

Fencott & Murcott Parish Council
Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 5th December 2022
7.30 pm Charlton on Otmoor Community Hall

Present

J Lewis, L Macfarlane, N Wyke, L Bustin (Parish Clerk)
3 x village hall committee members
Cllr Calum Miller

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.

Report from Councillor Calum Miller

Update on help available with Cost of Living crisis

Discussion around county funds – significant gap in SEN funding, adult social care demand has increased dramatically due to an increase in under 65 year olds requiring care, youth services has been reinstated.

Acknowledged issues in works to local infrastructure, roads before house/houses before roads.

Acknowledged bus industry chaos due to limitations of private bus operators, limited funds.

The Local Plan is currently under review, and will include protection for villages from speculative development.

Cherwell DC does not currently have a 5 year supply of houses.

There was a successful flood forum in the summer, attended by TB, a follow up meeting is planned – with all agencies involved again.

6. Chair's announcements

Member of public has notified council that swallow nests in the bus shelter have made a mess. Clerk to arrange installation of shelves under nests to catch the mess.

7. Finance & Governance

Review of finance report and agree invoices to pay: Village Hall Hire, Clerk wages, SLCC membership, Navitas
Cheque to transfer funds from Barclays to Unity

Review request from village hall for funding:

Village Hall Committee members attended the meeting and requested a regular sustainable payment from the parish council. S137 funding was quoted by the committee, however it should be noted that should this funding be used there is a cap of £8.82 per elector in total for the year (circa £1700 in this parish). There was a discussion of running costs, advertising, results of their survey. Questions were asked about future repairs/capital expenditure, expanding advertising, the need for clarification on the water and electric bills. Income was derived from hall hire –

regular bookings such as the dog training, weekend bookings such as children's parties, and community events. The hall was not widely advertised outside of the parish.

The council requested a budget from the village hall in order to see what the current and future year finances looked like.

Agree Precept for 2023-2024 financial year: this was carried forward to the next meeting

8. Parish Business

Alices Meadow

Parish council voted to follow a rewilding plan for the field, with a management plan to be drawn up. Clerk to contact local contractor to cut the hedges before the end of February. Information sign to be sourced with the history and management of the site. Councillors mentioned people they knew who might be able to help with a rewilding plan, creating a wildflower meadow, or possible access to grants.

Rights of Way

Pigeonhouse lane footpath does not appear to join up to the rest of the local footpaths.

Footpath with new route may not be cleared

Clerk to contact RoW officer about both matters.

Correspondence

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

10. Agree date of next meeting

9th January agreed in order to give the VHC and the parish council time to produce budgets for review before finalising a response to the funding request.

The meeting ended at pm

Signed by Chairman _____