

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 15TH MAY 2008 AT 8.00 P.M.
AT FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Brayford, Colclough, Lovatt, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs Wheat;

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Parry, Borough Councillors Harp, Oldfield and Roycroft; M.J. Manley (Clerk) and 2 members of the public;

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors Baggaley, Bevan, Brayford and Mrs. Malvern;

OTHER NON – ATTENDEES: Councillors Goodfellow and Mrs. Holmes

29/08 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

One nomination having been received, it was

RESOLVED – That Councillor Mrs. Brayford be elected Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

Councillor Mrs. Brayford thanked the Members for the honour conferred upon her and afterwards the statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed. Members then expressed their appreciation of the work undertaken by the previous Chairman, Councillor Shaw, in his 12 month period of office.

30/08 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

After some discussion and then one formal nomination being received, it was

RESOLVED – That Councillor Mrs. Bennett be elected Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

The statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

31/08 MINUTES

RESOLVED -That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th April 2008, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32/08 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The members of the public who attended the Annual Parish Meeting held earlier in the evening had again reiterated their concerns with regard to anti-social behaviour in the Adamthwaite Drive area of Blythe Bridge. Letters from the Police and the Staffordshire Youth Service were submitted.

Despite earlier optimism, the problem was getting no better and although the Police were praised for their support, the major concern was the lack of supervision to the young people resident in Mangrove House by its Supervisors. It appeared that with the reorganisation of the Youth Service within the County, no organisation could be identified as being responsible for the licensing/control of the premises themselves. The Clerk was asked to write to appropriate bodies, the Police and the MP seeking action to bring about badly needed support for the residents of the area.

33/08 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

County Councillor Parry reported that the Stallington Speedwatch Scheme was now operational. He was still pursuing the execution of the highway improvement works to Stallington Village following the redevelopment of the hospital site but there were still legal problems to overcome.

Borough Councillor Harp reported that despite his concerns, the change of use planning applications in respect of the Creda site had been permitted but JCB were still negotiating for the acquisition of the site. At The Wood, Stallington Road, Meir Heath building works had commenced despite the Enforcement Notice and the Borough Council were pursuing the matter. The Borough Council had recently met to try and resolve the illegal occupation of the Spot Acre gypsy site and it was hoped that a speedy solution could be found. The present position with regard to the Untidy Site Notice at 54 Birkholme Drive, Meir Heath was explained and the Clerk was asked to write formally to the Borough Council seeking an early redress to the problems experienced by neighbours which were first raised some 30 years ago.

34/08 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) Receipts & Payments 2007/8

A summary of the Annual Receipts and Payments for the financial year 2007/8 was presented, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED – That the Receipts and Payments Schedule for the year 2007/8, a copy of which is attached to the signed Minutes, be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

(c) Donations

Letters seeking financial assistance were submitted from Fulford United Football Club and the Open Spaces Society. Members were reminded that consideration of a request for assistance with the publication of a booklet on circular walks within the area from Stone Ramblers had been deferred at the last meeting to enable a presentation to be made by the Group at the Annual Parish Meeting held earlier in the evening.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) That on this occasion no additional grant aid be made to the Open Spaces Society.
 - (ii) That a grant of £100 be made to Fulford United Football Club.
 - (iii) That a grant of £75 be made to Stone Ramblers.
- (d) **Annual Audit of Accounts 2007/8**

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from the Audit Commission that the date appointed for the audit of the Council's accounts for the year ending 31st March 2008 was 30th June 2008. The necessary papers would shortly be with the Internal Auditor and the statutory advertisements would be placed.

RESOLVED – That the position be noted.

35/08 **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

(a) **Committees/Working Parties**

RESOLVED – That the following be appointed for the ensuing municipal year:-

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillors Bevan, Colclough, Lovatt, Shaw and Taylor. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Grindley Park Management Group

Councillors Oxby and Mrs. Brayford plus all Members from the Meir Heath and Rough Close Wards

Parish Newsletter Working Party

Councillors Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Brayford, Lovatt, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw and Taylor.

Parish Plans Working Party

Councillors Colclough, Lovatt, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw and Mrs Wheat

Parish Council Website Management Group

Councillors Oxby and Taylor

Highway Maintenance Liaison Group

Councillors Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Brayford, Oxby and Taylor

(b) **Planning Liaison Officers**

RESOLVED - That the following Members be appointed liaison officers for collating Members' comments on applications for planning permission:-

Councillor Mycock – Blythe Bridge Ward
Councillor Colclough – Fulford Ward
Councillor Shaw – Meir Heath and Rough Close Wards

(c) **Representatives on Outside Bodies**

RESOLVED –That the following representatives on outside bodies be appointed for the ensuing year:-

Meir Heath & Rough Close VH Man. Committee – Councillor Mrs. Bennett

Meir Heath Windmill Preservation Group – Councillor Mrs Wheat

SPCA Stafford Area Committee – Councillors Mrs. Brayford and Mycock

Sustainable Staffordshire – Councillors Colclough and Oxby

Stone Crime Prevention Panel – Councillor Mrs. Brayford

Adamthwaite Drive Anti-social Behaviour Group – Blythe Bridge Ward Councillors

36/08 **PLANNING**

(a) **Applications**

RESOLVED:-

(i) That the action taken in raising no objections (with conditions as appropriate) to the following applications be confirmed:-

08/09988 Alterations – 28 Tudor Hollow, Ful.
08/10002 Rebuilding of existing building – Blacklake House, Stallington Rd., M.H.
08/10012 Extension – Sunnyside, Hilderstone Rd., M.H.
08/10047 Extension – Hollow Cottage, Meadowside, Sav. Grn..
08/10126 Extensions & double garage – Gable Lodge, Stallington Rd., B.B.
08/10151 Replacement garage & extension – 53 Hilderstone Rd., M.H.
08/10253 Extension & double garage – 3 Aynsleys Drive, B.B.
08/10268 Extension – 32 Adamthwaite Drive, B.B.

(ii) That action taken in raising objections to the following applications for the reasons stated at the meeting be confirmed:-

08/08560 Amended plans for erection of fishing lodge etc. – former car park, Bird in Hand, Creswell Rd., Hil
08/10092 The demolition of existing vicarage & erection of 10 dwellings – St. Francis Vicarage, Sandon Rd., M.H.
08/10214 Extension and development – Rowans Nursery, Ridgeway Drive B.B.

(b) **Decisions**

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

- 08/09693 Conversion of existing house & garage into children's day nursery – 78 Uttoxeter Rd., B.B.
- 08/09610 Extensions – 9 Balaams Lane, Moss Gate.
- 08/09960 Extension – 21 Adamthwaite Close, B.B.
- 08/09824 Extension & conservatory – 5 Ridge Crescent, M.H.
- 08/09872 New access driveway etc. – Car Park Cottage Stallington Rd., B.B.
- 08/09838 Extension – Rose Cottage, Baulk Lane, Ful.
- 08/09971 Alterations – 4 Hillside Close, Ful.
- 08/09995 Extension – Sunny Bank, Hilderstone Rd., M.H.

(c) **Other Planning Issues**

A letter was submitted from the Borough Council's Enforcement Officer advising that as a result of a visit was to Woodview, Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, he was satisfied that to date no breach of the planning legislation has occurred. Any caravan to be sited would be in connection with associated building works at the property which constitutes permitted development.

37/08 **CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL**

(a) **Casual Vacancies**

Further to Minute 26/08(b) of the last meeting, it was reported that the Borough Council had given notice that the requisite number of names required to fill the vacancies by election had not been received. However, two applications had been received for the vacancies – Mr. T.A. Holmes of Blythe Bridge and Mr. S.H.M. Moore of Meir Heath..

RESOLVED – That public notice be given of the vacancies and the applications considered at the July meeting..

(b) **Fulford Primary School**

A letter was submitted from the Head of School Improvement Division of the County Council advising that the term of office for a LEA Governor, Mr. M. Abbott, expired on 31st August 2008. It was understood that Mr. Abbott was to seek re-election and therefore no further action was taken.

(c) **Bus Shelter- Stallington Road, Stallington Village**

Further to Minute 26/08(d) of the last meeting, the Clerk reported that the shelter had now been erected in the new position.

RESOLVED – That Stallington Resident's Association be asked for their observations as to the possible usage of the base originally intended for the provision of the bus shelter.

(d) **Health Strategy – Public Consultation**

A letter was submitted from the Borough Council's Environmental Health Manager advising that that Council were embarking on a process of public consultation in connection with a prepared Draft Health Strategy. A copy of the Strategy had been received and comments were invited by the 6th June 2008.

RESOLVED – That the matter be referred to the Clerk to act in consultation with the Chairman.

38/08 MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

SCC – Strategic Plan 2008-2011
SCC- Public Transport News
SCC – Community Watchdog News
SBC – Members Digest
SBC – Borough Partnership
SBC – Walk Wise
Staffs PCA – Training Strategy and agenda for Area Meeting on 05.06.08
West Midlands LGA –Speaking out
CPRE – Spring Newsletter
Occupants of 17 Birkholme Drive – Dog problems on Grindley Park, Meir Heath
Parish Newsletter – Update
Former Creda site– Update

39/08 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Members asked that the following matter be included on the agenda for the next meeting:-

- Horse awareness signs at Stallington

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council is to be convened at Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday, 12th June 2008 at 7.15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN