

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 13th JANUARY 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Bennett (Chairman), Mrs Brayford, Brayford, Colclough, Holmes, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Jennings, Mrs McPherson, Mycock, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs Wheat.

IN ATTENDANCE: S Beck (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Borough Councillors Harp, Oldfield & Roycroft,

OTHER NON ATTENDEES: Councillors Bevan & Lovatt

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public raised the problems associated with the often inconsiderate parking on Hilderstone Road of parents/guardians taking children and picking them up from Meir Heath School. The potential for a serious accident on this stretch of road was highlighted. Several suggestions were put forward as possible ways to alleviate the problem including, staggered start and finish times for pupils, walking bus, double yellow.

Another member of the public again raised the issue of the sound barriers on the A50.

1/11 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Parking Hilderstone Road – It was agreed that parking on this section of road at school times was causing traffic problems that could lead to an accident.

RESOLVED:

That the school be approached, preferably with a face-to-face meeting to discuss the problems and try and come up with some workable solutions. The County Highways also to be approached with a view to seeing whether the introduction of double yellow lines is possible and the Borough Council's traffic enforcement officers and the police be asked to take a regular interest in the parking issues.

A50 – The meeting was informed of a meeting on the 31st January that had been arranged by Cllr. Parry with the Highways Agency to discuss the A50 barriers to which the Chairman and the Clerk had been invited. The outcome of this meeting to fed back to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

2/11 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

3/11 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9th December 2010, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

4/11 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

There was no County Council, Borough Council or police report.

5/11 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) To receive the 2011/12 budget and recommended 2011/12 precept

Details of the proposed budget and precept recommendation from the Finance & General Purpose Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting. Additional information relating to the level of concurrent expenditure to be received from Stafford Borough Council was given. As a result of a £16,000 cut in Borough budget Fulford Parish Council will receive £1422 less revenue from this source.

RESOLVED:

The budget as set out in the papers was agreed. It was also agreed to levy a precept of £55,000 for the financial year 2011/12.

(c) Staffordshire Playing Fields Association

A request for a subscription to this organisation had been received.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed not to subscribe to the organisation.

(d) Parish Council Civic Amenity Visits

Details of the costs for the above visits were presented to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that visits should be requested on the same basis as previous years i.e. 9 visits in total to 3 separate venues at a total cost of £469.80.

6/11 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:

10/14658/FUL – proposed 1st floor extension over existing dining room – 247 Grindley Lane, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent

10/14680/FUL – remodelling of existing school and extension – Aynsley Special School, Aynsley Drive Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent.

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

10/13052/OUT – new bungalow development – Beau Chene, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent.

10/14268/FUL – development of 7 dwellings on the site of the George & Dragon, Stone Road, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent.

10/14458/FUL – kitchen/utility/sunroom extension – Kano, Bramall Drive, Blythe Drive, Stoke-on-Trent

10/14497/FUL – single dwelling & vehicular access – 6 Sycamore Close, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7LD

10/14613/FUL – first floor & single storey extension, conversion of outbuildings for use as extension to dwelling – Flatts Farm, Balaams Lane, Moss Gate, Hilderstone.

7/11 OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING A DECISION BY THE COUNCIL

(a) Items - 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:-

- Posts on Grindley Lane
- Bus shelter on Windmill Hill

RESOLVED:-

1. The County Council to be asked their view on putting trees on part/all of Grindley Lane and they are also to be asked to remove all the various posts that have appeared on the Lane.
2. Agreed in principal to putting a bus shelter on Windmill Hill, subject to agreement from the Highways.

(b) Consideration of the felling of trees at the top entrance to Grindley Park

RESOLVED:

As the problem reported to the Parish Council in part concerned the loss of light from the tree foliage it was agreed that this item be reconsidered in the late Spring/early Summer when the trees are in full bloom

(c) Response to request for speed watch volunteers

It was reported that 2 people had expressed an interest in becoming speed watch volunteers.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk to speak to the police and find out how and when training is provided.

(d) Casual vacancies for Meir Heath Ward

The Clerk reported that to date 1 expression of interest had been received for co-option.

RESOLVED:

Applicants will be asked to attend the February meeting when a decision on co-option will be made.

8/11 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Local Development Framework – it was reported that the Parish council's response to this document had been submitted.

Equestrian Centre, Spot Acre – following a letter from the Parish council concerning the burning of waste it was reported that the Borough Council have instigated an investigation and are asking for any further evidence to be forwarded to them.

Housing needs Survey – a meeting is being arranged to take this forward and a small sub-committee of the council is needed to oversee the process (Cllrs. Mrs Bennett, Colclough, Holmes, Mrs Jennings and Mrs Wheat).

Parish Election Workshop – members were reminded of this event on 15th February.

Rubbish Collection – details of the response from the Borough Council on the arrangements for collections in adverse weather was given to the meeting

Car wash, Grindley Lane – water is running onto the road, the Enforcement Officer to be informed

Styles on Footpath 1 – County Council to be reminded of the repairs required.

Spring Newsletter – contributions required by 14th February.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members Digests (no.151)

Stafford Borough Council – Mayor' Charity Appeal 2010/11

Community Council of Staffordshire – invitation for Blythe Bridge and rough Close to take part in the Best Kept Village Competition 2011

Community Council of Staffordshire – Dairy of village events

Communities and Local Government – Major infrastructure planning reform work plan

The Royal British Legion – details of the Great Poppy Party Weekend

Staffordshire Office of the Lieutenancy – the Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012

Fulford Village Hall – letter of thanks

The Local Boundary Commission – electoral review of Staffordshire (Cllr Parry to be asked to explain at next meeting)

The Localism Bill – summary of main points.

9/11 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- litter picking
- dog waste
- Parish Plan and Quality status

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be convened at **Fulford Village Hall** on **Thursday 10th February 2011 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN