

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 13th OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Taylor (Chairman), Mrs Baskin, Brunt, Colclough, Garside, Holmes, Inscker, Mrs Jennings, Lovatt, McNaught, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby & Mrs White

IN ATTENDANCE: Harpreet Rayet (Stafford & Rural Homes), Mrs Shield & Mrs Hudson (Fulfest), 2 members of the public & S. Beck (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Flackett, Morris & Borough Councillors Dodson & Roycroft

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public expressed concern at BT's intention to remove the phonebox from Moss Gate on the basis that the area has a poor mobile signal and the box is a unique K6 model. They also said that they would like the green on which the box stands, given village green status.

A further issue raised on behalf of the public concerned the tree in West View, which some residents would like removed.

Parking outside the dental practice was also raised as an issue

102/16 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Oxby in respect of any decisions reached on Fulfest

103/16 POLICE REPORT

None.

104/16 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Phone box and village green – as this issue was on the agenda it was agreed to bring this item forward for discussion. Other boxes in the parish had also been issued with removal notices, of particular concern were the ones in Saverley Green and Fulford, as well as the Moss Gate one. It was agreed that a request to adopt the boxes in Saverley Green, Fulford & Meir Heath be made to BT and the parish council would contact Stafford BC concerning the proposed removal of the Moss Gate box, raising objections to any planning application to remove it. If that fails the box will be adopted by the Parish Council.

The Clerk will contact Stafford BC regarding what action need to be taken to register the green as a village green.

Tree in West View – Staffordshire County Council are responsible for this tree and a request for action to be taken is with the County Council.

Parking – the Clerk to write to the practice asking if any action can be taken to find alternative parking

105/16 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8th September 2016, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

106/16 PRESENTATION ON FULFEST 2016 – Mrs Shields and Mrs Hudson

Mrs Shields and Mrs Hudson presented details of the 2016 Fulfest which took place on 9th July 2016. Unfortunately because of torrential rain making the village Green unusable the event had to be switched to the village hall at the last minute, never-the-less thanks to the efforts of many people the day had been a success, although the late changes resulted in a lower than expected income via, raffles etc. As a result the event had a shortfall of £2369.37. The Parish Council had previously agreed to underwrite the event up to £1500 and following the presentation it was agreed that the full amount of the shortfall would be met by the Council.

107/16 PRESENTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR BLYTHE LODGE – Harpreet Rayet

Before beginning the presentation on Blythe Lodge Mr Rayet provided the Council with an update on the Hilderstone Road development. All the houses had now been let or sold (part ownership) and the Stafford and Rural Homes (SARH) would like the Parish Council to consider whether a further 6 homes (shared ownership) at the bottom of the site would be feasible. If the Council still wanted to go ahead with allotments SARH would honour this. On the existing site there is still work to finish on the balancing ponds and hedges.

Mr Rayet then went on to outline SARH's proposals for Blythe Lodge. The present building constructed in 1976 was not considered 'fit for purpose' and therefore it would be demolished and replaced with a 3-storey building of 1 or 2 bedroom flats. A small piece of land owned by SARH opposite Blythe Lodge would also be developed giving a total of 35 flats.

Councillors raised several concerns with the proposals including, the proposal looked 'cheap and nasty'. 3-storeys is too high, insufficient parking spaces.

Mr Rayet pointed out that there is still a good deal of work to be done before a planning application is submitted including a full transport assessment. He said he would like to come to the next meeting with a further update.

108/16 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

None.

109/16 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) Contribution to the British Legion Poppy Appeal

RESOLVED:

A contribution of £100 plus the cost of the wreath.

(c) CPRE membership

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to renew the subscription.

(d) 6-monthly income and expenditure report

RESOLVED:

The report was noted.

110/16 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 applications:

16/24773/FUL- at land adjacent to 36 Birkholme Drive, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – proposed new ménage

16/24716/HOU- 52 Tudor Hollow, Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent – retention of gate off Fulford Dale

16/24709/HOU- 110 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey ‘wraparound’ extension to rear, side and partially to front elevations.

16/24826/FUL- 38A Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – variations to conditions

16/24967/ANX- Rosedale Croft, Sandon Road, Sharpley Heath – proposed conversion of existing summer house to ancillary accommodation for aged relative.

That objections be raised to the following application:

16/24832/FUL- at Long Lane Head Farm, Long Lane, Fulford – conversion of derelict barn to single residential dwelling with new extension to rear, demolition of existing hayloft and erection of new garage and guest house. The reasons for objection were:

- The proposed development is totally out of keeping with the surrounding area, particularly as regards scale, design and external appearance;
- It would appear from the plans produced that this is almost entirely a new build and not a barn conversion;

The erection of a new garage and guesthouse would be contrary to the Borough’s Local Plan in that the development is in greenbelt

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

16/24502/HOU- Holmlea, 71 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath – new rear single storey extension

16/23948/FUL – Rear of 5 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath – erection of 3 detached dwellings to the rear of 5 Golborn Avenue

16/24528/HOU- Glenwood, Hartwell Lane, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent – adaptations and extension to existing detached dormer bungalow

16/24463/ADV- S&D Valeting Centre, Sandon Road Meir Heath – signage/advertising

16/24564/HOU- 5 Greenacres Avenue, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – 2-storey extension at side and single storey extension at rear

16/24613/HOU- 12 Greenacres Avenue, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – 2-storey extension at side

111/16 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:-

- Stallington Hall;
- Removal of payphones
- Removal of hospital signs at Stallington

RESOLVED:

1. This item to be carried forward to the next meeting.
2. This item was dealt with at 104/16.
3. Clerk to write to the County Council requesting removal of signs.

(b) Seat in Uttoxeter Road

Details had been circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to leave the decision on the type of seat to be installed until the next meeting.

(c) Public footpath no 5. Proposed diversion

Details had been circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

The Council had no objections to the proposed diversion.

112/16 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Councillor Mrs Jennings gave a report on MH&RC Village Hall mentioning in particular, the update of the CCTV, new flooring, poppy display & wild flower area. Financially the Village Hall is sound; however there are concerns at the lack of volunteers to join the Village Hall Management Committee, particularly as the existing members are not getting any younger.

Cllr Miss Noblett reported on the Parish Forum that Cllr. Holmes and she had attended. The main issues raised were: details of the new Leisure Partnership which sees the running of leisure activities in the borough passing to a Trust organisation, strategic housing, waste contract, local plan update and HS2 update.

Cllr Holmes reported that Target Windows may be prepared to fit new glass in the telephone box in Rough Close.

The Clerk reported that Blythe Bridge Rotary would be interested in paying for a new planter in the parish, with a preference for Grindley Lane.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members Digest (224)

Stafford Borough Council – details of ladies Luncheon on 14th December hosted by the Mayoress

Stone Town Council – invitation to the Mayor’s Trafalgar dinner on 21st October

Stone Town Council – details of Remembrance Parade 13th November

CPRE – details of trees available for planting

CPRE – details of a review on its policy on Shale Gas.

SLCC email – details of proposals relating to proposals to extend council tax referendum principles to parish councils
Stafford Borough Council – invitation to a performance of Aladdin at the Gatehouse Theatre.

113/16 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Rough Close refurbishment
- Ceramic Poppies

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Fulford Village Hall on Thursday 10th November 2016 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN