



"Making Life Better"

## **COLDHARBOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 8pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Fairford Leys Community Centre, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys**

**Present:** Cllrs Cole (Chairman), Andrew, Poland-Goodyer, Blandford, Harvey,  
Hritcan, James, Walland, Wylde, Wadlow.  
K Gray (Clerk to the Council)

No members of the public in attendance.

### **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 Cllr C Baughan (prior 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.

- The Clerk granted a dispensation to all councillors, to cover the following discussions over a period of time for the setting of the budget and precept for 2024/2025.

### **3. Minutes of the Previous Full Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**RESOLVED:** To accept and sign the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 7/9/23 as a true record.

### **4. Clerk's Report**

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

The clerk reported on the current riverine corridor maintenance works which will continue over the next few months, including the felling of unhealthy trees, clearing of bush, hedging and brambles and opening up, in places, the riverine corridor. Land management is required so as to protect and ensure the various trees and planting are managed correctly as well as our responsibilities as a riparian landowner. Some temporary staff will be required to carry out this initial work to enable the land area to be easily managed for the future.

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

## 5. Questions from the Public , Councillors & Reports received:

- Cllr Wadlow asked for an update on the Thames Water, Hs2 and EKFB works on the A418 as it was affecting residents and travelling times. He asked if the proposed changes to the pedestrian routes to the Bugle Horn Ph would be affected in the future, as he hoped that people would still be able to walk to the Bugle Horn from Fairford Leys. This question will be asked at the next parish council representation meeting.
- Cllr Andrew gave an update on the photography competition and asked councillors to judge the photographs. The website is running well and some changes to the website content will be discussed with the Clerk.
- Cllr James and Cllr Poland-Goodyer (Bucks Council Ward Members for the parish) gave the following Bucks Council October Report:  
Aside from confidential casework, work has been progressing on:  
**Arncoff Way/Keen Close Double Yellow Lines** – 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 and this is still being chased.  
**Aylesbury Garden Town** – Cllr Poland-Goodyer has been formally notified of his appointment to the AGT strategic board (after much appreciated progress chasing by the Clerk).  
**Prebendal Farm Street Food Event** – We were unable to proceed this event in the timeline we had available so it is now planned for next May half term.  
**Community Garden** – Just needs work scheduling with the parish maintenance team.  
**Oxford Road Yellow Markings and Safety Cameras** – Oxford Road is under consultation currently for a yellow box junction at the traffic lights by Fowler Road and bus lane cameras.  
**Democratic Process Concerns** - There is also some dissatisfaction about how ‘democratic’ Buckinghamshire Council is. The Chairman is only allowing 2 questions per cabinet member. Out of 147 cllrs, you have a 1.4% chance of asking a question (if all cllrs wanted to ask a cabinet member a question). It is also worth noting that there has been a recruitment freeze at Buckinghamshire Council as they are frantically trying to balance the budget before the next precept setting (and currently already borrowing £10 million from reserves to balance this year’s budget). A good example of this is for the first time Bucks Council are charging for wreaths laid on behalf of Bucks Council by members at remembrance events.  
We wait to see what the cancellation of HS2 has on us locally as there has been nothing prior to the announcement yesterday that came through in way of advance notice (much to Devolved Mayors annoyance).
- Cllr Blandford reported that he would be contacting the maintenance team to arrange a time and place for the proposed additional tree planting and to remove some of the dead trees. He spoke about possible plans for the lower wooden railings and suggested some environmental proposals to encourage and support wildlife. Cllr Harvey is currently preparing a council briefing paper for a specific proposal to be considered.

- Cllr Harvey asked for any details on traffic monitoring that had taken place on Coldharbour Way and wondered if it was in connection with the plans for additional development which the council had been made aware of.
- Cllr Cole reported on the recent Hs2 and EKFB representative meeting with the council.

***RESOLVED: Chairman reconvened 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.  
No additional minutes but the committee had met this evening prior to this meeting.
- To receive and accept the Leisure Services Committee minutes of 7/9/23  
Issued to Councillors and received and accepted.  
To note the committee had met on 5<sup>th</sup> October and minutes to be issued.

**7. Riverine Corridor Update**

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

The clerk gave an update which is he progressing with the Bucks Council Legal Team, Ernest Cook Trust, Developers and Parish Council solicitor.

**8. Finances and Orders for Payment**

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

• Briants of Risborough	Maintenance	£853.14	3705
• PA Turney Ltd	Maintenance	£996.96	3706
• KM Commercials	Maintenance	£838.80	3707
• Fairford Leys Centre	Cross-charge payt's	£3,448.30	3708
• Cloud Next Ltd	Website Domain	£132.00	3709
• Cllr A Cole	Allowance	£360.00	3710
• Cllr A Poland-Goodyer	Allowance	£240.00	3711
• Cllr S James	Allowance	£180.00	3712
• Cllr S Wadlow	Allowance	£300.00	3713
• PA Turney	Maintenance	£573.20	3714
• PFK Littlejohn LLB	External Audit	£1,008.00	3715

RESOLVED: To receive, note and agree/accept the Councils Financial statements as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023, income and expenditure report. Emailed to all councillors.

RESOLVED: To agree a payment of £15,000 to the Fairford Leys Centre for past cross-charges in relation to utilities and associated maintenance costs. Council agreed this amount is to be paid from the ear-marked initial riverine land transfer maintenance payment shown in the council's accounts as EMR Riverine 321.

• **8(a) AGAR - External Audit 2022/2023**

**RESOLVED:** To receive, note and accept the External Audit Report (AGAR) Section 3 with comments from PKF Littlejohn. There were no matters of concern and the AGAR was signed by the external auditors.

**9. Playgrounds Refurbishment**

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

Update from Cllr James and Cllr Poland-Goodyer included information on the Community Board grant as well as a discussion to be had with the maintenance team manager about a suitable date to start the agreed works. There is also funding arranged from Hs2 for playground refurbishment.

**10. Gardenway & Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT)**

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

It has been confirmed that Cllr Poland-Goodyer is the representative of the Southern Parishes at the AGT Steering Board.

**11. Christmas in the Square Arrangements**

To receive an update from the Leisure Services Committee on the arrangements for CitS. To agree numbers of councillors required.

An update was given on the arrangements for this event. Councillors were asked to consider their availability to assist at this event.

**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.

- No applications received

**ERNEST COOK TRUST COVENANTS**

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

- No requested received

There being no further business of the Council, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

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