

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 14th AUGUST 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. K Brayford (Chairman), Baggaley, Mrs Bennett, Mrs Holmes, T Holmes Mrs. Malvern, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs. Wheat.

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillors Harp, Oldfield & Roycroft, S Beck (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

APOLOGIES: Councillors K Brayford, Colclough & Moore

OTHER NON-ATTENDEES: Councillors Bevan, Goodfellow and Lovatt.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Margy Woodhead, Learning and Partnership Manager with the County Council attended and outlined some of the work she is involved with, particularly with Blythe Bridge High School and its feeder schools. She works with young people from 0-19, but at the moment has a particular interest in helping to support teenagers and in particular teenagers in Fulford who have difficulty accessing some of the services on offer at places like Blythe Bridge HS. Young people in Fulford are looking for some kind of shelter where they can meet, perhaps close to the village hall. Margy will also be liaising with the Youth Service and Sports Co-ordinator to see how they can help.

RESOLVED:-

Margy Woodhead to be invited to the October Parish Council meeting to discuss in more detail youth provision in the area and Cllrs. Oxby and Mrs Wheat to discuss with the Fulford Village Hall Committee the idea of a shelter close to the village hall.

55/08 MINUTES

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th July 2008, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the reference to the Borough Council under the 'Public Participation' item being changed to County Council.

56/08 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

There was no County Council report.

Borough Cllrs. reported that action to resolve the issues relating to 54 Birkholme Drive is progressing. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State in respect of the refusal to grant planning permission for the alteration and retention of an existing balcony at The Wood, Stallington Lane. An order has been placed on the car wash at the top of Grindley Lane requiring them to stop water running onto the highway.

It was reported that the meeting re: potential quarrying in Moddershall and Fulford Dales held at Moddershall Village Hall on 29th July was extremely well attended and action will be continuing to ensure the proposals are not included in the Minerals and Waste Framework. Nothing further to report on the Creda site.

RESOLVED:-

Cllr. Harp to keep the Parish informed of developments regarding Moddershall and Fulford Dales.

57/08 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) Website subscription

RESOLVED:-

That the subscription for the Fulford Parish Council website should be paid for a further year at a cost of \$299 (approx £160).

(c) Clerk's subscription to SLCC

The annual subscription for the membership of the SLCC is £246.

RESOLVED:-

That the annual subscription be paid.

(d) Fulford Village Hall Electrical Inspection

Cllr. Oxby reported that Fulford Village Hall had recently received their 3-yearly electrical inspection and as a result a range of improvements and updates to the electrical systems were identified. The total cost of the necessary work is £2471.80 + VAT. The Village Hall Management committee were requesting that, as Trustees, the Parish Council oversee and place the order for the necessary work and if the Council were minded to also consider the possibility of a contribution to the cost.

RESOLVED:-

That the Parish Council will place the order and make a donation to cover half the cost of the work (£1,250).

(NOTE: Cllr. Oxby being a member of the Fulford Management Committee and Cllr. Mrs Bennett, who declared an interest, left the room during the discussion and voting on this issue)

(e) Request from Sustainable Staffordshire for a donation

A request for a donation to Sustainable Staffordshire was considered, however it was not clear to the Council as to why the organisation needs funding and it was felt more information was needed.

RESOLVED:-

The Clerk to seek to establish the reasons behind the request and what the current arrangements are for delivering this initiative.

(f) Mrs Wylie's 100th birthday

Mrs Wylie, a Fulford resident, is 100 in September and it was suggested that the Parish Council should mark this occasion with a bouquet of flowers.

RESOLVED:-

The Chairman to present Mrs Wylie with a bouquet, on behalf of the Parish Council, at her birthday celebration.

(g) Payment for pathway installed from Stallington bus shelter

It was reported that the contractor engaged to put in place the bus shelter on Stallington Road had also laid an 18 metre tarmaced path from the new bus shelter to the entrance to the estate at a cost of £1668.69. The contractors understanding was that this was part of the work he had been asked to do. Whilst it was recognised by members that the path was needed to ensure people could safely walk to the shelter and although the installation of the path appears to have been discussed in general terms, including the possibility of the County Council doing the work, the required council authority was still to be given.

RESOLVED:-

It was agreed, with 1 abstention, that the work be approved and the bill paid.

58/08 PLANNING

(a) Applications

RESOLVED: -

1) That no objections be raised to the following applications:-

- 08/10424 extension – 107 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge
- 08/10528 extension – 4 Diamond Close, Meir Heath.
- 08/10582 extension – 15 Grindley Lane, Blythe Bridge.
- 08/10596 extension – Thekli, Aynsley Drive, Blythe Bridge.
- 08/10660 extension – Blacklake Lodge Residential Home, Meir Heath.
- 08/10729 extension – 101 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge.
- 08/10748 extension – 6 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge

2) That objections be raised to the following applications for the reasons stated at the meeting:-

- 08/10250 Building of 2 new detached houses in the rear garden of 9 Field Close, Blythe Bridge.
- 08/10572 Building of a 2-storey dwelling in the grounds of 32 Adamthwaite Drive, Blythe Bridge.

3) Cllr Oxby informed the meeting that a revised application had been received for a fishing lodge on the car park of the now closed Bird in Hand pub, Whilst the development would be in the Green Belt it was generally felt that a development of this kind could be acceptable, provided that applied conditions which protect the Green Belt are adhered to.

(b) Decisions

1) It was reported that the following applications had been approved:-

- 08/09551 extension – Rose Lea, Meadow Lane, Saverley Green.
- 08/09612 renovate existing building with new attached accommodation – Ivy House Farm, Fulford.

- 08/09628 conversion of 2 stables into dwelling houses – Blacklake Farm, Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath.
- 08/10012 extension – Sunnyside, Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath.
- 08/10353 extension – 3 Aynsley Drive, Blythe Bridge.
- 08/10409 extension – 11 Kingfisher Crescent, Fulford.
- 08/10444 extension – 112 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath.

59/08 CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL

(a) Item 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:-

- ***Seat on Stallington Lane*** – Cllr. Baggaley confirmed that residents were happy with the proposal to erect a seat on the ‘old’ bus shelter site and the meeting was informed that the price of a seat could range from around £550 to £840. It was also mentioned that the grass verges around this area require cutting.
- ***Youth provision in the Parish*** – It was agreed that the possible provision of youth shelter at Fulford and a play area on Grindley Park be included on the next agenda.
- ***Litter poster competition*** – arrangements for this competition need to be put in place to ensure schools are involved during the autumn term. Four primary schools to be targeted, Rough Close, Meir Heath, Fulford and Springcroft, Blythe Bridge. Arrangements for prizes were discussed and agreed. All schools to be written to inviting them to participate in the competition.
- ***Grindley Park signage & access*** – issues have arisen with vehicles parking in front of the entrance to Grindley Park, as well as instances of dogs being off leads in the park. It was agreed that additional signs are required, specifically a ‘dogs on lead’ sign at the top entrance to the park and ‘no parking’ signs at the Grindley Lane entrance. It was also agreed to look at signage for in front of the MH & RC Village Hall indicating the presence of the Parish Office. It was further agreed that dog enforcement powers should be considered if things do not improve.
- ***Meeting to discuss Quality Council status*** – 2 possible dates for a meeting with Viv Evans, Chief Executive of Staffordshire Parish Councils Association, to meet with the Council was agreed.
- ***BT proposed re-alignment of payphone provision*** – It was reported that The Borough had passed on to BT the Council’s concerns and objections to the proposed removal of several payphones in the Parish

RESOLVED:-

- i) It was agreed that a seat be provided on Stallington Lane, subject to agreement on the cost. The Clerk to bring firm costs to the next meeting.
- ii) Consideration to the possibility of providing a Youth Shelter and play area on Grindley Park to be included on the next agenda

- iii) Two prizes per school (book tokens to the value of £25 per prize) be awarded, one for infants and one for juniors. The Clerk to write to all the schools inviting them to participate.
- iv) It was agreed to provide additional signs for Grindley Park as well as for outside of the village hall subject to agreement on costs. The Clerk will bring prices to the next meeting.
- v) It was agreed to arrange a meeting with Viv Evans to discuss Quality Status on either the 2nd or 16th October (subsequently firmed up as the 16th).

(b) Response to proposed Sustainable Community Strategy for Stafford Borough

A draft response to the Strategy had been circulated prior to the meeting and there were no further comments proposed.

RESOLVED:-

It was resolved that the draft response be accepted and forwarded to the Borough Council.

(c) Placement of horse awareness signs

The County Highways Department had asked for an indication of numbers of horses using Stallington Lane and where the Council would like the signs placed.

RESOLVED:-

Cllr. Mycock to provide the appropriate information to the Clerk for forward transmission to the County Highways dept.

60/08 MATTERS OF REPORT AND OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1st Responders – details were received from the 1st responders with the scheme going ‘live’ in Fulford during July.

Highways meetings – Cllr. Malvern reported on two meetings that had been held to discuss highways issues in the parish. Priorities had been agreed which were in the first instance road safety, particularly on Hilderstone Road, Stallington Road, junction of Lightwood Road and Common Lane and Grindley Lane. County Cllr. Ian Parry is to provide accident statistics with a view to submitting a report to the county stating the problems and seeking their advice on solutions. Safer Routes to Schools will also deal with some safety issues, such as drop kerbs.

LEADER – although this European programme will be running in parts of Staffordshire it does not include any of the Parish, although some neighbouring parishes are involved.

Minerals and Waste Development Framework – details of progress will be provided in the Parish Newsletter, Parish website and notice boards.

Meeting with the police re: Adamthwaite Drive – Cllr. Malvern reported that the police have a strategy in place to deal with anti-social behaviour, although it was reported that some bad behaviour was continuing.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Moebius Research Trust – letter of thanks for donation

Stafford Borough Council – Members Digest

Stafford Borough Council – Temporary Events Notice

Staffordshire Parish Council’s Association – request for resolutions for debate at AGM

County Highways Dept. – response to letter re A50
Staffordshire Parish Council’s Association – letter re public buildings in Staffordshire
Stafford Borough Council – Parish Forum 4th September 2008

61/08 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Youth provision in the Parish (Youth shelter at Fulford and play area on Grindley Park)
Review Council policy on gifts/donations.
Tribute to the late Cllr. Bedson

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council is to be convened at Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday, 11th September 2008 at 7.15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN