



Figheldean Parish Council

(Draft until signed at next meeting)

Minutes of meeting 15th July 2024 at Village Hall @7.30 pm

Present

Cllr Tina Cole	Chair
Cllr Darrell Amison	
Cllr Angela Briggs	
Cllr Katy Sturgess	
Cllr Ian Blair- Pilling (WC)	
Rachel Ure	Clerk

In attendance: Simon Briggs, PC Nick Gray

Public Question Time

Simon Briggs, Emergency Co-ordinator, attended the meeting to provide an update on the Resilience Plan for Figheldean.

Simon issued copies of the current Resilience Plan document which has been revised compared to the original document, once finalised it will be made accessible to parishioners. A Plan on a Page version will be created as well.

The key purpose of the plan is to carry out tasks that Wiltshire Council wouldn't be able to, in order to improve conditions within our Parish. The plan is not about replacing tax payers activity in the community.

The Village Hall and Working Men's Club have been identified as Community Hubs, in the event of an emergency. Any required resources will be requested. Some of the existing grit bins within the Parish will be reallocated to more suitable locations.

Simon is in liaison with Insurance companies with regards to putting the required third party liability insurance in place. This insurance will cover a group of named individuals. Responsibilities for the team will need to be confirmed by the Parish Council.

Next Steps:

- Simon to meet with the list of volunteers (currently 12, expected to rise to 18) to talk through potential scenarios and the actions that would be taken.
- Simon to provide the Parish Clerk with an electronic copy of the spot map.
- Simon to send the Parish Clerk a list of activities that need to take place in order to establish the plan. The next key activity is to meet up with Wiltshire resilience team re the community hubs and get the required resources in place.
- Grit bins to be relocated and topped up.
- Responsibilities and delegations to be agreed by the Parish Council. Cllr Amison to continue to work with Simon with regards to clarifying the criteria that would instigate any action by the Resilience Team and the associated approval process for those actions.
- Cllr Cole to liaise with the farming community to see if they would be prepared to support resilience actions in the future, particularly if the use of any large machinery is required i.e. for moving a fallen tree.



- Cllr Amison to work with Simon with regards to obtaining a suitable insurance policy. Simon to request quotes.

Cllr Cole thanked Simon for all his work on this plan. It is aimed to have the final actions in place before the winter season. Cllr Cole confirmed that she is content for this activity to proceed so long as all authority for any actions are provided by the Parish Council.

PC Nick Gray

PC Nick Gray is the new Neighbourhood Policing Officer for Figheldean and also covers Bulford, Durrington and Larkhill.

Within Figheldean the focus remains the Mill Pool and Gunville with particular regard to any anti-social behaviour. Patrols of these areas will continue during the sunny weather. The possibility of adding additional signage to advice of no swimming at the Mill Pool as discussed.

The Parish Clerk provided a summary of the parking concerns that are being experienced outside of Brambles. PC Gray confirmed that he and our PCSO will attend site visits to observe and advise.

PC Gray also suggested that Figheldean consider introducing a Community Speedwatch initiative to the Parish. PC Gray will contact the Speedwatch team to see if they are able to assist in this area. Figheldean could also consider if there would be any volunteers willing to be trained in this regard.

There are no other issues for the Parish to be concerned about.

The Parish Council commended PC Gray for his proactive and responsive approach in the short time he has been our Neighbourhood Policing Officer.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1	Apologies Cllr Nick Tissot	
2	Declaration of Interests Nil	
3	Appointment of New Councillor A warm welcome was extended to Cllr Katy Sturgess, unanimously agreed.	
4	Minutes of the meeting: 13th May 2024 These were agreed as a true reflection of discussion and signed by the Chair.	
5	Matters arising / Outstanding Actions Resilience Plan Update – provided under Public Question Time. Speed Reduction Update. A summary of the ongoing Highways projects was provided within the Clerks report. These are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed Limit Assessment – complete • Traffic Regulation Order – progressing • Speed Limit Changes – progressing • A345 signage – partially complete 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brambles signage – site visit requested • Road re-surfacing – planned for 2024/25 and 2025/26 • Bus Stop (uneven road surface) - maintenance team due to carry out an inspection • Double Yellow Lines - progressing <p>Action: Cllr Cole to contact the Care Company regarding the introduction of double yellow lines outside of The Retreat. Note that it is a standard requirement for double yellow lines to be in place opposite a junction.</p> <p>Councillor Code of Conduct. An updated code of conduct for Councillors was issued. This document was fully approved.</p> <p>Action: Parish Clerk to add the Councillor Code of Conduct to the website.</p>	<p>Cllr Cole</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Wiltshire Councillor Report</p> <p>Cllr Blair-Pilling advised that Enford are currently developing their flood plan which may link into our work on Figheldean’s Resilience Plan.</p> <p>All parking machines in Wiltshire are in the process of being replaced. They will all be fully accessible and able to take cash.</p> <p>At Cabinet this morning the outturn of last year’s budget was reported, pleased to be able to say that Wiltshire Council were in surplus of over £5m. This demonstrates that Wiltshire is a sound council. This surplus will be put towards Highways. Wiltshire Council now have the required equipment to repair potholes all year, not just in the winter.</p> <p>Cllr Blair-Pilling provided an update on the group of Afghans that are currently living in the area. This initiative is led by the MOD. There have been some delays with transition for some of these families. This is being addressed at Town Hall meetings.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Chair Councillor Report – Cllr Tina Cole</p> <p>I’m delighted to report that the warning signs for pedestrians and turning ahead are now in place at both approaches to our Figheldean turning of the A345. We continue to wait however for the rumble strips to be installed to help traffic reduce speed on the same approaches. But I’m assured by Wiltshire council that it is simply a matter of contractors getting through a long list of work. We will of course continue to press.</p> <p>Figheldean’s annual music festival and family fun day takes place on Saturday 20th July with organisers keeping on top of the parking of festival goers. A field had been arranged at the top of Pollen Lane or if that isn’t cut in time then Gunville will be used. This will hopefully minimise festival parking around the village. The roads through the village Will inevitably be busy on the day but hopefully everyone would have had enough notice of the event taking place.</p> <p>May I thank councillors for their continued voluntary work for the parish and I’m delighted to welcome Cllr Katy Sturgess onto our council who will take on the parish responsibility for maintenance.</p>	



8	<p>Other Organisation Reports Village Hall – Durrington Girls Football Club are looking at using the facilities. We are currently negotiating an arrangement with them where they would use the Village Hall facilities as well as the playing field for their matches.</p>	
9	<p>Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Nick Tissot Planning There is a current planning application in place for the removal of some trees at Brambles.</p> <p>Works have begun at Cliffend with the building structure now erected.</p> <p>The School - All necessary approvals are now complete and with a contractor appointed Outcomes First Group will now be establishing site set-up and starting works in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Cllr Darrell Amison Policing Discussed under Public Question Time.</p> <p>River Avon Project The Wessex Rivers Trust are waiting for the DIO to arrange a site meeting with a local resident and land user. The DIO remains very supportive of the project but must reassure the person concerned of its importance and benefits. Cllr Amison will remain in close touch with the Wessex Rivers Trust and provide further updates as information becomes available.</p> <p>Cllr Angela Briggs Highways As discussed above.</p> <p>The overgrown grass verges that were reported have all now been actioned from Bulford to Figheldean. Action: Cllr Briggs to check the status of the gulley clearance next to the school.</p>	Cllr Briggs
10.	<p>Clerks Report</p> <p>Parish Councils transitioning to a .gov.uk domain The Councillors are asked to consider the approval from Figheldean Parish Council with regards to a .gov.uk domain.</p> <p>All Parish Councils are being encouraged to transition to a .gov.uk domain. This ensures that all communications come from official channels and are stored appropriately. Currently, we have Parish Council external email addresses, but all emails are forwarded to Councillor’s personal accounts and any replies would be sent from the personal account.</p> <p>Using a .gov.uk domain is beneficial because it gives your eligible organisations trusted branding, increased security and helps meet any policy and legal obligations. Further information is available here.</p> <p>There are various methods of support being made available to Parish Councils, such as the information provided on the NALC website.</p>	



Action: Parish Clerk to request a quote from our current IT provider, Direct IT Services, for transitioning to a .gov.uk domain.

Parish Clerk

Expenditure since last meeting – all approved

Expenditure	Amount	Detail
Bank charges	£16	
Clerk Salary	£832	
Bawdens	£500	Grass cutting
Ian Grimes	£80	Dog Bins
Graham Watson	£160	Bins
Graham Watson	£420	Grass
Graham Watson	£210	Gate post
Hills	£134.98	VH bins collection
Parish Magazine expenses	£52.55	
Parish Magazine printing	£701.50	
Figgle Fest Donation	£500	
Netheravon Parish Council	£100	D-Day 80 contribution
ETC Sports	£570	Annual Fee
ICO	£61.97	
Total	£4,339	
Receipts	Amount	Detail
Peter Vowles Caravan Storage	£300	
HMRC	£996.73	VAT Refund for 2023/24
Total	£1,296.73	

Current Bank Balance @ 14th July 2024 is £17,484.40

11.

Other Parish Business

Tree Survey

The Parish Council have been contacted by Bawdens, who have recently carried out a tree survey for Brambles. Bawden's have advised that there are some trees within the Parish Council land that, in their opinion, require action.


The last tree survey of Ablington Woods was carried out in May 2023. During that survey the trees in question were not recommended for any action. This tree survey was completed by Keith Yates, and since being contacted by Bawden's the Parish Council have requested that Keith Yates carries out an additional site visit.

This site visit has taken place and Keith Yates has confirmed that the identified Ash trees do not need felling at this time and should, instead, be re-inspected on a yearly basis. They have reported that ADB now seems to be in decline and a lot of the trees are showing a low level of resistance to the disease.

It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would not be taking any further action with these particular trees at this time.



	<p>There are some other trees identified within the tree survey that do require attention. Action: Cllr Sturgess to liaise with Nigel Fitchett regarding any required works within Ablington Woods and arrange for this work to take place.</p> <p>Multicourt - Basketball Hoops Action: Parish Clerk to investigate purchasing replacement hoops and nets separately.</p> <p>Durrington Girls Football Club Durrington Girls FC have contacted us to request that they use the Figheldean playing field for matches for their three separate teams. This would be on a Saturday and Sunday afternoon.</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed this request with particular concern raised about the pressure this amount of use would place on the pitch, also considering that at the time of the meeting it was also planned that Netheravon FC would use the pitch on a Sunday morning.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Cole to request some further information from Durrington Girls Football Club regarding possible fixtures list, training days and the amount of usage over the season.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Amison to obtain details on pitch usage in a public park.</p> <p>Electronic Bus Stop/Timetable Sign A parishioner has requested that the Parish Council investigate the possibility of installing an electronic bus stop sign at the bus stop on the A345 outside of Figheldean. Action: Parish Clerk/Cllr Briggs to contact explore the possibility and required arrangements for installing an electronic bus stop sign.</p> <p>Motorhome storage. A parishioner has contacted the Parish Council to request permission to temporarily store their motorhome and a trailer behind the Village Hall. Long term storage of motorhomes and caravans is not permitted. The Parish Council discussed this short term request. Action: Parish Clerk to request further information from the Parishioner about the time period and circumstances around why motorhome storage is required.</p> <p>16 Avon Banks The Parish Council has received concerns from Parishioners regarding 16 Avon Banks. It has not been occupied for some time and requires significant maintenance and repair. Action: Parish Clerk to contact the listed owner of this property to make them aware of the current status of the property.</p>	<p>Cllr Sturgess</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Cole</p> <p>Cllr Amison</p> <p>Cllr Briggs/ Parish Clerk</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>Parish Clerk</p>
12.	<p>Date of Next Meeting 23rd September 2024</p>	

Signed  Date 30/09/2024