

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER 2013 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Brayford (Chairman), Evans, Holmes (also Borough Councillor), Lovatt, Mrs McPherson, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw and Taylor.

IN ATTENDANCE: PCSO Lyndsey Brough, 1 member of the public and S. Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Barker, Brunt, Colclough, Mrs Jennings Mrs Wheat and Borough Councillors Dodson & Roycroft

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The member of the public present said she wished to seek clarification from the council regarding the statement made at the last council meeting concerning the mobile classrooms is use at Meir Heath Primary School. She stated that as a retired teacher from that school she could confirm that the mobile units were used as classrooms and were not there to allow for a varied curriculum as had been stated at the previous meeting. She also wished to know what stage the proposal for the affordable housing was at.

Two further issues had been raised with the Clerk from members of the public by email and telephone. The first concerned parked cars at the end of Sutherland Crescent that were causing difficulty for cars entering and exiting Sutherland Crescent onto Grindley Lane. The second was a request from a resident in Fulford that the Parish Council consider employing a contractor to deal with clearing roads during bad weather on roads in Fulford village.

119/13 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

120/13 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Lyndsey Brough outlined work the police are doing to try and alleviate parking outside of schools. Cllr. Oxby commended the police (PC578) on the way an anti-social incident in Fulford had been handled. Cllr. Mycock raised the issue of speeding in Stallington Lane.

121/13 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The Council accepted that information given at the last meeting concerning the school may have been misleading. The meeting was also informed, that as far as the Council is aware, Stafford & Rural Homes intend submitting a planning application to the Borough Council in January 2014.

The issue relating to parking in Sutherland Crescent will be looked at by the police. It was agreed, with 1 member against, not to consider employing a contractor to grit the roads in Fulford. It was felt there are a number of other roads in the parish that could also require the same treatment and this was not a responsibility the parish council wished to take on. The possibility of an additional grit bin for the village would be pursued with the County Council.

122/13 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th November 2013, having been circulated, and following some minor amendments be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

123/13 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

Borough Councillor Holmes reported on the following:

- The Borough Council were pursuing several enforcement actions with businesses in the parish
- A 'Pride in Your Patch' initiative has been launched by the Borough Council. Several potential recipients have been identified by Cllr. Holmes.

124/13 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 financial support from Moddershall Cricket Club

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that a donation of £60 be made to the Club.

(c) Consideration of report from F&GP Committee

Minutes and draft budget, including recommendations from the F&GP Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That, with effect from 1st January 2014, the contract payments made to Mr E Probyn, Mr L Turner and Mr. D. Wheat be increased by 2%.
- (ii) That the contract for the cutting of the open spaces and the grass verges will be continue with Town & Country and Millstone Gardening Services respectively.
- (iii) The litter picker's hours be increased by an extra 1 hour per week.
- (iv) No changes to be made to the rates applied for advertising in the parish newsletter.
- (v) The Financial Regulations having been reviewed do not require any changes.

The precept will be considered at the January meeting when all the appropriate information is available from the Borough Council.

125/13 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:
13/19663/HOU – Yew Tree, Moss Lane, Hilderstone, Stone
13/19574/HOU – 30 Birkholme Drive, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent

(b) Decisions

The following application decisions made by the Borough Council were reported:-

Approved:

13/19004/FUL – land adjacent 9 Field Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent

Planning Consultation – proposals from the Borough Council

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Borough Council be informed that the parish council does not wish to see any change to the way that the Borough consult with the parish regarding planning applications.

126/13 OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL

(a) Items - the notice of which was given to the Clerk

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

- Littlefields, Fulford Road;
- Bus services in the parish

RESOLVED:

- 1 It was agreed that a letter should go to the Borough Council, copied to Cllr. Holmes, regarding the level of industrial activity taking place at these premises.
- 2 The bus service issue to be held over until the next meeting.

(b) Parish Newsletter

The Clerk reported that Leaflets Ltd, with whom the Council thought they had a contract to deliver the winter edition of the Newsletter, have refused to undertake the work.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that i) efforts would be made to recruit one of the original applicants to undertake the distribution and ii) the item relating to costs of the printing of the newsletter be held over to a future meeting

(c) Trees in West View

Details of the prices had been circulated with the agenda

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that 3 Hornbeam or Maple trees be purchased and planted in West View.

(d) Barriers in Ridgway Drive

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that County Councillor Parry be approached to see if he will fund the cost of barriers from his budget.

127/13 MATTERS FOR REPORT

1. It was reported that Cllr Mrs Lightfoot had resigned from the Council. The Clerk was instructed to begin the process to find a replacement.
2. Cllr Mrs McPherson reported on a recent meeting of the SPCA with the main item of discussion being the Borough Council Local Plan.

128/13 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 9th January 2014 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN