

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 9th JANUARY 2014 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Brayford (Chairman), Brunt, Colclough, Holmes (also Borough Councillor), Mrs Jennings, Lovatt, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs Wheat.

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Roycroft, 2 members of the public and S. Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Barker, Evans, Mrs McPherson and Borough Councillor Dodson

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The members of the public present raised issues relating to the Speedwatch activities in Stallington Road, in particular:

- There were no signs from where the 30mph starts at the top of Stallington Road to the bridge that indicated a speedwatch area – despite request for some to be deployed;
- Reports had been sent to the police, but no response had been received;
- The telephone number the team have, which was given to them during training, is an answer phone and no one bothers to ring back and in any case an answer phone doesn't help when they need assistance.

1/14 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

2/14 POLICE REPORT

None

3/14 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The Council requested that the Clerk report the issues raised by members of the public to the police and, if necessary, take up the issues with the Police & Crime Commissioners office.

4/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 12th December 2013, having been circulated, and following some minor amendments, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5/14 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

Borough Councillor Holmes reported on the following:

- Littlefields – an Enforcement Officer is due to visit the premises in the next few days;
- An application to demolish the listed building, Stallington Hall had been received by the Borough (yet to be sent to the Parish council);

- Cllr. Parry had indicated that he would help part-fund the barrier work in Ridgway Drive, but not until the next financial year;
- Leader of the Borough Council wishes to plant 400 trees across the Borough during 2014.

6/14 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 the budget and precept 2014/15

Prior to discussion on this issue the following motion was proposed and agreed
 “Fulford Parish Council agrees to allow dispensation for its Councillors in respect of setting the level of precept for the financial year 2014/15
 Details of the proposed budget and precept recommendation had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

The budget as presented was agreed and it was agreed that a precept of £50,000 be set for 2014/15. No change from 2013/14.

7/14 PLANNING

(a) Applications

No applications had been considered by the planning sub- committee since the previous meeting.

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

13/18831HOU – 47 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear extension, loft conversion etc.

13/19350/HOU – 9 Baalams Lane, Moss Gate, Stone

13/19461/FUL – Land at Aranjuez, Sandon Road, Sharpley Heath – variations to conditions 2 & 5 on application 12/17151/FUL.

13/19050/HOU – land adjacent 7 Green Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – construction of 3 x detached 3 bed dwellings

13/18164/FUL – Little Fields, Fulford Road, Spot Acre – demolition of existing building and replacing with new dwelling.

Withdrawn:

13/19287/FUL – Blacklake lodge Residential Home, Lake Croft Drive, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – rear single storey extension to provide additional 10 bedrooms.

(c) Other Planning issues

It was reported that an outline planning application to build circa. 200 homes in Draycott was being submitted to Staffordshire Moorlands DC. Any such development

is likely to impact on Fulford parish and therefore the Clerk was asked to request that Staffordshire Moorlands DC include Fulford Parish Council in the consultation.

8/14 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:-

- Bus shelters;
- Bus services in the parish

RESOLVED:

- 1 It was agreed that consideration should be given to replacing the bus shelter in Sandon Road and that the remaining wooden bus shelters in Moss Gate and at the Spot Acre crossroads should be inspected for safety. The Clerk was asked to present prices for a new shelter on Sandon Road at the February council meeting.
2. It was reported that Staffordshire County Council were currently undertaking a review of some bus services in the county, including the 249 that runs through Fulford, Stallington and Moss Gate (closing date 10th January). Other services have already been lost. The clerk was asked to write to Cllr Parry regarding the potential loss of services and the lack of information provided by the County Council on the consultation.

(b) Civic Amenity Visits 2014/15

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that, as in previous years, visits will be requested for the spring, summer and autumn at locations in Fulford, Rough Close and Blythe Bridge. However a request will be made to the Borough Council for a better spread of dates.

9/14 MATTERS FOR REPORT

1. It was reported that the poor state of repair to Footpath no.38 had been passed to Staffordshire CC.
2. Cllr Mrs Jennings reported that a 'Practical conservation' event organised by the Borough Council will take place on the common on Sunday 19th January.
3. Increase in dog fouling in Meir Heath reported.
4. Cllr Oxby said that he acquired some 30mph stickers to go on wheelie bins on Fulford Road.
5. Newsletter contributions required by the 14th February.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – members digest(190)

Stafford Borough Council – invitation to Caledonian evening on 7th February

Stafford Borough Council – details of proposed amendments to The Plan for Stafford
Western Power Distribution – invitation to stakeholder events

10/14 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Grindley Park litter bins
- Speeding on Stallington Road

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Fulford Village Hall on Thursday 13th February 2014 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN