

Fovant Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 24.03.2025 at 19:00hrs.

Venue: The Waterside, Fovant Youth Club, High Street, Fovant, Salisbury, Wiltshire

Present: Cllr. A Phillips (Chair), Cllr. D Horne, Cllr. M Wallis, , Cllr. A Cousley,
Cllr. Ellis, Cllr. Coxe , Cllr. Page.

Attendees: Clerk J. Wallis, Two members of the public, a further two members of the public
From 20:00hrs.

18.25: Apologies for absence

Cllr Hobbs, County Cllr Najjar.

19.02: Noting of absence

None.

20.25 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

The chair asked members of the public if they wished to speak to the council, item addressed in agenda item 27.12 (k)

21.25: Resolution of the earlier minutes and review of action points for meetings taken place on the 28.01.2025 and before.

Minutes of the meeting of 28.01.2025 unanimously agreed, signed by the chairperson and entered into the record.

Matters arising:

08.28.07.24 – Future grass cutting (Cllr. Coxe) Cllr Coxe informed the meeting he had been successful in procuring the services of a local gardener who was able to fulfil the grass cutting needs at £1200 yearly so within budget for 2025/2026.

Outcome : Council unanimously agreed the appointment and Clerk to send over contract to gardener.

09.07.24(c) – Tree survey (Cllrs. Wallis/Cousley) Cllrs. Wallis and Cousley informed the meeting this was work in progress to update at next meeting.

Outcome: Deferred.

Signed by:

Dated

07.09.24 - .gov.uk Emails (Clerk) Clerk informed the meeting that emails as from 01.04.2025 would only be sent to .gov.uk addresses.

Outcome: Completed

08.29.11(g) – Setting up Scribe for new fiscal year (Clerk) Clerk reported all in progress will be completed by month end.

Outcome: Completed

09.29.11.24(g) – Risk Policy (Clerk) On tonight's agenda.

Outcome: Completed

09.11.24(k) – Update on Sutton Road land swap (Clerk) Clerk advised by the solicitor that the registration of the playing field on Sutton Road will transfer to us shortly.

Outcome: Deferred

08.25 – Planning application PL/2024/10282 (Clerk).

Outcome: Completed

09.25 (j) – Funding request by village hall – Cllr Wallis asked the council to note the amended flood protection barriers to be fitted to the hall which were now compliant.

Outcome: Council unanimously noted the barriers, Clerk to write to secretary of the village hall with the outcome.

10.25 (a) – Chairs comment for precept (Clerk)

Outcome: Completed

10.25 (c) – Election published (Clerk).

Outcome: Completed

10.25 (g) – Schedule for SID movements (Cllrs. Horne/Wallis) Cllrs. Horne and Wallis updated the meeting on two weekly movements.

Outcome: Completed

10.25 (i) – Discussion group for the village hall (Chair) On agenda

10.25 (K) – Movement of 20mph sign (Chair) – Chair stated this will be brought back to council when we receive the results of the metro count and further discuss options with the Highways engineer.

Outcome: Deferred

10.25 (l) – Green Drove gates (Cllr Hobbs) Cllr not present.

Outcome: Deferred

22.25: Chairmans Introduction:

The chair explained that this would be the last ordinary meeting before the elections, and the first meeting of the next year in May would see the election of the Chair and Vice Chair. We have now received answers to our list of requests for clarifications about planning procedures and what appeared to us to be inconsistencies. At first sight, the answers rather suggest an inflexible bureaucracy.

23.25: Governance:

a) Risk Management Policy – Introduction and overview given by the clerk. **Outcome:** Unanimously approved by full council

b) Publications policy– Introduction and overview given by the clerk. **Outcome:**
Unanimously approved by full council

24.25: Statement from Wiltshire County Councillor Nabil Najjar

Not present at the meeting.

25.25: Planning matters requiring Consideration/noting

Application

a) PL/2025/02700 – Orchard House, Tisbury Road, Fovant, SP3 5JU
Reduction of conifers in a conservation area.
Discussed by council.

Outcome: A Comment of no objection to be uploaded to the Wiltshire planning website by the clerk.

Determination

a) PL/2024/09263 Weather Oak Barn, Moor Lane, demolition and rebuild – approved

Outcome: Determination noted

26.25: Financial matters for consideration/Noting

Income and expenditure report to:

- a) February 2025 reconciliation of bank – **Agreed and signed by Cllr. Horne**
- b) March 2025 reconciliation of bank – unavailable at time of meeting

Paper reports circulated for members consideration/noting:

- c) Summary of receipts and payments to date – **Noted and accepted by Council**
- d) Net position from start of fiscal year to present £21,251.45 – **Noted and accepted by Council**

Other financial matters for resolution/consideration or nothing:

e) Purchase of printer ink £43.12 (Clerk)

The council unanimously accepted the spend.

f) CILCA training for clerk £330.00 for WALC, SLCC £450 (Clerk)

The council unanimously accepted the spend.

g) Additional hours for clerk – 13.5 in Feb 9 March

The council unanimously accepted the spend.

h) Invoices for land check (Clerk) £12

The council unanimously accepted the spend.

i) SCRIBE payment for end of year support £70.80

The council unanimously accepted the spend.

i) VAT update Repayment of £1687.17 for 2023/2024

Signed by:

Dated

The council unanimously accepted the Income.

j) Email from PCC for contribution toward cemetery of £400

The council unanimously agreed the spend.

27.25: Other matters requiring consideration/Noting

a) Proposal for further progress on the village green / trout farm project (Cllrs Horne/ Wallis)
Cllr. Horne told the meeting that the development of Clays Orchard could now be a further 2 years leaving the Council's aspirations for a Fovant Green in limbo. Cllr. Horne suggested looking further into our options with the playing field now that the deed transfer was imminent.

Outcome: To further ask Christine Brown for an update on the current situation.

c) Election update (Clerk) Clerk gave further updates on the election timetable and offered to look up potential candidate's proposer's electoral numbers. Further information given on the process and councillors urged them to make their nominations.

d) Internal audit 2024/2025 (Clerk) The clerk informed the meeting the internal audit was taking place on the 19th and 20th April; it was reported that we had accessed an end of year report from SCRIBE which found two small issues which have been corrected.

e) Report of Annual Parish Meeting 2025 (Chair/Clerk) Chair gave an update of the meeting who many of the councillors attended. Minutes and report to be posted to the village website.

Outcome: Clerk to post the minutes to the website.

f) Recommendation from Working Group on Village Hall lease (Chair) Chair relayed the work of the small working party consisting of councillors and members of the village hall management committee, the group concluded that whilst they there was no need to alter the lease they did draft a set of guidance to assist in the leases interpretation.

Outcome: Council accepted the report and agreed it was to be sent by clerk to the Secretary of the Village hall committee and be uploaded with the minutes.

g) Wiltshire council response to request for clarification of planning rules (Chair/MW). Both the chair and Cllr. Wallis both agreed they are no clearer on the rules since receiving Wiltshire councils' clarification of questions.

Outcome: Chair to send out a copy of the response to councillors for further consideration at the next meeting.

h) Variation of Google support to website (Chair) The chair has been approached by the webmaster as we currently pay for a mail account which is not utilized asking if we wish it to be removed, after debate removal agreed.

Outcome: Chair to inform the webmaster of the decision

i) LHFIG news on the Substantive bid and white lining (Chair/MW) Cllr. Wallis reported that the white lining completed outside the youth club was not up to the specification design, the old white lines had not been hydro blasted, it was not as long as it should be, and the bollards had not been placed.

Outcome Cllr. Wallis to invite Highways engineer to a site visit

j) Potential Support to Brook Street repairs as a Bridle path (MW)

Cllr Wallis was asked by residents of the upper end of Brook Street to support them in their efforts to improve the bridle way to enable them continued vehicular access to their homes. Three members of public who were residents of the part of the bridleway spoke at length of their attempts over the years to keep up the standard of the pathway but now with additional vehicles accessing the road plus the springs which are evident they now are seeking additional help to maintain it. One resident who spoke stated they now had sufficient resources and help to attend to the road but asked for Parish Council support in addressing the water concerns by potentially diverting the water by a drain into the Brook. Another resident suggested approaching Wiltshire council to see if they will consider transferring the byway to a Byway open to all traffic (BOAT). There was discussion around if this was a feasible action for the council. Chair finished the debate and stated the council would need to consider this further and discuss at the next meeting.

Outcome: deferred to next meeting.

k) Footpath thirteen restoration. Formal approach to landowner (Chair)

One member of the public raised concerns over the condition of footpath 13 which appears to have been ploughed and not restored and its sparse hedge removed (potentially some time ago). Council debated this at length.

Outcome: Clerk to raise a My Wilts log regarding this and feedback results.

l) Progress with police speed enforcement visits (Chair/ME/DH) Chair stated that it had been made clear that metro counts previously done in the 20 miles per hour limits (mph) are now out of date and must be repeated before police will attend for enforcement. Cllr Wallis pointed out that recent Police correspondence had confused our 20 mph limits with zones. The chair informed the meeting of a recent county councillor meeting between three of the areas county councillors and Perry Payne which discussed the need for Fovant's need in our 20mph limits. Mr. Paynes record of the meeting is awaited.

Outcome: Chair to request further metro counts in the 20 mph limits and reply to Police about their confusion with limits and zones.

m) Reports from Portfolio holders (All) No reports given

n) Metro count report on A30 missing from April 2024 (Chair) The chair explained he had been unable to get access to the metro counts needed as they had been lost. Council agreed to request a further count.

Outcome: Chair to request a further metro count in the 20mph limit.

o) Consider the introduction of a parish email newsletter (VJE) Cllr. Jackson asked for consideration of a monthly Parish Email newsletter to inform. Discussion ensued but no decisions made.

p) Youth initiative update (Clerk/MW) Clerk and Cllr. Wallis updated the meeting on the initiative while awaiting an update from the youth club on when events could be run.

Outcome: Clerk to discuss further with chair of youth club

28.25: Items for next meeting: None

29.25: Date and time of next meeting: 12th May 2025

DRAFT

Signed by:

Dated