

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14th JANUARY 2010 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Brayford (Chairman), Mrs Bennett, Colclough, A. Holmes, Mrs McPherson, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor & Mrs Weaver.

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Emma Kempson, 2 members of the public and S Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Brayford, Mrs Holmes, Lovatt & Mrs Wheat & and Borough Councillors Harp, Oldfield & Roycroft.

OTHER NON-ATTENDEES: Councillor Baggaley, Bevan

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

01/10 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th December 2009, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

02/10 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

There were no Borough or County Councillor reports. PCSO Emma Kempson reported that the area had been very quiet over the past few months and she had nothing substantial to report.

03/10 FINANCE

(a) Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

That authority be given for cheques to be issued in settlement of the invoices shown in the accounts for payment attached as an Appendix to the signed minutes.

(b) Request for a donation to the Stafford Branch of the Samaritans

A request for a donation to the Samaritans had been received from the Stafford Branch that covers the parish's area.

RESOLVED:

Following a vote in which there was one (1) abstention it was agreed that a donation of £100 be made.

(c) Information on the level of concurrent money from Stafford Borough Council

Details of the level of concurrent functions allowance for 2010/11 had been received which showed the level of funding remaining the same as 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

That the details be noted.

04/10 PLANNING

(a) Applications

The following decisions made by the Planning Sub-Committee were reported to the meeting:

- 1) That no objections be raised to the following applications:-
 - 09/13030/FUL – detached garage – 29 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7JQ
 - 09/12979/FUL -2-storey rear extension – 11 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7LN
 - 09/12969/FUL - practice nets – Meir Heath cricket club, Willow Lane, Meir Heath Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7NA
 - 09/12984/FUL – garage extension with private sun terrace on roof – 23 Franklin Drive, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9TN
 - 09/13052/OUT – new bungalow development - Beau Chene, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7PJ.
 - 09/13084/FUL - proposed single storey extension to front of dwelling - Rose Lea, Saverley Green, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9XQ.
 - 09/13109/FUL– erection of timber framed garage in garden of existing property - The Hollies, 35 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7LN.

- 2) That objections be raised to the following application for the reasons stated at the meeting:-
 - 09/12885/FUL – site of George & Dragon, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent – amended plans/additional plans.

(b) Decisions

It was reported that the following applications had been approved by the Borough Council:-

- 09/12537/FUL – alteration & extension to existing residential dwelling – Bermar, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7PQ
- 09/12795/FUL –extension & alterations to existing single storey dwelling including conversion of roof space – Su-Zan, Moss Lane, Hilderstone, Stone ST15 8RQ
- 09/12802/FUL – part demolition, internal alterations & single storey extensions to existing single storey property to provide 6 individual dwellings

with associated staff facilities & activity areas for people with learning difficulties – Octagon, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7PL
09/12807/FUL – proposed bedroom & shower room extension to side & rear – 74 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9JG
09/12820/FUL – change of use to 2-bedroom dwelling house including provision for off road parking – Crossgate Methodist Church, Fulford Road, Spot Acre, Stone ST15 8RL
08/10281/COU – change of use for the stationing of caravans for new gypsy pitches with utility/day rooms & areas of hardstanding ancillary to that use – Woodfield, Hilderstone Road, Spot Acre, Hilderstone, Stone (This application has been approved by the Planning Inspector, on appeal, for temporary use for a period of 5 years)

It was reported that the following applications had been refused by the Borough Council:-

09/12760/FUL – erection of timber framed garage in garden of existing property – The Hollies, 35 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7LN.

Councillors raised concerns at the decision of the Inspector relating to application no. 08/10281/COU in that the only reason this had been allowed was because the Borough Council had failed to provide appropriate sites. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council outlining the Parish Council's concern at this situation and seeking assurances that the Borough Council is monitoring the position.

(c) Other planning issues

Blythe Power Station – an offer has been made from Blythe Park Power Ltd to provide additional information to the Council and if Councillor's are interested arrange for a visit to a similar facility.

RESOLVED:

That some Councillors would be interested in a visit and this information to be passed onto the company.

Greenpark Energy Ltd – a public exhibition regarding the proposed development of a facility to extract methane gas at Spot Acre is to be held in Fulford Village Hall on Tuesday 26th January between 2.30pm and 8.00pm. Councillors were encouraged to attend.

05/10 OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL

(a) Items - the notice of which was given at the last meeting

As instructed at the last meeting, the Clerk included the following matters on the agenda for this meeting and the topics were then discussed by members:-

- Contribution to Sandon High School;
- BT phone boxes – adopt a kiosk

RESOLVED:-

1. That a donation of £200 be given to Sandon High School in recognition of the work they did in helping with the Playbuilder application.
2. Fulford BKV group interested and the Clerk was asked to find out the process that needs to be gone through to arrange for adoption.

(b) To consider proposals for Civic Amenity Visits (Refuse lorry)

RESOLVED:

That the Borough Council be informed that the Parish requires the same arrangements as in previous years.

(c) The filling of the Casual Vacancy for the Meir Heath ward

Two applications had been received and both applicants were asked to give a short presentation to the Council.

RESOLVED:

Following a vote by the Council it was agreed that Mrs Wendy Jennings be co-opted to the Council for the Meir Heath ward.

06/10 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Playbuilder Application – it was reported that no decisions had yet been made by the County Council on approving any of the applications submitted, however all applicants have now had 1 to 1 meetings with the Playbuilder team and have been asked to address a range of issues with a view to resubmitting by 24th February.

Highways - The Clerk reported that following discussions with the Highways dept. it was unlikely that the lighting in Ridgway Drive would be improved over the lifetime of the present upgrade programme (up to 2012).

Due to the adverse weather the remaining Community Gang time for 2009/10 financial year is not likely to be delivered until March. The County Council are presently working on the programme for 2010/11. Changes are also being made to the local highways programmes to put elected members at the centre of the process. (a leaflet outlining these arrangements was issued to Councillors at the meeting).

54 Birkholme Drive – the Clerk read out a letter from the Borough Council that he had received following further concerns expressed by the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to again write to the Borough stating they are still not happy with the situation.

Land of Grange Road – Cllr Shaw and the Clerk had met with the seller as requested and it was agreed that this issue be left in abeyance until the issue of the playground on Grindley Park is resolved.

Safer Routes to Schools – work should begin before the end of the financial year.

A50 – consultants report on noise has still not been produced. The Highways Agency is looking at reducing the speeds on the road.

Creeda Carpark – the Clerk was asked to try and find out what is happening with this land.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Winter Newsletter

Stafford Borough Council – Members Digest (no. 137)

Stoke-on Trent City Council – invitation to a sustainable Transport System event

Staffordshire County Council – Gritting schedule

Community Council for Staffordshire – details of BKV competition 2010 & events information

SPCA – training course information
BTCV – information on tree planting programme
Fulford Village hall – letter of thanks

07/10 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be convened at Fulford Village Hall on **Thursday 11th February 2010 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN