

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14th MAY 2015 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Colclough (Chairman), Mrs Baskin, Mrs Brayford, Brunt, Mrs Jennings, Lovatt, Mrs McPherson, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby & Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Dodson & S. Beck (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Holmes, McNaught & BC Roycroft

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

Prior to the meeting all councillors present signed the Statutory Declaration of Office.

44/15 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE 2105/16 YEAR

RESOLVED:

Councillor Colclough, being the only nominee, was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

Cllr. Colclough proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr. Mrs Jennings for her term as Chairman.

45/15 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

46/15 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE 2015/16 YEAR

RESOLVED:

Cllr. Taylor being the only nominee was duly elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

47/15 CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANT SEATS IN ROUGH CLOSE AND BLYTHE BRIDGE WARDS

RESOLVED:

That Mr Lovatt and Mr McNaught be co-opted to fill the existing vacancies in Rough Close and Blythe Bridge wards respectively. Cllr Lovatt, who was present at the meeting, duly signed the Statutory Declaration of Office and participated in the remainder of the meeting.

48/15 POLICE REPORT

No report.

49/15 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

None.

50/15 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9th April 2015, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51/15 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Following the election of a new council Borough Councillor Dodson had nothing specific to report. Parish Councillors raised the following issues with Cllr. Dodson:

- Councillors asked whether there had been any further developments with Littlefields. Cllr Dodson was not aware of any further developments, however he would make enquiries.
- Cllr. Mycock again raised the issue of the roundabout and unadopted roads in Stallington
- It was reported that several houses in Tudor Hollow, Fulford had extended their gardens by purchasing agricultural land and extending into green belt. Cllr. Dodson was asked to explore the planning implications of this with the Planning Department.
- Cllr Mrs Baskin reported that 2 panels were missing on the sliproad leading to the A50 from the Blythe Bridge roundabout. As this was not a Borough Council issue, Cllr Mrs Baskin was asked to raise it at the next Highways meeting.

52/15 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 approve the annual governance and accounting statement for 2014/15

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the governance and accounting statement for 2014/15 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

53/15 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED:

That the following be appointed for the 2015/16 year:

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Holmes, Mrs Jennings, Lovatt & Miss Noblett. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio.

Planning Committee

Councillors Mrs Brayford, Holmes, Mrs Jennings, Lovatt, Mrs McPherson, Mycock & Miss Noblett Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Grindley Park Management Group

Councillors Holmes & Oxby plus all Councillors from the Meir Heath and Rough Close Wards. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Parish Newsletter Working Party

Councillors Mrs Jennings, Mycock & Oxby. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Parish Council Website Management Group

Councillors Holmes & Oxby. Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Highway Maintenance Liaison Group

Councillors Mrs Baskin, Holmes, Mrs Jennings, Monks, Miss Noblett & Oxby,
Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio

Complaints Committee – Councillors Mrs Baskin, Mycock, Mrs McPherson, Oxby.
Chairman and Vice- Chairman ex-officio

Representatives on Outside Bodies

Meir Heath & Rough Close V.H.M.C. – Councillor Mrs Jennings

Fulford V.H.M.C. – Councillor Holmes

SPCA Stafford Area Committee – Councillors Mrs. Brayford, Brunt, Holmes &
Mrs McPherson

SPCA Executive Committee – Councillors Mrs Brayford & Holmes

Governor Fulford Primary School – None

Governor Meir Heath Primary School – None

Governors Springcroft Primary School – None

Governor Portland College – Councillor Mrs Brayford

54/15 PLANNING

(a) Applications

The following decisions made by the Planning Sub-Committee were reported to the meeting:

That no objections be raised to the following application:

15/21775/REM – land at former Bird in Hand carpark, Cresswell Road, Hilderstone – scale, appearance and landscaping (reserved matters in respect of 07/08560/OUT and 11/16077/EXTO (amended application)

15/21918/FUL – Barn at Flatts Farm, Balaams Lane, Moss Gate – change of use of existing outbuilding to residential, subject to an up to date bat survey being completed, as the Parish council believe there is a history of bats in this area.

15/22085/HOU – Ravenswood, Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – conversion of attached garages to provide accessible accommodation needs of a disabled man and his paid care regime. New detached garage.

15/22098/HOU – 9 The Grove, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – demolition of existing garage, construction of single storey extension & 1st floor single storey front extension.

15/22269/HOU – 8 Meadow Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent –rear single-storey extension and front two-storey extension

15/22221/HOU – 418 Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – erection of 2nd access to provide an exit route from the property onto Sandon Road.

That objections be raised on the following applications:

15/22030/FUL – Outbuilding at 38 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath – conversion of existing outbuildings to residential unit. Objections were on the following grounds:

- The proposal does not comply with the Plan for Stafford Borough in that the development proposed is within a designated Green Belt area of the Borough;
- The development will increase the level of noise and traffic for neighbouring properties.

15/21851/FUL – land at 2 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – erection of 2-storey dwelling in the grounds of 2 Uttoxeter Road. Objections were on the following grounds:

The proposal does not comply with the Plan for Stafford Borough in that the development proposed is within a designated Green Belt area of the Borough.

(b) Decisions

The following decisions were reported as having been made by the Borough Council:

Approved:

14/21185/FUL – Rear of 5 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath – erection of 3 detached dwellings to the rear of 5 Golborn Avenue

15/21792/HOU – The Grove, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – 2-storey rear extension

15/21814/HOU – 4 Lake Croft Drive, Meir Heath Stoke-on-Trent – extension and alteration to form new lounge, kitchen and 1st floor bedroom

15/21896/HOU – 74 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear extension to existing bedsit accommodation

(c) Other Planning Issues

None

55/15 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:-

- Ceramic Poppies
- Enhancement of underfoot surface at corner of Grindley Lane/Hilderstone Road

RESOLVED:

1. It was agreed that 3 of the ceramic poppies should be mounted in a sealed box and put on display in Meir Heath & rough Close village hall.
2. Cllr Taylor reported that the slope on the pavement by the roundabout at the top of Grindley Lane was causing problems for pedestrians when it was wet or icy. It was agreed that the County Council be asked if they could come up with a solution.

(b) Nomination for Local Authority Governor – Meir Heath School

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that Cllr. Monks would be nominated.

(c) Community Transport Scheme

Details of the proposed Parish Council's involvement in this scheme had been circulated with the meeting papers.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Parish Council would act as the 'umbrella' organisation for this scheme.

(d) Seat for Grindley Park

Details of the costs had been circulated with the meeting papers.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Rippon seat be purchased for Grindley Park.

(e) Arrangements to fill vacant councillor positions in Blythe Bridge, Fulford and Meir Heath

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that information would be placed on the council's notice boards and the website.

56/15 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Cllr. Oxby presented Fulford Village Hall accounts to the Council, reporting that income was slightly down on the previous year.

It was also reported that a faster broadband speed was now available in Fulford. Following the decision by Mr Evans, Mr Shaw and Mrs Wheat not to stand again as parish councillors it was suggested that a presentation event be held to mark, in particular ex-Cllr Shaw's service to the community (39 years as a Parish Councillor). The Clerk will try and establish a suitable date.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members' Digest (207)

Stafford Borough Council – Gala performance of Much Ado About Nothing at Stafford Castle

Police & Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire – invitation to event at Yarnfield on 30th May, also details of People Power Fund

Samaritans, Stafford – thank you letter

Fields in Trust – Impact report 2014

Stafford & Rural Homes – letter re: balancing pond for new development on Hilderstone Road (Parish Council does not wish any involvement).

57/15 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Allotments

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 11th June 2015 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN