

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.
IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Shaw (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Brayford, Ms Ellerman, Holmes, Mrs Jennings, Lovatt, Mrs McPherson, Monks, Mycock, Oxby & Taylor.

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Councillor Dodson, S Beck (Clerk) and 1 member of the public

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs Bennett, Colclough & Mrs Wheat, Borough Councillor Roycroft

OTHER NON-ATTENDEES: Councillor Bevan

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

97/11 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

98/11 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

None

99/11 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13th October 2011, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records (following some minor amendments) and signed by the Chairman.

100/11 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

Borough Councillor Dodson reported that the Borough Council were hoping to keep the council tax for 2012/13 at the same level as the current year and are also planning for a 3rd year of zero increase. This is being achieved by amalgamating services with adjoining boroughs. He also reported that one of the Council's major expenditure items will be the upgrade of Stafford Crematorium as they are required to install new furnaces to deal with potential mercury contamination.

Councillor Holmes reported that the sale of Stallington Hall was going through and that the Borough council would be pressing the new owners to take action. The borough council would also be looking to local residents to take some responsibility, in particular for the Italian garden and the pond. He also reported on the following:

Car sales at Tesco roundabout – still pursuing with County Councillor

Quarry traffic on Lightwood Road – working with Stoke City Councillors to try and address the problem.

In response to a question from Cllr. Mycock, Cllr Holmes said he was still pursuing the roundabout planned for the junction of Fulford Lane and Stallington Lane, which was part of a Sec. 106 agreement with Persimmon Homes.

101/11 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) Statement of Accounts to end of September 2011

Details of the accounts up to 30th September 2011 had been circulated with the minutes.

RESOLVED:

Details of the report were noted.

(c) Renewal of Open Spaces subscription

RESOLVED:

It was agreed the subscription should be renewed for a further year.

(d) Request from Springcroft Primary School

A request for £50 to cover the cost of buying and planting bulbs outside the school had been received.

RESOLVED:

Payment of £50 agreed.

102/11 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:

11/16077/ HOU – conservatory – 114 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent

2) That objections be to be raised with the following applications:

11/16035/OUT – 47 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath – demolition of existing bungalow and garage and re-development of the site with two new houses and garages for the following reasons

- The plans put forward propose the building of 2 detached houses that would be very close together and would appear to be shoehorned into the available space. There is therefore an issue of space about dwelling.
- As this site is higher than the neighbouring property there will almost certainly be a loss of light and overshadowing of the neighbouring dwelling.

11/16147/FUL – proposed variation to condition 19 – George and Dragon, Stone Road, Rough Close for the following reasons

- It is the Parish Council’s view that keeping the original condition 19 is the best way of ensuring that the correct and proper road construction, street lighting and drainage work is undertaken.

11/16149/ FUL – single storey annexe & new access from the highway adjacent to 418 Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent for the following reason:

- There should be no new access to the site as the property accesses onto a busy road and is also close to a bus stop, road junction and roundabout

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

11/15248/FUL – Demolition of bungalow & construction of a mini extra care scheme comprising 7 one bedroom flats, staff accommodation and communal facilities, with associated car parking - 25 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7P

11/15664/HOU – proposed 1st floor extension – 58 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent

11/15950/HOU – UPVC conservatory to side elevation, single storey rear extension – 76 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent

11/15896/FUL – proposed field shelter, stable, hay store & tackroom/store to support horses – land off Sandon Road, Sharpley Heath

103/11 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:-

- Grindley Park – proposal for a toddlers play area
- Wheelchair access on pavements in Meir Heath

RESOLVED:

1. Details of the proposal to put a new toddlers play area on Grindley park using, if possible, sec.106 money coming from the ‘Monsoon’ development was agreed in principle, although full costs, timescales etc would need to come back to the Council for full approval.
2. It was agreed that putting in place dropped kerbs suitable for wheelchairs in certain parts of Meir Heath should be pursued with the County Council. The Clerk to write to the Highways Dept and copied to Cllr. Parry.

(b) The 2013 Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that no response should be made to this consultation.

(c) Application for Meir Heath ward Councillor vacancy

An application had been received from Ms S Cuncannon, a resident of Meir Heath

RESOLVED:

Subject to no request being received by the Borough Council for an election, by midnight on the 10th November, Ms Cuncannon would be co-opted onto the Parish Council as Councillor for the Meir Heath ward.

(d) Change of date for the December meeting

RESOLVED:

The December Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th December (not the 8th as previously scheduled)

104/11 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Benches from Stafford BC – likely to be a maximum of 2 and available mid-January 2012

Car wash, Grindley Lane - now in the hands of the Borough Solicitors

Housing Needs Survey – further work on identifying possible sites to take place at the end of November.

Community Paths Initiative – £250 has been received for the purchase of a new strimmer.

Winter Newsletter – contributions to Cllr. Oxby a.s.a.p.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council –Members Digests (nos.162)

Staffordshire County Council – Community Focus for ice busters

Local Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Staffordshire; final recommendations

Dept. Of Communities and Local Government – Neighbourhood Planning Regulations Consultations (Planning committee asked to look at this)

105/11 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on WEDNESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2011 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN