

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14th JUNE 2012 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Parry, Borough Councillors Dodson & Roycroft, Mr J Hinton (SCC) for part of the meeting & S Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Bennett, Ms Cuncannon, Lovatt and Mrs Jennings

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present

52/12 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

53/12 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th May 2012, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

54/12 BROADBAND PRESENTATION (James Hinton, SCC)

James Hinton outlined to the Council action that was being taken by the County Council to bring improved broadband services to rural areas. The programme will start early 2013 and be completed by 2015. Currently the County Council are conducting a demand survey and are seeking responses by 1st July.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Parish Council would try and encourage people to complete the survey, especially in the Fulford ward as this was the area of the parish with the worst broadband service, by circulating copies of the survey alongside the Parish Newsletter.

55/12 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

Cllr Parry reported that he had pursued the replacement of the panels on the A50 sliproad with the Highways Agency and was expecting them to be repaired in the next few weeks. Cllrs Dodson and Holmes reported on the following:

- Some progress with Stallington Hall;
- DVD available from the Borough on recycling;
- The Borough Council had invoiced the developer for s.106 money re: Monsoon development.

56/12 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) External Audit fees for 2012/13

The Clerk reported that with the demise of the Audit Commission the Council's external audit will be undertaken for the next 5 years by Grant Thornton UK LLP. The cost has reduced and based on the Council's expenditure the fee will be £300.

57/12 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:

12/17112/FUL – The Hollies, Fulford Road, Spot Acre – manege and associated fencing and drainage

12/17126/FUL – The Hunters Inn Public House, Saverley Green Road, Saverley Green – change of use of 2 stables, an existing bar and pool room to restaurant on rear outrigger of the public house etc.

12/17238/HOU – 67 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7NU – rear 2-storey extension & changes to garage

12/17254/HOU – 10 Franklin Drive, Stallington Village, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – rear conservatory extension & garage extension

2) That objections be raised to the following application:

12/17131/HOU – 13 High View, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey extension to comprise replacement garage, utility room, extended kitchen door. Alteration to dropped crossing and garden walls. The following grounds were given as objection:

- The erection of the proposed perimeter wall is out of keeping with the character of the surrounding area, is detrimental to the external appearance and is likely to affect sunlight and daylight of neighbouring properties

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

12/ 16845/FUL – Land at former Bird in Hand carpark, Cresswell Road, Hilderstone – the erection of a small detached timber-framed stable block & alterations to car park layout

12/16843/HOU – 23 Meadow Close, Blythe Bridge Stoke-on-Trent – 2-storey extension to rear of existing house

12/16900/FUL– grass verge southside of Grindley Lane, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – 17.5 metre dual user Vodafone & Telefonica monopole, equipment cabinet and electricity meter

12/16978/HOU – The Morrilows, Sandon Road, Hilderstone – 2-storey extension

(c) Other Planning Issues

The Clerk reported on correspondence received from Stafford BC re: the car wash on Grindley Lane and a letter received from a member of the public concerning the storage of caravans on land behind the Greyhound Pub, Saverley Green. This had been forwarded to the Borough Council for their action.

58/12 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:-

- Signs by the pond on the common
- Outstanding enforcement actions required by Stafford BC
- Trees in Blythe Bridge

RESOLVED:

1. As Cllr Mrs Jennings was not present it was agreed to hold this item until the next meeting
2. The Clerk was asked to write to the Borough Council asking what action was being taken regarding a number of outstanding enforcement actions across the parish.
3. The Clerk to follow up the issues of planting of trees with Stafford and rural Homes.

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

As the prospective candidates was unable to attend the meeting this item would be carried forward to the next meeting.

(Cllr Evans left the meeting at the end of this item)

(c) Proposal for the erection of a sign on Fulford village green

Details and costs of the proposal were circulated to members and Cllr Oxby spoke briefly about the proposal

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to support the proposal and £2,500 was allocated to the project..

59/12 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Digest

Staffordshire County Council – Energy Conservation Initiative

Natural England – Paths for Communities

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – revised submission core strategy

Staffordshire Partnership – volunteering strategy consultation

Sustainable Staffordshire – details of energy conference

Meir Heath Windmill Preservation Group – letter of thanks

60/12 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Paths for Communities
- SCC's Energy conservation initiative
- Ex-Cllr Bevan's presentation

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council, is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 12th July 2012 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN