



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 AT 7.15 P.M.  
AT MEIR HEATH AND ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Brunt, Cllr Baskin, Cllr White, Cllr Noblett, Cllr Colclough, Cllr Cooke, Cllr Lovatt, Cllr Sandiford, Cllr Mycock, Cllr Flackett, Cllr Oxby, Cllr Garside, Cllr McNaught

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Borough Councillors Dodson & Roycroft. Mr Paul Oldham, Mr Peter Wilkinson

**APOLOGIES:** None

**48/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Oxby declared at interest in the agenda item regarding Little Learners who run a preschool from Fulford Village Hall. Cllr Oxby is the Chairman of the Village Hall committee.

**49/19 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

Cllr White had been asked by a Parishioner a question regarding the road system at Stallington Close in particular any plans for a mini roundabout with the S106 monies – It was agreed that this matter would be discussed with County Cllr Parry at the next highway liaison meeting.

Cllr Cooke had been approached by a young family who were not able to live within the Parish due to a lack of affordable housing – It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Hannah at Urban Vision to ask her to present to the Parish the information around starting a housing needs survey.

Cllr Sandiford reported that an elderly gentleman had fallen on Ridgway Drive as the pavement – Cllr Sandiford had reported this through the mystaffs app.

Cllr Garside reported that there was still an issue with flooding at the junction of Sandon Road and Ridge Crescent – Although this has been reported via the mystaffs app the Clerk would forward the details to Trevor Mellor at SCC to ask where it was in the list of things to do.

Cllr Baskin reported that the speed on Hilderstone Road was still excessive – The Clerk would make contact with Michelle Shaker at the Community Speed watch department



A member of the public had emailed the clerk regarding dogs running loose on Grindley Park and being intimidating. – It was suggested that a small study be undertaken by the Parish Councillors to ascertain the level of problems with dogs running loose.

A member of the public had emailed the Clerk regarding erecting a bench on the green in Saverley Green. – Cllr Oxby stated that he thought the land on which the picnic bench was to be erected was SBC land.

A letter had been received from Blythe Bridge & District Rotary Club inviting the Councillors to the next meeting at The Upper House Barlarston. Cllrs Sandiford, Cooke, Noblett and Chairman Brunt wished to attend and the Clerk will inform the Rotary Club.

#### **50/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

#### **51/19 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 09.05.19**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Proposed by Cllr Noblett and Seconded by Cllr Baskin**

#### **52/19 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Borough Cllr Dodson addressed Cllr Cooke and said that the couple who were unable to find housing in the Parish could be referred to Stafford Rural Housing.

Cllr Dodson urged the Parish to consider how time consuming producing a Neighbourhood Plan would be and if the Parish considered there to be a shortage of affordable housing then they contact Stafford Rural Homes directly.

Cllr Dodson reported that he had been approached by a parishioner who had concerns about unauthorised building works at Flats Farm, Ballams Lane.

Cllr Roycroft reported on the political position of Stafford Borough Council since the recent election. He also reported that there had been an issue with the voting procedure in the Haywood/Hixon ward which was being progressed through the High Court.

#### **53/19 FINANCE**

##### **(a) Accounts for Payment**

**RESOLVED** - Authority was 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.



The Councillors agreed that authority for the invoices to be paid via CHAPS directly through NatWest's Laura Baker due to the ongoing issue with the signatories.

**(b) Other Financial Matters**

**(c) Internal Audit report**

The report was read out by the Clerk and the Councillors noted the contents.

**(d) Signing of the Annual Governance Statement**

The Clerk read through the Annual Governance Statement.  
The Councillors unanimously agreed for the Chairman to sign.

**(e) Signing of the Annual Accounting Statement**

The Clerk read through the Annual Accounting Statement.  
The Councillors unanimously agreed for the Chairman to sign

**(f) Banking Signatories**

The Clerk explained that the current banking signatories held by Nat West were incorrect and the process of adding new members needed to be done as possible. She had issued the banking mandate out to the Councillors and asked them to return asap with their identification to enable her to copy them and send them to Nat West. Cllr Oxby & Noblett would make it a priority and Cllr Noblett had already supplied the Clerk with her account details that she held with NatWest.

**54/19 PLANNING**

**(a) Applications**

19/30586/HOU – 137 Stallington Road – Demolish existing garage and replace with a larger garage.

No Objections.

19/30556 – Fairhaven – Lightwood Road, Rough Close – demolition of garage to be replaced with two storey side extension and sun room to the rear.

No Objections

19/30580 – 420 Sandon Road, Meir Heath – Retrospective application for installation of an ATM

No objections but to note that the Parish Council have already received complaints regarding the light from the ATM and it not being in keeping with the area.

**55/19 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: -

➤ **Co-option of Councillors**

Mr Paul Oldham addressed the Councillors. Paul explained he is a local resident who had previously helped the Council with the Tommy's for around the Parish in November last year. He had also been invaluable with his help for the memorial garden in Grindley Park.

Mr Peter Wilkinson addressed the Council. Peter has lived in Fulford since 1962 and has ran a business within the Parish. He is an active member of Blythe Bridge rotary club.

The potential Councillors left the room and a discussion took place. All Councillors unanimously agreed that both Paul and Peter should be co-opted onto the Council.

Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Oldham joined the table for the rest of the meeting.

➤ **Little Learners request for donation**

Cllr Oxby declared an interest.

Chairman Brunt explained that he had been approached by Little Leaners who run a preschool from Fulford Village Hall for a donation towards a shelter to enable to children to play outside in all weathers.

Cllr Cooke asked if Fulford Village Hall had offered any funding.

Cllr Oxby said they hadn't as it was a direct advantage for the preschool. However, he pointed out that the preschool had a really big advantage for the village in that the school was retaining its reception age children.

A discussion took place and it was decided that Chairman Brunt would approach Little Leaners and ask to see their accounts and ask for the details of the quotes.

➤ **Speed of Stallington Road**

Cllr Mycock addressed the Councillors regarding his ongoing concerns regarding the speed of traffic on Stallington Road.

Cllr White detailed the voluntary speed watch and how it worked. She offered to contact Sue de Nicolas at the Safer Road Partnership and obtain statistics for Stallington Road.

➤ **Working groups and committee agendas and notes**

Cllr Oxby asked the Clerk if all the committee notes could be circulated to all the Parish Councillors.

➤ **Communications budget**



Cllr Cooke asked the Parish Councillors if the communications group could have a budget of £250 to enable them to boost Facebook posts for the events they were running.

Following on from a discussion Cllr McNaught proposed a budget of £250 and Cllr White seconded.

### **53/19 MATTERS FOR REPORT**

#### **Updates from Parish Contractors**

Cllr Noblett asked if there was a better way in which the parish Council could allocate jobs out to the Parish Handyman. It was agreed that the Clerk would set up a drop box and invite all the Councillors, they could then add any jobs that they wanted doing to it and the Clerk would compile a job sheet to give to the handyman.

Cllr Garside stated he thought the Councillors should lead by example and be litter picking etc themselves.

#### **Updates from F&GP Committee**

Cllr White felt that a paragraph had been missed out from the minutes regarding the amount of money that the Parish spends on handyman/grass cutting services throughout the year. This was approx. 35K. It was discussed briefly at the F&GP meeting to look into employing a Parish ranger who could undertake all the works and the Parish lease in items of machinery as and when required. The F&GP committee would report back to full council with the facts and figures in September / October ready for the budget setting in December / January.

Cllr Oxby expressed his concern over the proposal to end the grass cutting at Fulford Church. He stated that he though major issues should come back to full Council for approval.

#### **Updates from Highways Liaison Group**

Cllr Oxby read out the meeting notes. He asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with County Cllr Parry for the next liaison meeting.

### **47/19 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Amalgamation of Committees

Terms of reference

Saverley Green grass cutting

Little Leaners

Handyman Updates

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 1. The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened on Thursday 11th July 2019 at Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall**

CHAIRMAN