

## Information for the Meeting of the Parish Council on 28 October 2024

### 4 Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda - for information only)

#### 4.1 Update on Speeding Initiatives

##### - Community Speedwatch

The group continues to conduct sessions at two sites each week, subject to the weather. Since the activity started in July 2023, the group has recorded 189 motorists who were found to be traveling over the prescribed speed threshold.

Details below:

Beaconsfield Road	3
Beeches Road	4
Collinswood Road	159
Farnham Lane	11
One Pin Lane	10
Parish Lane	1
Templewood Lane	1

Of speeders recorded, the maximum speed on a 30mph road is 56mph with the average speed being 40mph. The maximum speed was recorded on Collinswood Road. The maximum speed on a 40mph road is 52mph with the average speed being 50mph. The maximum speed was recorded on Parish Lane.

In addition, we have been notified that two of the vehicles reported did not have a MOT, two were not taxed and one had a statutory off road notification (SORN).

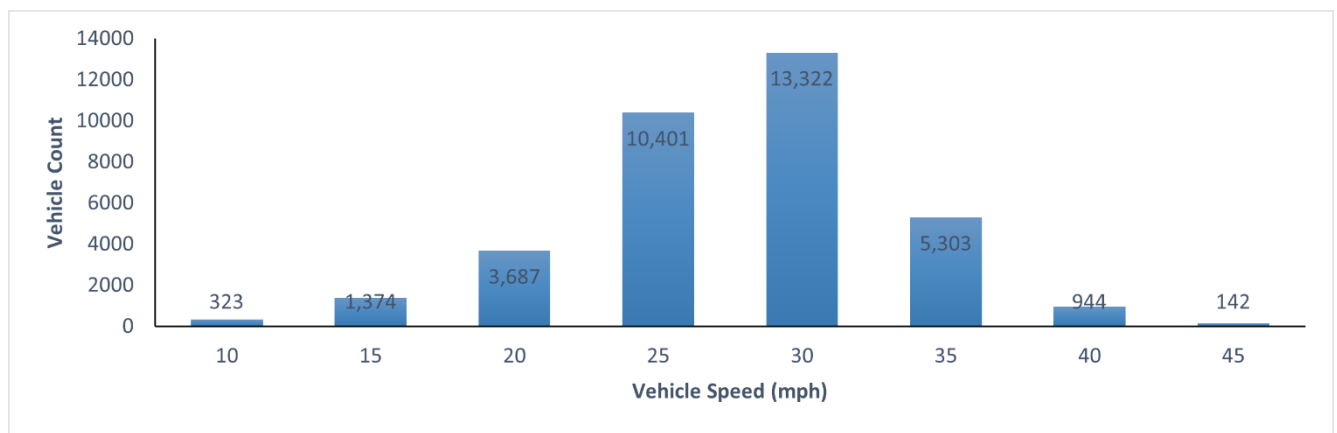
This initiative has provided much needed data to the Police and they are considering whether it would be appropriate to use a speed detector camera van on Collinswood Road.

Since the last parish council meeting, sessions have been held in Beaconsfield Road, Collinswood Road and Farnham Lane. A huge thank you to the volunteers for supporting this safety initiative.

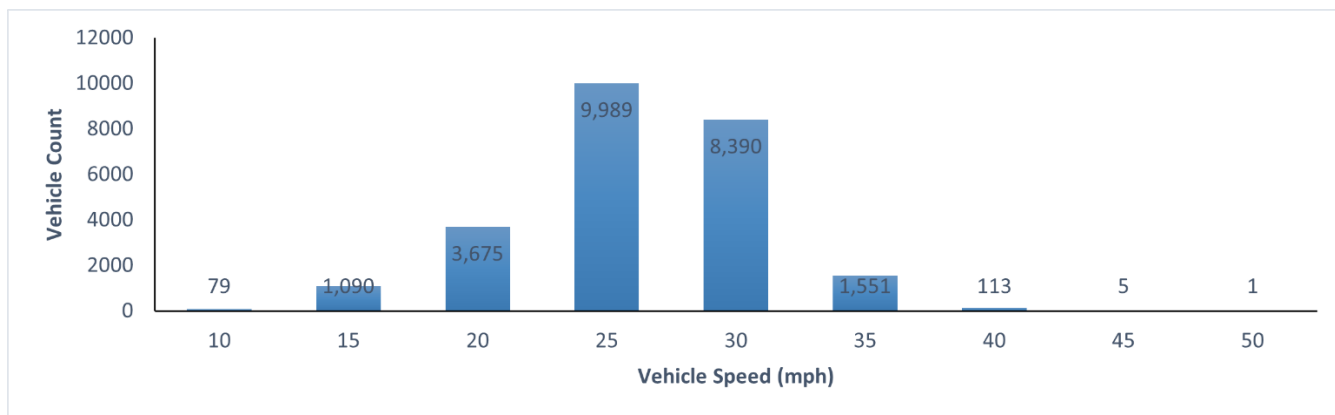
##### - Update on Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

Both signs are moving around the villages to remind road users to slow down but also to record speed and volume data, which will be shared with Buckinghamshire Highways and the Police when discussing road safety and traffic calming initiatives.

The first data download gave the following results at One Pin Lane, which has a speed limit of 30mph, from 9 May 2024 to 17 June 2024.



The second data download gave the following results at Blackpond Lane, which has a speed limit of 30mph, from 8 August 2024 to 23 September 2024.



#### 4.2 Update of Antisocial behaviour in footpaths FAR/6 and FAR/7 in Farnham Royal

The Clerk is still working with Buckinghamshire Council to obtain the necessary comfort regarding who will own the K Barriers and who will be responsible for ongoing maintenance, risk management and any future liabilities following installation.

In the meantime, the application for a £2,000 grant from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner Community Fund was successful and following a discussion with the manager of the Beeches Community Board the Clerk has forwarded details of the proposed solution to him for review ahead of a formal application.

#### 4.3 Review of discussions at Orchard Day

The parish councillors that attended the event will provide a summary of their discussions with residents to identify any issues or suggestions that need to be followed up.

#### 4.4 Update on actions following annual playground inspections

As discussed at the last parish council meeting, the inspections identified certain work that needed to be carried out and this was discussed with both Amersham Town Council, as our maintenance contractor and Proludic as supplier of the new playground in Farnham Common. All remedial work (except for the inspection of the cable runway, which is discussed below) is planned to take place during week commencing 28 October 2024.

The HIC/Triax testing at the playground in Farnham Park Playing Fields has been requested and the Clerk is waiting for a date for the inspection.

#### 4.5 Update on South Bucks Association of Local Councils' quarterly meeting

Paul Rowley, as Chairman, attended the latest quarterly meeting on Tuesday 22 October 2024 and will provide a verbal report at the meeting.

#### 4.6 Update on Buckinghamshire Highways' Stakeholder Conference

Tony Birkett, as Lead Councillor for Highways, will attend this year's conference on Monday 28 October 2024 and will provide a verbal report at the meeting.

#### 4.7 Confirmation of arrangements for Christmas lights and Christmas tree

The Christmas lights will be switched on and the Christmas tree will be installed on Kingsway Green on Wednesday 27 November 2024. All lights will be illuminated from 4pm until midnight until the twelfth night.

## 5 **Projects:**

### 5.1 Woodlands and Open Spaces

#### - To consider the results of the consultation on planting for Kingsway Green

As agreed, the consultation on the potential options started at Orchard Day where people placed coloured tokens in our voting box. It then continued with a poll on our Facebook page, which was shared with the Farnhams Community Facebook Group and the coloured tokens and voting box are in Farnham Common Community Library. The results will be discussed at the meeting.

#### - To consider planting for Rectory Close flowerbeds

It has previously been suggested that the planting on Kingsway Green should be replicated for the flowerbeds on the corner of Rectory Close. Once the result of the above consultation is known, a decision can be taken regarding these beds.

### 5.2 Community

#### - To consider Buckinghamshire Council's Memorandum of Understanding for free parking sessions in The Broadway car park

As of today, we have still not received the Memorandum of Understanding from Buckinghamshire Council despite

being advised that it would be received by the end of September 2024. We continue to chase Buckinghamshire Council and will bring it to a parish council meeting as soon as possible.

- To consider future steps for CCTV on The Broadway & in the playgrounds

The application for a £5,000 grant from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner Community Fund was successful. It is now necessary to formulate a plan for raising the balance of the funds required (approx. £17,000 based on the latest quote received from Smartech Security Limited). The Manager of the Beeches Community Board has confirmed that Community Boards are unable to consider applications in connection with CCTV. It must also be noted that if the grant from the TVP & PCC Community Fund is not spent within 12 calendar months of the grant, the PCC reserves the right to request the funding be returned.

## 6 Contracts:

### 6.1 To consider Microsoft 365 licence renewal

The current licence includes one Microsoft 365 Business Premium account for the Clerk and eight Exchange Online accounts for the parish councillors' emails. The renewal cost per month is as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit Price (£net)</u>	<u>New Price (£net)</u>	<u>Current Price (£net)</u>
Microsoft 365 Business Premium	1	21.72	21.72	18.10
Exchange Online	8	3.96	38.00	26.40
		Total	<u>53.40</u>	<u>44.50</u>

## 7 Community Engagement/Events:

### 7.1 To consider a budget for the Design a Christmas Bauble or Christmas Jumper Competition

At the last parish council meeting it was agreed that as we have the smallest number of parish councillors in recent history so it is not possible for us to hold a community event this year but we would like to celebrate Christmas with residents by holding a 'Design a Christmas Bauble / Christmas Jumper' competition for all.

There will be five age groups: under 4 years, 4-7 years, 8-11 years, 12-17 years and Adults and blank templates will be available to download at [www.farnhamroyal-pc.gov.uk](http://www.farnhamroyal-pc.gov.uk) or will be available from certain community facilities such as Farnham Common Community Library. We will also try to share the templates via the Farnham Common Village Schools and St Mary's Farnham Royal Church of England Primary School.

Official competition post boxes will be in various community facilities and entries must be posted before 5pm on Tuesday 17 December 2024. A panel will be put together to review the entries on 18 or 19 December 2024 with an announcement on Friday 20 December 2024.

Jenny Quilter is preparing a budget for the competition for discussion at the meeting.

## 8 Public Engagements/Invitations:

### 8.1 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Grant Award ceremony

Two representatives have been invited to attend the ceremony. Paul Rowley and David Moore were to attend but Paul Rowley is now unable to make the event, so a new representative is being sought.

Date: Thursday 31 October 2024

Time: Registration from 10.30am with the ceremony starting at 11am and lunch served after.

Location: Oak Room at Wycombe Swan, St Mary Street, High Wycombe, HP11 2XE

### 8.2 Formal opening of the Stag and Hounds Public House

Parish Councillors have been invited to attend the official opening of the Stag and Hounds after its refurbishment. Paul Rowley, as Chair, will be cutting the ribbon and saying a few words. Jenny Quilter and Tony Birkett will be joining him, but all are invited.

Date: Friday 1st November

Time: Ribbon cutting is 5pm

Location: Stag and Hounds Public House, The Broadway, Farnham Common

### 8.3 Proud of Bucks Awards ceremony

The Beeches Community Board has invited Paul Rowley, as Chair, to attend the ceremony and he is asking if other parish councillors would like to join him.

Date: Thursday 7 November 2024

Time: 5.00pm

Location: Wexham Park Golf Centre, Wexham Street, Slough, SL3 6ND

## 9 Policy Review

### 9.1 Communication and Involvement Strategy and Policy

A copy of the current strategy and policy has been circulated to parish councillors separately.

### 9.2 Social Media Policy

A copy of the current policy has been circulated to parish councillors separately.

## 10 Finance:

### 10.1 Spending Decisions

#### - To consider quotes for work to a tree in Ingram's Copse

In May 2024 L & Q advised that one of the trees in Ingrams Copse had been identified as posing a risk to residents at Warren Court when using the garden. The Parish Council's arboriculturist confirmed that work was required, provided details and advised that the work should be completed by 13 December 2024. These details were sent to two tree management companies for a quote. One quote has been received in the sum of £1,700 and the other company has not replied. Given the quote received, the Clerk has chased the other company and has forwarded details to another company recommended by Katherine Damsell.

Given that to complete the work within the recommended timescale instructions will need to be issue before the next parish council meeting, the Clerk is seeking a decision on how to proceed.

#### - To consider quotes for cable runway inspection at Farnham Park Playing Fields

As discussed above the annual inspection recommended that the main cable and fixing security is thoroughly inspected at least in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations to check for wear, damage, security or internal rusting to help ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Amersham Town Council advised that they are unable to carry out this additional inspection and as such the Clerk obtained a quote from the original supplier and the company suggested by the annual inspection company. The quotes received are:

	<u>Inspection (£)</u>	
Supplier (full dismantling inspection)	600*	*The quote received includes £2,127.08 for all potential parts and a credit note will be issued for any unused parts.
Contractor (full dismantling inspection)	990	
Contractor (endoscope inspection)	550	

#### - To consider quotes for a body camera for the Community Speedwatch team

At the last parish council meeting, it was suggested to Tony Birkett by a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team that the Community Speedwatch team should have a body camera to record any abusive behaviour they receive. Thankfully this is not experienced very often but the parish council is asked to consider the suggestion. The Clerk has approached the Neighbourhood Policing Team for a recommendation and hopes to have this for discussion at the meeting.

### 10.2 To note the External Auditor's Report

The External Audit has been completed and a copy of the report has been sent to councillors separately. The report states that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, which was completed by the internal auditor, was not accurately completed before submission for review as the parish council received an advance from the Public Works Loan Board in September 2023 and this was not correctly reflected as an 'other receipt'. They confirmed that there are no additional matters to draw to the attention of the Parish Council.

### 10.3 To note the publication of Notice of Conclusion of Audit

Once the External Audit was completed it was necessary to publish a Notice of Conclusion of Audit before 30 September 2024 for a recommended minimum period of 14 days. This Notice was published on noticeboards and on the Parish Council website on Friday 27 September 2024. It will be removed on 30 October 2024.

### 10.4 To consider September 2024 Management Accounts

The management accounts, including notes, have been circulated to councillors separately.

### 10.5 To consider payments and note receipts, as per the October 2024 cashbook

The cashbook has been reviewed and approved by Katherine Damsell, as Chair of the Finance Committee and has been circulated to councillors separately.

## 12 Planning:

### 12.1 To ratify comments submitted on recent applications

The schedule of comments submitted to the planning authority has been circulated to councillors separately.

### 12.2 To note recent planning decisions

The schedule of planning authority decisions has been circulated to councillors separately.