

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 12th JULY 2012 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Parry, Mr William Waller (Stafford Borough Council) for part of the meeting 2 members of the public & S Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Bennett, Ms Cuncannon and Evans, Borough Councillors Dodson and Roycroft

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2 residents from Aynsley Drive, Blythe Bridge attended the meeting and presented to the Council a number of complaints concerning the recently completed development of Aynsley School (details of the issues were circulated to those members present at the meeting). In summary the key issues for the residents were, the removal of four mature trees, the omission of part of a metal fence, installation of unsuitable gates, use of access gate on Aynsley Drive and the failure of the developer to plant mature trees to act as a barrier between the new sports hall and the residents in Aynsley Drive.

61/12 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Mrs Brayford, as a Governor of Aynsley School (now called Portland College), declared an interest in the matter raised by members of the public.

62/12 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Borough Council's planning department and copied to the Director of Education at Stoke-on-Trent City Council seeking the Borough Council's views on the issues of concern to the residents

63/12 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council and the Special Meeting of the Council both held on 14th June 2012, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

64/12 WILDFLOWER MEADOW PRESENTATION (William Waller, SBC)

Bill Waller presented the Council with details of the process, work involved and potential costs of developing a wildflower meadow. Bill indicated he would be willing to help with the project, if the council decided to proceed, and that the Borough Council could well help with some of the costs.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that further thought be given to the project, including obtaining detailed costs, by the Grindley Park group with a view to bringing firm proposals to the August meeting.

65/12 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

County Cllr Parry reported the following:

- Fulford school is included in the roll-out of the '20 is Plenty' for the current financial year;
- Cars are still for sale on Tesco roundabout and he will again speak to the Borough and County Council;
- No plans for quarrying in Fulford Dale;
- A50 sliproad fencing repairs have still not been done, he will follow up with Highways Agency.

Borough Councillor Holmes reported that there was still no progress in getting the s106 money from the developers of the 'Monsoon site' on Uttoxeter Road

66/12 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) Chairman's Allowance

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that this should be paid in line with the amount agreed (£140) in the 2012/13 budget.

(c) Request for donation from Age Concern (Stone & District)

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that a donation of £150 be made.

(d) CPRE subscription

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to renew the Council's annual subscription.

67/12 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:
12/17272/FUL – 53 Adamthwaite Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – demolition of existing detached double garage. 2-storey side and rear conservatory extension.
12/17238/HOU – 67 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7NU – rear 2-storey extension & changes to garage

12/17250/FUL – Fox Earths, Fulford Road, Spot Acre – change of use from care home to single dwelling with separate dwelling annex. (adjoining parish)
12/17278/HOU – 7 Woodlands Grove, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear extension.
12/17151/FUL – Aranjuez, Sandon Road, Sharpley Heath – replacement dwelling, detached garage/store, revised access, stables and tack room.
12/17309/FUL – Barclay, Windmill Hill, Rough Close – replacement of existing 6ft high fence boundary with 8ft fence to improve privacy and security.

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

12/17112/FUL – The Hollies, Fulford Road, Spot Acre – manege and associated fencing and drainage
12/16991/FUL – Blacklake Lodge Residential Home, Lake Croft Drive, Meir Heath – proposed additional bedroom to 1st floor area
12/17033/FUL – The Black Lake Inn, Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath – extension, canopy to entrance, steps, paving and timber close board fence etc.
12/16924/HOU – 21 Goldorn Avenue, Meir Heath – conservatory extension

(c) Other Planning Issues

The Clerk reported on correspondence received from Stafford BC re: the various sites around the parish that are currently subject to possible enforcement action. The Borough have reported on only one of the sites to date and that is the helicopter landings at the Creda site and in this case a report for the Planning Committee is currently being prepared.

68/12 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:-

- Paths for Communities
- SCC's Energy Conservation Initiative
- Ex-Cllr Bevan's presentation
- Signs by the pond by the common

RESOLVED:

1. A possible project was suggested involving substantial improvements to a footpath across the top common, Rough Close. As this land belongs to the Borough Council it was agreed the first steps should be to discuss the proposals with them. The clerk to set this in motion.
2. It was agreed that the next issue of the Parish Newsletter should contain information on this initiative and include a questionnaire for residents to complete to ascertain the electorates views.
3. Cllr Shaw to speak to Cllr Bevan to find a suitable date. The cost of the presentation evening to borne by the Councillors.
4. It was agreed that the County Council be approached with a view to erecting a sign on the verge discouraging people from dumping.

(b) Goals post on Grindley Park

It was felt by some members that the goal posts on Grindley Park had not been correctly installed. However others felt that as the area was not used for ‘proper’ games the posts were ‘fit for purpose’.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed the decision on whether extra costs should be incurred to rectify the installation should be left to the Grindley Park group.

(c) Purchase and planting of trees in Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge

RESOLVED:

Details of the proposal having been circulated prior to the meeting it was agreed that the purchase and planting of trees be approved up to a cost of £150.

(d) Signage for Grindley Lane

RESOLVED:

Details of the costs involved had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was agreed that the County Council be instructed to erect two new directional signs for Grindley park at a cost of £567.62.

(e) Co-option to the vacant Blythe Bridge ward Councillor post

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to co-opt Mrs Deborah Barker on to the Council to fill the vacant Blythe Bridge ward post.

(f) Litter bin on Hilderstone Road

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to request a litter bin from the Borough Council for Hilderstone Road (close to the cricket club entrance).

(g) New Code of Conduct

The new Code of Conduct had been circulated to members before the meeting.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to accept the Code of Conduct with immediate effect.

(h) Plan for Stafford Borough – Neighbourhood Plans

The Chairman reported on a recent meeting he had attended concerning the Plan for Stafford Borough and the introduction of neighbourhood Plans. It was still unclear whether a Neighbourhood Plan(s) would be appropriate for the Parish and it was agreed to keep a watching brief on developments with the Stafford Plan and other issues associated with the Localism Act.

69/12 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Fulford Village sign – Cllr. Oxby provided some additional information on the design of the village sign

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-
Stafford Borough Council – Digest
Stafford Borough Council – Ladies Charity Luncheon invitation
Communities and Local Government – details on Community Right to Build Funding
Communities and Local Government – Community Right to Bid
Wedgwood – details of consultation event
Open Spaces Society – AGM information

70/12 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None proposed

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be convened at **Fulford Village Hall on Thursday 9th August 2012 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN