

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013 AT 7.15 P.M.  
IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Borough Councillor Roycroft, 14 members of the public and S. Beck (Clerk).

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Evans, Mrs Lightfoot, Mrs Wheat and Borough Councillor Dodson

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The members of the public present outlined their concerns and objections to the proposal to build affordable housing on the old Heathers Nursery site, Hilderstone Road and in particular questions were asked relating to:

- How this site was selected?
- Difference between affordable and social housing?
- Who owns the land of other potential sites?
- Will properties be devalued?
- How much has the land in question cost to buy?
- Is the school already overcrowded?
- The development not in keeping with the neighbourhood.
- What about drainage, sewage etc?
- Traffic issues, including speeding on Hilderstone Road
- Development is in the green belt.
- Why had the minutes of the October meeting not been published?
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**109/13 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Holmes declared an interest in item 9(b) and took no part in the vote.

**110/13 POLICE REPORT**

There was no police report.

**111/13 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

The following points were made in response to issues raised by members of the public:

*Selection of site* – a number of possible sites had initially been identified across the parish, however after discussions with the planners and highways several were ruled out. Of the remaining the only landowner to respond and where the price allowed for a sustainable development was the owner of the Hilderstone Road site. It was also pointed out that this development will not meet the total needs of the area and other sites will need to be found.

*Affordable/social* – the housing on this proposed development is for Fulford Parish residents only and will include a mixture of part ownership and rented accommodation.

*Devaluation/appearance* – it was pointed out that the development that currently exists for affordable housing in Fulford has not devalued properties, nor is it out of keeping with the surrounding area.

*Land ownership/cost* – the Parish Council does not have this information.

*School* – it is not full and the portacabins on site have been there for some considerable time and are to allow for a varied curriculum to be delivered.

*Drainage/traffic etc* – opportunity to comment when a planning application is received

*Green Belt* – National Planning Policy Framework 2012 allows for development of affordable housing in the Green Belt.

*Minutes* – it was pointed out that before minutes are published they need to be agreed by the full council which is done at the following council meeting. All minutes are available on the council's website and/or at the parish office once approved.

## **112/13 MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013, having been circulated, and following some minor amendments be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

## **113/13 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS**

Borough Councillor Holmes reported on the following:

- 95% of the issues reported to him have now been dealt with;
- All the s106 money that will be distributed to the Parish council has now been received by the Borough

Cllr Taylor pointed out that there were still issues with flooding on Hilderstone Road

Cllr Mrs McPherson also mentioned that the Borough Council's pest control officer had been in regular attendance around Sutherland Crescent following various sightings of rats in the area.

## **114/13 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) Request for financial support from Moddershall Cricket Club**

#### **RESOLVED:**

This was deferred to the next meeting to allow for more information to be obtained as to the actual cost of the course for which a donation was being sought.

## **115/13 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:

13/18164/FUL – Little Fields, Fulford Road, Spot Acre, however the parish council have asked the Borough Council to ensure the proposed new build does not exceed 70% of the original dwelling. The Council have also asked the Borough Council to ensure that the new build does not exceed the present footprint of the existing dwelling.

13/19350/HOU – 9 Baalams Lane, Moss Gate, Stone

**(b) Decisions**

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

**Approved:**

13/18888/HOU – 22 Franklin Drive, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent – 1<sup>st</sup> floor extension

13/18916/FUL – Stallington Mews, Gallton Croft, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent – to vary condition 8 of planning consent 06/06051/FUL and condition 2 of listed building consent 06/06037/LBC

13/19132/HOU – 264 Grindley Lane, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – detached double garage with hobby room

**116/13 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:-

- Appearance of parish newsletter;
- Bus services on Grindley Lane

**RESOLVED:**

1 It was agreed that the next edition of the newsletter should be on white glossy paper and that the photographs of members should be re-introduced. It was further agreed that, with 2 objections, the cost of production could be increased by 50%, if necessary, to cover the additional requirements.

2 The bus service issue to be held over until the next meeting.

**(b) Newsletter Distribution**

**RESOLVED:**

It was agreed that, on cost and reliability grounds, that distribution of the Newsletter be contracted to Leaflets Ltd.

**(c) Affordable Housing**

Details of the consultation feedback had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

It was agreed that, with one objection, Stafford and Rural Homes/Housing Plus be asked to move to the next stage of submitting a planning application in connection with this proposed development.

**(d) Electoral Review of Stafford**

**RESOLVED:**

The Parish Council believe the present ward boundaries currently reflects community identities and interests and do not wish to see changes made.

**(e) Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2014**

**RESOLVED:**

The suggested dates were agreed.

## **117/13 MATTERS FOR REPORT**

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – members digest

Stafford Borough Council – Mayor’s Charity Ball, 6<sup>th</sup> December

Stafford Borough Council – Borough Carol Services, 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Staffordshire County Council – Broadband event, 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Email from Bill Waller re: planting event on Grindley Park

Email form Meir Heath Primary School – thank you for sign

## **118/13 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Bus services in the parish

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN