



Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) UK

1st Quarterly Meeting (2023-2024), Sunday, 25 June 2023, 7:00pm at the FNCC.

Minutes

1. FNC Chairman Jhapindra Thapa chaired the 1st Quarterly Meeting of year 2023-2024.
2. At first, the meeting reviewed the Minutes from the AGM - 26 March 2023. Minutes link: <https://fncuk.org/fnc-meeting/>.
 - a) Meeting agreed with the Minutes of the AGM, however meeting discussed on the outcome of point number 12 of the AGM's minutes that was raised by Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun on the progress of the FNC annual membership subscription fee of £25.00.
 - b) Treasurer Bikram Rai and General Secretary Maha Rai informed the meeting that due to the presentation done by Trustee Cpt (Retd) Ram Pun about the FNC membership subscription fee that there has been increased in registration of new members and some members have paid back dated annual subscription.
 - c) Meeting also acknowledges that Trustee Chandra Gurung, former Chairman, has supported Treasurer & General Secretary to encourage other members to pay their annual membership subscription.
 - d) Finally, meeting requested Treasure to publish the record of paid and unpaid of the FNC annual membership subscription fees since 2021 onwards so that every member can be updated about their subscription payment as some member might not have been aware of their payment.
 - e) The draft of annual membership subscription payment can be found on this link: <https://fncuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FNC-Members-List-March-2023-1.pdf>.
3. On the light of above point 2, board of Trustees, Advisors, executive committee members (ECMs) and members presented at the meeting made a consensus decision that to use the facilities of the Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre (FNCC) will be now priorities to the FNC active members (i.e., those who have annually paid their subscription) against the non-active members and the use of the Community Centre for those non-active members will be charge at non-charitable rate.
4. Treasurer Bikram Rai presented the account of the FNC Charity Integration Night at Nepalese New Year 2080 BS which was held on Friday, 14 April 2023 at The Bar Invicta under the coordination of Vice Chairman Capt (Retd) Sumanchandra Rai with the following summary:
 - Total Income = £4,135.15
 - Total Expenditure = £3456.00
 - Surplus = £679.15

Chairman thanked all the coordination team, ECMs, Trustees, Advisors and the FNC Members those who attended and supported the event directly and indirectly.

5. Treasure, Bikram Rai also presented the FNC main Account transaction report since the last AGM of balance £23,449.77.



6. FNC Ceremony of Unveiling the Portrait & Celebration the Coronation of the HM King Charles III at the FNC Centre was held on 01 June 2023 on the coordination and Proceeding Lead by Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun. The event discussion and coordination meeting were held on Sunday, 14 May 2023 at the FNCC.

Since, 14 May 2023 Meeting decided that the FNCC subsidises the event expenses, General Secretary who is also the Project & Centre Manager provided the financial report of the event as follows:

- Income = £693.00
- Expenditure = £2540.68
- Surplus to that FNCC subsidises = £1847.68
- Total number of people attended = 154 (94 Seniors Citizens, 28 Guests, 10 RBL & 24 FNC Members)

Meeting and the Chairman thanked Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun for coordinating such a wonderful event and this type of formal event has helped the FNC and FNCC to keep a great public relation within wider communities in the UK. The independent article about the event is published here - <https://thecoracle.com/ghurkas-folkestone-kent-england-2/>.

7. General Secretary reminded the meeting about the upcoming event Dashing Get-Together Celebration which has already been forecasted and fixed on Sunday, 15 October 2023 at The Leas Cliff Hall under the coordination of Vice Chairman Capt (Retd) Sumanchandra Rai. The detail of the event and coordination will follow at nearer date.
8. General Secretary also informed the meeting that due to venue issues and unforeseen circumstance 17 June 2023; FNC Charity Evening has been postponed and meeting agreed to reschedule the event around Augst/September 2023.
9. General Secretary also informed that the ECMs, board of Trustees and Advisors can have the FNC email (e.g., maha.rai@fncuk.org) from the Microsoft Nonprofits but only solely for the FNC purpose during their tenure. Interested members are requested to contact General Secretary.
10. Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun has proposed the need of the banner for the FNC's meetings and AGM that are held at the FNCC and presented the content and design sample as well. The meeting agreed to have the banner and asked the committee to polish the design and present the banner / sample on the next quarterly meeting. The size of the banner will be dictated by Centre's main hall and the size of the wall that it will hang.
11. General Secretary also presented the Community Centre (FNCC) main projects for July 2023 and for other activities, events and projects he requested all the member to please visit the FNC website www.fncuk.org. The main upcoming activities for July are as follows:
- a. **World in a Tent, Multicultural Festival** - 09 July 2023, Sunday at the FNCC. The stakeholder are Equator Festivals, Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Arts Council England. All the diverse communities from Kent and UK will perform the music, dance, and songs. From the FNC there will be Kelang, Silli and other traditional & cultural music & dance. This event is free to attend the FNC members.
 - b. 17 July 2023, Monday - **BBC 2 The Great British Menu**, Andi Oliver visit to the Centre, filming for the BBC 2- the detail of this program will follow at nearer date once General Secretary receives the full information.



- c. 23 July 2023, Sunday - **BBC 2 Music Festival, Folkestone**, FNC to take part coordination with South Shore Production and Folkestone Music. Again, FNC to participate showcasing traditional, cultural music from Nepal. The request and information to follow at the nearer date.
- d. **Community Farming at the Pent Farm:** This is the project of the Farming in Protected Landscapes funded by the Kent Downs AONB from the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs. The FNCC collaborated with the Pent Farm & Equatorial Festival who are the main stake holder for Jan/Feb 2023 – 2024. Separate plan sheet of the community garden was presented in the meeting by the General Secretary & can be found in the link: <https://fncuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Community-Farming-Project-Sheet.pdf>.

The aim of the project is community recreational garden in the countryside, learn & understand the British farming & lifestyle. The volunteer Coordination of the project are Trustee Chandra Gurung, member Capt (Retd) Gyan Limb and Chairman too is involved in coordinating & volunteering the project.

General Secretary informed the meeting that the FNC has not formally signed any allotment or lease of the farmland, it's just a project of one year and the next year depends upon the funding received by the Pent Farm and Equator Festival.

12. Meeting was informed about the attending of the NHS Kent & Medway Conference (Talk event show) on 10 May 2023, Leas Cliff Hall by the FNC executive representative Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun and General Secretary Maha Rai where Capt (Retd) Ram Pun presented about the FNC establishment, its objectives and General Secretary presented the projects/activities that the FNC and FNCC coordinates with NHS and their agencies in relation with the community health and wellbeing. As a result, the following outcome are achieved:
 - i. General Secretary reported that the FNCC has ongoing projects of Community Researchers: **a. Kanchan Roka (10-15hrs)**, **b. Roshan Rai (15hrs)** and **c. Bijendra Singh (15hrs)** those who are funded by the Health Education England. They are undergoing training with the University of Reading and Scottish Development Community on Supervised by Maha Rai at the Centre, and they will produce a report/presentation at the end of May 2024 on need and concerns of our community to the Health Education England.
 - ii. Also, as result of this outreach program NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group is engaged with the FNCC regarding the Integrated Care Strategy by asking us to perform the surveys and submit the report by the end of July 2023. The Community Researchers are involved in the task.
13. Meeting was informed that the General Secretary and Treasurer, under the direction of Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun, is in process of submitting the FNC Annual Accounts for Mar 2022 - Mar 2023 to the Charity Commission. Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun has been directing General Secretary to do the task ASAP since end of the April 2023. Previous year annual returns of the FNC can be found at the Charity Commission website.
14. General Secretary also presented the summary of the FNCC's accounts from the activities, projects and events ran at the community centre. The restricted fund from the funders mentioned in AGM minutes 14 and unrestricted fund from the room hiring and coordinating the activities and projects with other organisations. The detail of the accounts will be reported to the charity commission annually of both FNC & FNCC by General Secretary and Treasurer under the supervision of Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun.
15. Matters from the FNC Senior Citizens, the chief volunteer Major (Rtd) Deb Pun informed that the FNC Senior Citizens involvement in the Centre's activities, and they are happy so far with the activities and projects they are involved on behalf of the FNC. The link of Centre activity schedule can be found at:



<https://fncuk.org/activity/>. He also informed the meeting that the FNC Senior Citizens will have their annual gathering – BBQ in July and later confirmed is 19 July.

16. AOB:

- a. Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun reminded the meeting regarding the Armed Forces Day invitation to the FNC since last time that we attended was before COVID 19 pandemic. General Secretary realised that this year invitation was sent to us in January to the former Chairman Chandra Gurung's email. Meeting reminded that the FNC will remain vigilant about the invitation and will every year participate on the Armed Forces Day.
- b. Senior Citizen Coordinator Capt (Retd) Bishnu Singh informed the meeting that he has arranged a Coach and a Minibus for the FNC Members especially senior citizens to attend the Nepali Mela on 27 August 2023 at Kempton Park. The detail will follow at nearer the date.
- c. Youth Coordinator Kueihang Limbu informed the meeting that their youth from Folkestone and Ashford has come together to do a charitable Ramilo Bhela on 09 September 2023 at Maidstone and requested the FNC members to support the event.

17. Chairman Final Remarks: Chairman, Jhapindra Thapa closed the meeting by thanking all the attending members, executive committee members and specially the board of Trustees and Advisors for their support and helping the committee & meeting to have a consensus decision on every agenda.

Chairman also highlighted that we all should coordinate and work together within from every level/group of FNC members; senior citizens, adults and youths to achieve our aims of the FNC as a charitable organisation that is designed to serve us and wider community within Folkestone, Kent.

Finally, Chairman requested every member of the FNC to be updated and take in part as much as they could with the activities, events, projects and **vocational courses** that is designed for the FNC members which will be regularly and explicitly updated by the General Secretary and the FNCC Staff in the FNC website: <https://fncuk.org/>.

Sincerely

Maha Rai
General Secretary.

Jhapindra Thapa
Chairman.