



"Making Life Better"

COLDHARBOUR PARISH COUNCIL

www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held at 8pm on Thursday 7th March, 2019 in the Fairford Leys Centre, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys

Present: Cllrs Poland (Chairman), Pattinson, Lambert, Cole, Baughan, James, Jarvis, Bradford and Wadlow
K Gray (Clerk to the Council).

No Residents in attendance

C Lambert (Bucks Herald)

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and accept apologies for absence notified to the Chairman or Clerk

RESOLVED: To receive and accept apologies from Cllrs Searle (pPrior commitment) and David (work commitment) for non attendance.

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

- Cllr Mrs Jarvis declared an interest in planning application 19/00775/APP as she is a neighbour of this applicant.
- There were no dispensation requests.

3. Minutes of the Previous Full Council Meeting 7/2/19

RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes of 7/2/19 as a true record.

4. Clerk's Report

To receive a report from the Clerk on matters dealt with and taking forward.

- Tranche 1 Land Transfer is finalised, and the solicitor will register the land with the Land Registry. We await first payment from AVDC.
- First grass cut has taken place on Fairford Leys along with a lot of maintenance works on the trees and hedges and clearance near the wooden bridges. This work will continue across the whole riverine areas to ensure good management of the woodland areas.
- We have received delivery of a new truck and ride on mower as part of our leasing agreement.

RESOLVED: *Chairman to suspend Standing Orders to allow questions from the public and any reports from councillors*

5. Questions from the Public & Reports

- Cllr James reported that the street sign on Warbler Close was broken and needed replacing. It was decided, due to lack of interest, that the Family Quiz would be

cancelled. The Community Litter Pick will go ahead as planned and councillors agreed a suggestion for the Leisure Committee to explore setting up a Youth Consultation Group with regards to possible future youth activities/events on Fairford Leys.

- Cllr Jarvis reported the concerns of residents in respect of the problems with parking on Arcott Way, Nuffield Gym car-park and the main car-park as well as parking in general across the whole of Fairford Leys. General discussion took place and councillors were concerned to hear that some residents who live in flats are not paying service charges for their parking spaces and therefore parking on the streets and in the gym car-park – which is causing problems for Nuffield Gym. There is also a great deal of concern due to residents not parking properly and not using their own parking spaces within their property boundaries and causing anti-social behaviour affecting neighbours. Discussion took place on possible enforcement and what the parish council could do, if anything, to address these matters. Cllr Bradford, parish/police liaison councillor, will raise the matter with local PCSO's and the police neighbourhood team.
- Cllr Cole reported that all the arrangements for Music in the Square 2019 were completed and we all look forward to another successful event.
- Cllr Poland thanked the Clerk, Cllrs Lambert and Cole for the work carried out in sorting out the tranche 1 land transfer. He also expressed appreciation to the parish council maintenance team for the continued work they are doing across the parish. He also thanked Cllr Cole for the work he has done in arranging the Music in the Square 2019 event.
- Cllr Lambert (Bucks County Councillor) gave the following report:

Bollards Replacement at Fowler Road/ Fairford Leys Way: After several failed attempts and a further change in supplier the new bollards into Fowler Road at Fairford Leys Way are now working.

I am acutely aware of the impact of this long ongoing saga and the difficulty that the inconsistency of bollard use and availability that has caused for our community. After four years of trying to get them fixed, the continuous failure again was both embarrassing and annoying. I have been assured by the cabinet member that a revised warranty and a maintenance contract is now in place to keep them fully operational. The bollards are operational between 7am and 7pm Monday to Saturday with access to bus traffic and emergency vehicles only.

Unitary Council: Work on this important re-organisation of local government, which will abolish the District and County Councils creating a single 'Buckinghamshire Council', has been moving at a pace slower than a snail because of the unwillingness by the District Councils to attend meetings, agree work plans - and in the case of three of the Districts in the south of the county, take out a Judicial Review.

As a member of both the County and District council I am frankly ashamed and appalled that Buckinghamshire tax payer's money is being squandered on a judicial review as all councils will have to pay for legal advice to respond to the Judicial Review – which is not about the decision, but about who will lead the transition authority. The bill for barristers and court costs will go into the tens of thousands of pounds, which is money that could be spent on front line services like social workers, roads and public health.

Nonetheless, a new council will come into being in April 2020 as the Structural Changes Order, which details how the change to the new council will take place and the set-up of the new council has now gone through its committee stages in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and came into force on Friday 22 February.

These Regulations make a change to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act which paves the way for the Structural Changes Order which, if approved by Parliament, will set out the detail of how the change will be implemented and details about the new council and will implement the proposal for a new single unitary council in Buckinghamshire. You can find out more about the business case, the plans and costings at:

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/council-and-democracy/our-plans/unitary/>

Public Consultations: There are two important public consultations going on that impact on the well-being of our residents, including the most vulnerable., **The future of Thrift Farm and Residential Short Breaks** consultations which I am currently working on as chairman of a Task and Finish group of County councillors, is looking at the future provision and funding of short breaks for frail adults, vulnerable children and their carers – and the closure for a year of the Aylesbury Opportunities Centre in Briskman Way (just off the A418 Oxford Rd and Ellen Road. Have your say at: <https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgconsultationlistdisplay.aspx?bcr=1>

Changes to ‘The Tip’ (Household Recycling Centres including Rabans Lane):

The County Council cabinet are making made reductions to the opening times of the Rabans Lane Tip from 1st April 2019 and are introducing charges for certain items taken there by residents. The Rabans Lane ‘dump’ will no longer be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays, though the Aston Clinton site will remain open 7 days a week. From 1 April 2019 residents will also be charged for disposing of non-household waste items such as, bags of rubble, kitchen units, fence panels etc. Before unloading your waste, you will have to see a member of site staff who will work out how much you need to pay. Payments will be accepted via credit, debit, or pre-paid payment card only. Cash payments will not be accepted. Details of the charges and opening times can be found here:

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/waste-and-recycling/changes-to-buckinghamshire-recycling-centres/charges-for-non-household-waste/>

County Council Budget:

The last and 130th budget for Bucks County Council was set in February. As a member of the Budget Scrutiny panel over the past six years, I have had the ability to do a line by line review of the full council budget and make recommendations – some of which have been accepted and implemented. While I may not agree with all the proposals for the budget, I am assured that the budget as proposed will be sufficient to see the council into its abolition and the creation of a new council in 2020, when Council services and Council Tax will become ‘harmonised’ across the whole county.

The council’s budget of £356.3 million and capital spending of £86m will see a Council Tax rise of 2.99%, the equivalent of 71p a week extra for an average band D property. Details of the Budget proposals and my budget speech can be found here:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=107&MIId=12196&Ver=4>

The main items of note are:

- Putting an extra £1 Million into reserves to build up the council reserve to £30 Million. This equates to around 8% of the Council annual operating cost.
- Axing one Household Recycling site in Bourne End and reducing the hours at Aylesbury, Rabans Lane, by two whole days (it will close on Wednesday and Thursday each week).

- Extra money from government grant re-profiling on roads, in effect an extra £4M, while at the same time cutting the county councillor local budget scheme from £10,000 to £4000 reducing the small works schemes, we can pay for in our divisions. Children's Services and Adult Social Care, while within budget had to have cash injections of £10M and £2M respectively in order to bring them into balance in the 2018/19 year and so had an extra cash injection this coming year.

New Aylesbury Library: Aylesbury Library has now re-opened in Walton Street, central Aylesbury, after a significant refurbishment.

The building has been completely remodelled into a modern and welcoming space with lots of new features including:

- A colourful, inviting new children's space with sensory wall and 'bubble tubes'
- Better computing facilities with more power points for customers using their own devices
- New self-service technology – so customers can borrow and return books really quickly and easily
- Refurbished toilets and a new baby-care area
- A dementia-friendly layout
- A new exhibition area and a new 'well-being' zone
- Two new meeting rooms
- Lots of new books and longer opening hours!

Some of the new facilities and services on offer at Aylesbury Library are: **Hublets** which are android tablets to use in the library for an hour with your library card, to surf the web. There are also new meeting rooms available to book and come in two sizes to accommodate groups from 4 – 16 people with separate rates for community or commercial organisations from £10 per hour as well as a gallery space for hire which can be used by local schools or artists to advertise their work.

For adults there are course, such as a comprehensive 5-week basic computer course called 'Learn my Way', a knitting group called 'Knit n Natter' which meets once a fortnight on a Friday from 11:00am, and a Business Drop- in session once a month on the second Wednesday from 11:00am – 1:00pm

There is also a newly refurbished dedicated VIP computer terminal for the visually impaired and are offering specialist advice for people wanting to use smartphones and tablets with visual impairment.

Home to School Transport (Travel Assistance) changes: The County Council's Cabinet has agreed a series of changes to the way the county's home to school transport service operates. I was a member of a working group which, over the past year, has been looking at the Travel Assistance schemes, reviewing the public consultation responses and developing the proposals. Never an easy policy topic to cover, but each aspect was carefully considered in the light of significant financial pressures to the service and the changes to legislation and transport services in the County. The main changes are as follows:

How we provide school transport – Many school and public bus services currently duplicate routes. Starting from September 2019 these will be reduced by working with service providers to make routes more efficient and offer children and young people more flexibility in their travel options. Children's safety is prioritised in any arrangements; and children will be assured of places on any public routes.

Phasing out two historic local transport arrangements - in Ivinghoe [relating to Cottesloe School and Tring School] and Evreham [relating to Chalfont Community College]. Parents in these two areas who choose a school which is not the nearest appropriate one for their child, will be required to pay for transport. This brings these arrangements in line with the rest of the County meaning fair and consistent transport charges are applied to families. This will take effect from September 2020.

Charging for transport for pupils with SEND aged over 16 – A contribution to the cost of home to school transport for children with SEND (who are older than 16) will be introduced from September 2019. This will replace the free transport offer currently in place. Students with SEND who attend college can apply for a bursary to assist with travel costs. Eligible children with SEND aged between 14 and 19 years old will be offered an increase in provision of independent travel training, which we expect will enable us to reduce transport costs. Some of these changes will take effect at the start of the next academic year, in September 2019, while others are expected to be phased in over the next few years. There will be no change to arrangements for more than 5,000 pupils who are eligible for free travel. The revisions only apply to children and young people who are not eligible for free statutory home to school transport.

More details can be found at:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=11076>

Early Help (Childrens Centres) – decision made: The future of family support and children’s centres across the County has now been made. As a member of a County Council working group into the proposals, I was involved at every stage of the development and research of the proposals, following a ‘call in’ of a previous decision to close all Children’s Centres in the County. The new service will be called the **Family Support Service** as the term ‘early help’ did not describe the service well enough.

The new service will have three family support area teams that will work with other organisations, particularly schools and health, to improve access to services and provide more joined-up services. Key elements include:

A named key worker for each family who will create a team around the family to help them tackle the issues they face so they tell their story only once.

Investment in the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service website to ensure there is effective promotion of community activities together with information and guidance for families.

Open access to stay and play sessions for babies and toddlers at family centres.

Each school to have a named link family support worker to co-ordinate family support. Throughout the consultation it was clear that local residents wanted to see family centres remain across the County. As a result, the Cabinet approved a plan that will see 16 family centres – which was 2 more than the revised proposal and 16 more than was in the original proposal!

The new Family Support Service will launch in September 2019, and prior to this, services will continue to be delivered as they are. [Details of the new service can be found here:](https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/documents/s130406/Report%20for%20Early%20Help%20Review.pdf)

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As ever if there is anything, I can help residents with at both the County and District Council, do please get in touch at slambert@buckscc.gov.uk

RESOLVED: Chairman to reconvene meeting the 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. Minutes of the committees have been copied to all councillors.

- All minutes copied to councillors.

7. Finances and Orders for Payment

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

• Aylesbury Town Council	Flowers	£80.00	3020
• Lamps & Tubes	Bulbs	£50.40	3021
• PPL PRS Ltd	Licence	£1.85	3022
• Buildbase	Maintenance	£55.52	3023
• BHIB	Council Vehicle Insurance	£1,707.01	3024
• HMRC	Contributions	£2,603.24	3026
• Horwood & James	Land Transfer	£557.40	3027

RESOLVED: To receive, note and agree/accept the Councils Financial statements, income and expenditure report. Emailed to all councillors. Bank/Cash/Investment to 30/1/19 Report.

8. 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

- **19/00859/APP**

16 Webbs Meadow

Removal of conservatory and erection of a two-storey extension.

RESOLVED: No Objection as long as the size of the proposed build is not in contravention of the planning regulations on overdevelopment and does not a negatively affect neighbouring properties.

- **19/00814/APP**

15 Swallow Lane

Installation of railings to front and side of property.

RESOLVED: No Objections

Cllr Jarvis left the Council Chamber at this point

- **19/00775/APP**

2 Cavendish Way

Single storey side extension

RESOLVED: No Objection

Cllr Jarvis returned to the Council Chamber at this point

ERNEST COOK TRUST COVENANTS

Permission is sought from the following residents regarding their properties:

- **3 Lodge Path** **Amended plans for loft conversion.**
`Previous plan approved by parish council.
Changes are for 2 flat roof windows at front of property. Similar ones already exist on Fairford Leys.
RESOLVED: Permission Granted

- **34 Horton Close** **Single storey rear extension**
RESOLVED: Permission Granted

- **19/00859/APP** **16 Webbs Meadow**
Removal of conservatory and erection of a two-storey extension.
RESOLVED: Permission Granted
As long as planning permission is granted by AVDC otherwise ECT Covenant permission will be refused. The size of the proposed build must not be in contravention of the planning regulations on overdevelopment and does not a negatively affect neighbouring properties.

- **19/00814/APP** **15 Swallow Lane**
Installation of railings to front and side of property.
RESOLVED: Permission Granted

Cllr Jarvis left the Council Chamber at this point

- **19/00775/APP** **2 Cavendish Way**
Single storey side extension
RESOLVED: Permission Granted

Cllr Jarvis returned to the Council Chamber at this point

There being no further business of the Council, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____