**Monkton Farleigh Parish Council**

**Minutes**

 **Wednesday 8th November 2023**

**7:00 pm at the Village Hall**

1. **Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

*Parish Council attending*: Jane Ghali (Clerk), Rachael Macdonald (acting Chair), Tom Firbank, Andrew Tucker, Pauline Adams, Brian Marlow

*Apologies*: Ele Warrington

*Other attendees*: Laura Wallace (PCSO), Zoe Tinkler, Liz Watts and Elliot McBride

There were no declarations of interest

1. **Minutes of Meeting 21 September 2023** -All agreed and signed.
2. **Matters Arising** – all matters arising are covered in the agenda.

Police report – Only 1 road traffic accident to report on A363, Gemma Rutter is the new sergeant and Jennifer Mercer is the PC for Monkton Farleigh.

1. **Report from Zoe Tinkler – Monkton Farleigh’s Tree Warden** - Zoe brought a map for assistance from AT about land ownership. Zoe has reported the horse chestnut near to the entrance to Restore, as it has large dead branches.
2. **Report from Johnny Kidney**

*BoA Road Closures**update*-Network Rail bridge repairs finishing 30 November**.** Staverton works ahead of schedule**.** Bus consultation reminder – ends midnight Friday 10 Nov.

*Local Plan* – Reminder - The consultation for the Wiltshire Local Plan began on Wednesday 27 September and runs until 22 November

*Area Board Outcomes* – verbal update on Highways Area Board meeting, including BoA Town Council potential one way scheme.

*Smokefree consultation* - This consultation asks questions on proposed action the UK Government and devolved administrations will take to protect future generations from the harms of smoking, by creating the first smokefree generation. It also asks about proposals to crack down on youth vaping and ensure the law is enforced. The proposed actions are outlined in more detail in Stopping the start: our new plan to create a smokefree generation.

The consultation asks questions in 3 areas for which new legislation would be needed, which are:

a. Creating a smokefree generation: consulting on the smokefree generation policy and its scope.

b. Tackling youth vaping: consulting on several options to ensure we take the most appropriate and impactful steps, building on England’s analysis of the youth vaping call for evidence.

c. Enforcement: consulting on the proposal to introduce new powers for local authorities in England and Wales to issue fixed penalty notices to enforce age of sale legislation of tobacco products and vapes.

The consultation period will run until 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 December 2023

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/creating-a-smokefree-generation-and-tackling-youth-vaping>

*Health activity tracker watches and blood pressure monitors* available to borrow from Wiltshire libraries.

People aged 16 and over are being encouraged to stay healthy and active with activity tracker watches, available to borrow from libraries in Salisbury and Trowbridge as well as the North and South mobile libraries.

Activity tracker watches enable people to track their steps, heart rate, sleep quality and much more. Moving more and sitting less is proven to improve sleep quality, mental health and many other aspects of life.

Physical activity can also help prevent long-term conditions such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers, and help to reduce limitations and falls later in life.

Also available on loan from Salisbury and Trowbridge libraries and the North and South mobile libraries are blood pressure monitors. People can use these to take their blood pressure at home and see how any changes in lifestyle are having an impact.

*Wiltshire Council on track to be carbon neutral by 2030 -* Wiltshire Council has confirmed it is on track to being carbon neutral by 2030, as it updateson its recent progress in response to the climate emergency.

*Council Tax Reduction Scheme* - Wiltshire Council is consulting on possible changes to its local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working aged people Wiltshire Council is consulting on possible changes to its local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for working aged people, ensuring it continues to benefit those who need it and evolves in line with Government’s developing plans on Universal Credit. A consultation is now under way to get feedback on the council’s proposed changes and runs until 27 November 2023. People can fill out an electronic survey online at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/benefits-council-tax-reduction](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/benefits-council-tax-reduction) and paper copies will be available in all of Wiltshire’s libraries and main hubs.

1. **Finances** – not many outgoings for September and October. There is currently £8,649.81 in the account, the main items were paying for erection of noticeboards (£533) and painting of phone box (£584).
2. **Parish Councillor vacancy** – Joy Spiers’ vacancy is now announced on the noticeboards, if an election isn’t requested by 10 parishioners, then another councillor can be co-opted.
3. **Precept for 2024/25** – the precept will need to be submitted in mid-January, so councillors were asked to consider any costs for discussion at the meeting in December. **Action All Parish Councillors**
4. **RoSPA playground report Oct 2023** – agreed that inspection of zip wire necessary. Clerk to send report to Wiltshire Council, as most of the repair issues were on their equipment. **Action JG**
5. **Playdale quote for zipwire maintenance** – agreed that although expensive, it was important to maintain the zip wire. Quote of £350 + £70 VAT agreed. Clerk toc contact Playdale to organise. **Action JG**
6. **Football goals Broadstones** – AT to look into steel suppliers. **Action AT**
7. Funding for play area on Farleigh Rise – JG had spoken to Landfill Community Grants, who had too many applications currently, but will be taking more, they gave Clerk list of more possibilities. AT to contact Restore and Bannerdown Benching about sponsorship. **Action: JG and AT**
8. **Hedge planting/transfer of land ownership update** – Mike Dawson from Wiltshire Council will attend next meeting for questions. Councillors to consider what they would like to ask. **Action: All Parish Councillors**
9. **Stiles and access to local footpaths update** – EW to update next meeting. Comments that new styes were very high.
10. **Speed Limits Update/Slow sign on A363** – process still ongoing. There won’t be any reduction in due to 20mph restriction not being put in place before. Looking back to 2016 it appears that the option for signs then included speed calming measures which were an estimated £29k. These weren’t progressed due to the price, although it appears that in the meeting where the discussion took place that there were no representatives from Monkton Farleigh.
11. **School funding request for outdoor classroom –** EW to report next meeting
12. **Work for the Parish Steward –** leaves/mud in gutters, were weeds sprayed and what type of spray is used? general tidying up. Potholes in Rushmead Lane and lower lane.
13. **Correspondence received** – revised planning for 37A, no objections
14. **Parish Matters** –
* Brian Marlow announced his resignation. Brian was thanked for all of his work on the PC. Elliott McBride, who was in attendance is keen to represent Farleigh Rise on the PC. Official announcements will need to be made in the Parish of BM’s resignation.
* BMattended the Cotswold Landscape Climate meeting, nothing to report they are currently gathering data.
* BM suggested collecting milk bottle tops to raise money for wheel chairs. He suggested having a collection site in the village hall car park. TF to find out if this collection for wheelchairs is current. **Action TF**
* There was some discussion about the articulated lorry trailer parked near in the field opposite Blackberries campsite. It was thought that this isn’t illegal.
* JG will chase the Selwood contractor about mending he dry stone wall behind 1 Broadstones, as the work that was due to be done in August still hasn’t happened.
* EW is doing collection for Joy Spiers leaving gift.
1. **Date of Next Meeting** - Wednesday 13 December 2023 in the Village Hall at 7pm