

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2015 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Colclough (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Baskin, Mrs Brayford, Brunt, Evans, Holmes (also Borough Councillor), McNaught, Mrs McPherson, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw & Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Dodson & Roycroft, PCSO Becky Powell & S. Beck (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Jennings, Lovett & Mrs Wheat

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public present set out their opposition to the proposed move of the Post Office from its present location in Grindley Lane to Martin McColls in Sandon Road. The objections covered several areas including, safety issues with problems in crossing a busy main road for many people, lack of car parking space, decisions not made locally and loss of certain services. Additionally those present wanted to know if the Post Office had undertaken a risk assessment concerning the move of premises.

11/15 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

12/15 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Becky Powell reported that there had been some thefts of building material in the area, but an arrest had been made. There had been some bogus callers in the Blythe Bridge area. Cllr. Mycock again raised the issue of speeding in Stallington Lane and PCSO Powell said she would look into it.

13/15 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

PO move – Cllr Monks gave the Council an overview of the proposed move, from his perspective, including details of the way the Post Office is changing. Fellow councillors found this very useful. The Council, whilst not opposed to the move, did have some concerns as regards the safety of pedestrians and the potential increase in traffic on an already busy road. The clerk was asked to convey this response to the Post Office.

14/15 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8th January 2015, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**15/15 PRESENTATION FROM EMMA CROUT, BUISNESS DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER, STREETSCENE**

Emma set out the range of work that Streetscene can undertake including, provision of hanging baskets, ground maintenance, tree work and street cleaning. She then took questions from members

16/15 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillor Holmes reported that the Enforcement Officer would be issuing an enforcement order to Littlefields in Fulford Road early next week. He also reported that he was working on the grit buster and ice buster initiatives, mainly in Fulford, but was also looking at the footpaths outside Meir Heath and Springcroft schools.

He also reported that Fulfest had been successful in obtaining a grant from the Staffordshire Community Foundation.

Planning applications 14/21533 and 14/21185 are to be called in by the Borough Councillors.

It was reported that there will be no increase in council tax for 2015/16

Cllr Mrs Brayford thanked Cllr Holmes for ensuring that the gypsies who had encamped on the old Creda car park by the A50, were moved off very quickly.

17/15 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) Proposals from the F&GP Committee regarding the Clerk's salary

The Clerk left the room for this discussion.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation contained in the F&GP minutes be accepted and implemented.

(c) Workplace pensions

RESOLVED:

The Council noted the details regarding workplace pensions, which will affect the Council from 1st January 2106

18/15 PLANNING

(a) Applications

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

That no objections be raised to the following application:

14/21558/HOU – 15 Beaumont Rise, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear extension

15/21595/HOU – 50 Highview Road, Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent – removal of carport and construction of 2-storey extension to side

15/21587/HOU – 367 Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – 2-storey rear extension to side & replacement of detached garage

15/21597/HOU – Cavendish House, 47A Adamthwaite Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – proposed rear extension

15/216027/PTEL – land opp. junction of Whitestone Road, Grindley Lane, Meir Heath – upgrade to existing base station including replacement monopole (amended scheme to that approved under 14/21077/PTEL)

15/ 21663/HOU – Hawthorn Cottage, Meadow Lane, Fulford – refurbishment of existing cottage, demolition of single-storey kitchen and front porch, new 2-storey rear extension, conservatory and front porch

15/21728/HOU – The Willows, Fulford Road, Fulford – orangery to rear of property

That objections be raised to the following application:

14/21185/FUL – Rear of 5 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath – erection of 3 detached dwellings to the rear of 5 Golborn Avenue. Objections were on the following grounds:

- The proposal does not comply with the Plan for Stafford Borough in that the development proposed is within a designated Green Belt area of the Borough;
- The development will increase the level of noise and traffic for neighbouring properties;
- The development will overlook properties nos. 33 & 35 Birkholme Drive;
- The properties in Birkholme Drive have been subject to flooding in the past and this development could well exacerbate the problem.

14/21298/OUT – Outbuilding at 38 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath – conversion of existing outbuildings to residential unit. Objections were on the following grounds:

- The proposal does not comply with the Plan for Stafford Borough in that the development proposed is within a designated Green Belt area of the Borough;
- The development will increase the level of noise and traffic for neighbouring properties;

(b) Decisions

The following decisions were reported as having been made by the Borough Council:

Approved:

14/21163/FUL Blacklake Lodge Residential Home, Lake Croft Drive, Meir Heath – single storey extension to the rear of Blacklake Lodge to provide an additional 10 bedrooms

14/21340/COU – Stallington Sports Club, Fulford Lane, Stallington – construction of a ménage

14/21479/HOU – White Cottage, Saverley Green Road, Saverley Green – proposed rear and side extension and replacement garage and realignment of existing access

Withdrawn:

14/21325/HOU – 31 Pemberton Drive, Meir Heath – retention of front bay window to garage conversion

(c) Other Planning Issues

None

19/15 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:-

- Change of post office location
- Parking on Hilderstone Road outside the shops
- Ceramic poppies
- Allotments

RESOLVED:

1. This issue was dealt with under item 13/15.
2. Various suggestions were made as to how this might be resolved and the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council with a view to trying to find a solution.
3. Cllr Miss Noblett's suggestion that some of the poppies be mounted in a box, which would then be available for display was well received and she was asked by members to investigate this further, when it will then be considered by the Council.
4. Details of the allotments planned by Stafford & Rural Homes in Blythe Bridge to be included in the next newsletter.

(b) Annual Parish meeting

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to hold the annual Parish Meeting prior to the March Council meeting on the 12th.

(c) Bus Shelter in Stallington

Details had been circulated with the meeting papers

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that stick-on window frosting should be tried in an effort to cover up the graffiti. If this failed then the Council would consider other options.

20/15 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Spring Newsletter – Cllr Oxby reminded members that contributions for the Spring Newsletter are now due.

Stafford Town walk - Cllr Holmes mentioned arrangements for a Stafford Town walk in April

Parish Council Elections – the Clerk circulated details and timetable for the May Parish council elections and stated that election packs will be available at the next meeting.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members' Digest (203 & 204)

Stafford South West CAB – letter of thanks for the parish council donation

Oil Buying Club – information on oil buying club

Stafford Borough Council – Mayor's Charity appeal

21/15 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Stallington Village

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 12th March 2015 at 7.45 p.m.***

***The meeting will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 7.00pm**

CHAIRMAN