# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE PARISH WILL TAKE PLACE ON 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 8pm – Fairford Leys Community Centre

#### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome Cllr Andrew Cole

(Chairman of the Parish Council)

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting To receive and accept the minutes of the

Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th April 2022

3. Annual Report Chairman to present the Council's

Annual Report

4. Councillors / Community Groups To receive any reports from Bucks Council

Members. To receive any reports from

Community Groups / Stakeholders if present.

To receive any questions or proposals

5. The Chairman to close the meeting

Andrew Cole

CLLR A COLE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

#### COLDHARBOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Coldharbour held at 8pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Fairford Leys Centre, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys

**Present & Officiating:** Cllr Andrew Cole (Chairman of the Parish Council)

Mr K Gray, JP (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Parish Councillors: A Poland-Goodyer, S James, S Pattinson, S Walland,

S Wadlow, N Blandford, T Andrew,

**Residents of the Parish:** 3

#### 1. Welcome

Cllr Cole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from parish councillors Mrs C Baughan and Mrs R Harper

#### 3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 1st April 2021

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 Be agreed and signed as a true record.

#### 4. Annual Report of the Parish Council

Chairman to present the Annual Report of the Parish Council. Cllr Andrew Cole gave the following report:

#### **Council's Annual Report 2022**

The last year has continued to be an unusual and challenging one, but we are starting to see things getting back to a more normal way of life. In May we had the elections which had been delayed by 12 months due to the pandemic, this saw the election of our 3 new Buckinghamshire Unitary Council Councillors Steven Lambert, Adam Poland-Goodyer and Sarah James. Both Adam and Sarah are new to their role as a County Councillor but have served for quite some time on our Parish Council and have been highly active within the community so I know they will be making sure our residents' voices are heard at County level.

Considering Adam's additional workload as a unitary councillor, he decided to step back from being Chairman of the Parish Council and I was delighted to be asked again to take on the role of Chairman. As I said at the beginning of this report, we are seeing glimpses of returning to some sort of normality and I was delighted to be able to attend the Parish Remembrance Service with residents and fellow councillors. In December I attended the Mayors Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's Church, we were also able to put on our first community event for nearly two years. Christmas in the Square was a huge success and, although a bit damp, it was nice to see so many residents attending the event to welcome Father Christmas to the village, our singing was a little rusty, but it really started to feel normal again.

At the December meeting of the Council I had the privilege of awarding Steven Lambert as an Honorary Freeman of the Parish. This is the highest honor a Parish Council can bestow and was awarded in recognition of his long service to our community. We also said goodbye to Chloe Lambert (no relation) who has been covering our meetings, as a local newspaper reporter, on behalf of the Bucks Herald for as long as I can remember. She had decided to reduce some of her commitments and I hope she enjoys the rest.

The Parish Council has continued to work on behalf of its residents addressing local concerns and managing the large land areas and responsibilities we have for Fairford Leys. We continue to meet monthly with representatives from HS2 and its contractors EKFB raising concerns over traffic, flooding, environmental and noise. We also had some success preserving a number of ancient oaks which were brought to our attention by residents. Following pressure by both the council and the community we were able to get the compound moved slightly to preserve them.

We have returned to "face to face" meetings and continue to carry out our responsibilities as a Parish Council by being consulted on planning applications, managing the land areas and taking on further land and responsibilities with the riverine land transfers, HS2, our environment as well as concerns raised directly by residents. Looking forward, plans are already in place for the Jubilee celebrations as well as hosting our annual community events through the summer.

I would like to thank Keith Gray, Clerk to the Parish Council, for his continued support and guidance, Andy Barnett, Community Centre Manager and our community centre staff who have continued to keep the centre Covid safe and open as much as possible during those difficult times. Our fabulous, dedicated and committed, maintenance team, Steve Webb, Steve Baughan and Bennie Orlandi, who continue to be complemented on the amazing work they do keeping the village looking great. And lastly to my fellow councillors who willingly give their own time to help make Fairford Leys such a wonderful place to live and work.

Our aim, as always, is to continue to keep Fairford Leys the best it can possibly be, support our residents and local businesses and represent the interests of the Parish as strongly as possible.

It is my privilege to present this report, we continue to meet every first Thursday at the community centre, and we encourage residents to attend and see the work the Parish Council carries out.

Cllr Andrew Cole

**Chairman of Coldharbour Parish Council** 

### 5. Buckinghamshire Council – Ward Councillors Report Aylesbury West - which covers Fairford Leys

We were delighted to have been elected to serve as your local councilors at Buckinghamshire Council, the new unitary authority replacing Buckinghamshire County Council in 2020. Due to Covid, the first elections were held in 2021.

This has been a year of new experiences and rapid learning curves for us as new members of Buckinghamshire Council. There was a very thorough induction, but we are still learning who are the go-to people in order to get things done in our community. Being both a parish and unitary councillor brings benefits to our community as we are rooted here, and it is always at the forefront of our activities. We are bringing to the role between us over 10 years' experience at a parish level.

We have represented the parish at various meetings and civic events throughout the year including the Aylesbury Community board meetings. Cllr James successfully ran a trial project of play streets in Napier Road and organised the funding via the Community Board for a new projector and screen for our 'in the Square' events.

For the community Cllr Poland-Goodyer has facilitated and succeeded in funding a new adult gym for Fairford Leys as part of the playpark's regeneration being led by Cllr Sarah James. Liaised and installed better, new, clearer road signage for Brimmers Way. Been working with the Adept project to sort out the lighting issues in Brimmers Way and bashing heads together to get the land transfer completed of the riverine corridor.

We have got local roads and drains cleared (particularly the roundabout of Coldharbour way and Arncott way) and we should soon have double yellow lines in Arncott Way to prevent dangerous parking. We are in conversation about the state of the footpaths on Brimmers Way and in liaison with the Ernest Cook Trust, HS2 and Aylesbury Town Council to mitigate against the HS2 works and gain whatever benefits we can for our community.

We are continually chasing HS2 for information on the changes to our riverine corridors due to HS2 working in Wendover. We are also meeting with representatives of the River Thame Conservation trust to understand the watercourses across Fairford Leys better. We have been chasing HS2 up on their continued works on the Oxford Road and in March Cllr Adam Poland-Goodyer (in his role as shadow TECC cabinet member) managed to get HS2 to publicly commit to building an over bridge on the Oxford Road this year.

Cllr Sarah James has been assisting residents with unsuitable housing conditions and access to Covid recovery grants as well as questioning the head of Buckinghamshire's Children's Services on the result of their latest Ofsted report.

After a question at a full council meeting, we managed to organise a meeting between the cabinet member for Children's Services, the head of Children's services and ourselves, and the chairman of Coldharbour Parish Council about the running of the Children's homes in Fairford Leys by Benjamin UK. We raised our concerns and voiced experiences of residents. The cabinet member was visibly shocked at what residents have had to endure due to the poor management of these homes.

We helped in the design and consultation phase of the new Emerald Way restructuring and alignment creating a traffic-free, safer route for residents to cycle or walk into Aylesbury Town centre or to Waddesdon Manor via the Greenway. With HS2 causing more chaos in the years ahead, this might be a useful route to have.

We will continue to represent our ward of Aylesbury West and the residents of Fairford Leys at all future meetings of Buckinghamshire Council and we will continue to unequivocally support Coldharbour Parish Council and its Chairman. If you need help, have a query or a question. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### Cllr Adam Poland-Goodyer & Cllr Sarah James

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No questions were asked and no proposals made to the Parish Council.

#### 7. The Chairman to close the meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.16pm

Signed:	Date:
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