

**Fencott & Murcott Parish Council**  
**DRAFT Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**7.30 pm Murcott Village Hall**

**Present**

J Lewis, N Wyke, L Mcfarlane, L Bustin (Parish Clerk)

3 MOP, Cllr Callum Miller, Paul Mann Resilience Officer from Oxfordshire Emergency Planning Team

**1. Welcome**

**2. Apologies for absence**

Tim Brown

**3. Declarations of interest**

None

**4. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting**

**5. Meeting Adjourned:**

Opportunity for members of public to propose matters for PC consideration:

**Meeting Reconvened:**

**6. County Councillor Update**

Cllr Miller updated the PC on county budget matters, including childrens services action plan, overhauling the senco system. Schemes for low income residents who may be concerned about bills. Large items waste charges to be dropped for domestic items – hope to prevent fly tipping. Reminder to use fix my street for fly tipping. Promotion of councils charter, for councils to work together.

**7. Chair's announcements**

**8. Finance & Governance**

Review of finance report and agree invoices to pay per attached schedule.

Precept Budget reviewed and discussed, estimated budget for the village hall outside area, playground estimates. Noted that volunteers will be needed for the once a year tidy up exercise.

Annual budget of £10,600 proposed and agreed.

Discussion concerning the unknown element of precept due to extra assets, demonstrate to community intentions and management.

**9. Parish Business**

Alices Meadow – sign requested by MOP, discssion about rewilding, bench/gate for vehicle and pedestrians/sign installation. Clerk to access environmental grants. Hedge laying quote needed still. Sheep grazing option, potential wildflower planting.

20 MPH Zones – Cllrs reviewed the proposed placing of reminder signs through the village and amended locations

Flooding – Paul Mann spoke to PC about his role as Resilience Officer, based at Bicester, working within fire & rescue and the emergency planning team for OCC/CDC.

Local flooding had been extreme in January, residents felt it had been the worst.

Advised to sign up for flood warning emails, flood alerts in flood zones for Ray and Cherwell.

What worked / what didn't, use the emergency plan, find local support and link agencies together. Access local knowledge and local risks specific to this area (Otmoor Basin).

Use the community building as an emergency hub, have contacts. Identity vulnerable residents in the community.

The PC can have storage for sandbags, and can request more each year, there should be funding available for this through SSEN community resilience fund. Consider emergency response kit.

Contaminated sandbags – householders to dispose of.

Advised to send internal pictures of flooding to Paul.

Discussion about riparian ownership and responsibilities, the EA do not dredge waterways, Otmoor basin is saturated.

Road closures and associated signage allowed.

Discussion about sluice gates, the weir at Islip kept at low level to keep Ray wet in summer. It can't rise up as water goes backwards Cherwell to Ray. Arncott gauge queried.

Ditching work – Oddington Burge – OCC have done some work on this area.

Suggestion for a flood evening talk for parishioners, with as many representatives as possible. Cllr Miller to investigate.

## 10. Planning

### New

23/03461/F Land to rear and adjacent Woodbine Cottage, Street through Murcott  
Demolition of existing site structures and erection of new dwelling with detached garage – PC agreed to respond with comment

24/00022/F Brook Court, Fencott  
Extension/part conversion of existing study to form annex with associated internal/external works (revised scheme) – PC agreed to respond NO COMMENT

23/03404/F Village Farm, Blackbull Lane, Fencott  
Proposed single storey front, rear, and extensions and carport with associated internal/external works – PC agreed to respond NO COMMENT

Telecom mast upgrade at Newgate Farm, Fencott – new headframe and replacement of 3 antenna with 6 new dishes and ancillary works – PC agreed to respond NO OBJECTIONS

**Awaiting Decision - none**

### Decisions

23/02292/F Change of use from field to menage PERMITTED with conditions

11. Correspondence - none

12. Chair – items not covered by the agenda, to include at next meeting

13. Agree date of next meeting

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_