

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14th JANUARY 2016 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Colclough (Chairman), Garside (from agenda item 6 onwards), Holmes, Lovatt, Mrs Jennings Monks, Morris, Mycock, McNaught, Miss Noblett, Oxby & Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Staffordshire Newsletter Press Officer & S. Beck (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mrs Baskin, Brunt, Flackett and Borough Councillor Dodson.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

1/16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

2/16 POLICE REPORT

None.

3/16 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

None.

4/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th December 2015, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5/16 PROPOSAL TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLOR TO THE MEIR HEATH WARD

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that Mr Navarda Garside be co-opted to serve as parish councillor for the Meir Heath ward. Cllr. Garside duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

**6/16 PRESENTATION ON DEFIBRILLATORS – MR JAMIE RICHARDS
(AEDonate)**

Mr Richards outlined the role of AEDonate, which is a charity dedicated to placing Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) into communities. It is hoped that there will be network of defibrillators, ideally 1 every 200 metres. AEDonate will also help with fund raising as each external defibrillator cost about £2000.

RESOLVED:

The Council thanked Mr Richards for his informative presentation and agreed that he would provide the Council with a 'wish list' of sites within the parish, which could be looked at at the next meeting.

7/16 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Borough Councillor Roycroft reported on the following:

- Moments Restaurant have still not complied with the enforcement notice;
- Enforcement action to be taken against Regent Services (Meir Heath) regarding the unauthorised signage.

8/16 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) Consideration of report from F&GP Committee

Minutes, draft budget and precept recommendations, had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That, with effect from 1st January 2016, the contract payments made to Mr E Probyn, Mr L Turner, Mr. D Keeling and Mr K Collier be increased by 2%.
2. That the contract for the cutting of the open spaces and the grass verges be continued with Town & Country and Millstone Gardening Services respectively.
3. That no changes be made to the level of charges for advertisers in the Newsletter for the year 2016.
4. The precept for 2016/17 to be set at £50,000
5. The budget for 2016/17, as presented, to be adopted.

(c) External audit for smaller authorities

The Clerk provided the Council with details of arrangements that are being put in place to appoint external auditors on behalf of smaller authorities (less than £6.5 million annual turnover) from 2017. Authorities will be automatically enrolled unless they decide to opt out, in which case they will need to appoint their own auditor.

RESOLVED:

The Council will not opt out of this scheme.

9/16 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:

15/23372/FUL – Stallington Hall, Fulford Lane, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent – conversion & extension of existing building to form 26 apartments with 3 townhouses and a lodge and associated parking.

15/23433/FUL – Agricultural building at New Beech Tree Farm, Moss Lane, Moss Gate –extension to general purpose agricultural building

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

15/22819/HOU – 177 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge – 2-storey side extension.

15/23155/REM – Adjacent Hunters Moon, Fulford Road, Fulford – reserved matters (appearance, landscaping and scale) pursuant 12/18016/OUT

15/23245/FUL – Land at Fulford Manor Farm, Fulford Dale, Fulford – reinstatement & alterations to barn 2

15/23172/HOU – 9 Kingfisher Cres., Fulford – 2-storey rear extension

15/23190/PAR – Long Lane Head Farm, Long Lane, Hilderstone – notification of prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to 2 dwelling houses (class 3) and for associated building operations

10/16 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:-

- Parking at the post office/newsagents;
- Voluntary car scheme;
- Newsletter;
- Stallington Road/Fulford Road roundabout;
- Allotments;
- Fulford church war memorial.

RESOLVED:

1. The Highways Committee were asked to deal with this issue at their meeting on 18th January.
2. The voluntary car scheme that started in July 2015 is working well, however it is likely that a small injection of cash will be needed during the course of this year to keep it going. It was agreed that, if needed, a request would be considered by the Council on a quarterly basis.
3. It was agreed to convene a Newsletter working group (25th January).
4. Agreed that the Council needs to find out if SARH would still be interested in using the site on Hilderstone Road for allotments. The Clerk to speak to SARH.
5. Cllrs. Holmes and Mrs Jennings are continuing to pursue this with the War Memorials Commission, but it is slow progress.

(b) Civic Amenity visits

RESOLVED:

Civic amenity visits to be requested on the same basis as 2015 i.e. 3 times a year in Blythe Bridge, Fulford, Meir Heath/Rough Close and Stallington. The Blythe Bridge visits to be split between Mayfield Drive and Blythe Lodge.

(c) Consideration of the Council's Risk Assessment

This had been circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

Having been considered in depth by the Finance and General Purposes Committee the Risk Assessment was adopted by the Council.

11/16 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr Oxby reported that Fulford village will be undertaking a 'Clean for the Queen' event in the summer

Friends of the Common have a clean-up day organised for Sunday 17th January.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford BC – Monthly digest (215)

Stafford & Rural Homes – notification of closure of Blythe Lodge

Stafford Borough Council – Coming to a Bin Near You initiative

Western Power – notification of annual stakeholders' workshops

Staffordshire County Council – stakeholder event re: Blythe Bridge library

12/16 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Defibrillators

War memorial

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Fulford Village Hall on Thursday 11th February 2016 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN