

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

- PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs Bennett (Chairman), Bevan, Colclough, Mrs Holmes, A. Holmes, Lovatt, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor, Mrs Weaver and Mrs Wheat.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillor Parry, Borough Councillors Harp & Roycroft, 1 member of the public and S Beck (Clerk).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Mrs Brayford, Baggaley, K Brayford, Mrs McPherson and Mycock.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public expressed concern at the number of vehicles that were using Baulk Lane, Fulford, some at high speed. This is a very narrow lane with signs indicating it should not be used as a through route. Councillors reported that this issue had been raised with the County Highways on several occasions; however it was not considered a priority by the County Council. Cllr Parry agreed to look into the problem.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There was no declaration of interests.

70/09 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th September 2009, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

71/09 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

County Councillor Parry reported that he had spoken to Bill Cash, MP in relation to the A50 barriers, but that neither Bill Cash nor he had yet received a reply from the Highways Agency. Cllr. Parry is using the Freedom of Information Act to ask for information relating to noise data, correspondence to residents and minutes of internal meetings showing how decisions on the barriers had been arrived at. He reiterated his opposition to the proposed development on the George and Dragon site.

He provided information on the new Community Fund that would now be extended to cover additional areas including highways and youth. The intention was to give communities more say in the spending of resources. The Neighbourhood Team initiative (previously known as Community Gangs) will be providing 3 visits a year to parishes. The County Council are also spending £30m over 3 years on highways.

Cllr. Parry was asked about the lack of proposals for speed humps on Adamthwaite Drive. He advised that the concerns of residents be relayed back to the individual council officer dealing with this issue.

Borough Councillor Harp reported that he had had a complaint regarding the car wash on Grindley Lane that had been reported to be playing loud music. He had asked the environmental health department to investigate.

There was no report from the police.

72/09 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 receive 6-monthly finance statement

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the report be accepted.

(c) To consider the re-investment of the NatWest Corporate Bond

Information on the Bond had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the capital and interest be re-invested for a further year.

(d) Subscription request from Staffordshire Playing Fields Association

RESOLVED:

That the Parish Council do not subscribe to this organisation.

73/09 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:-

09/12580/FUL- 2-storey rear extension loft conversion – 11 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent STY3 7LN

09/12629/FUL – 2-storey side extension – 22 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9JU

09/12667/COU – change of use of stables & existing bar & pool room of the public house including small toilet extension & provision of a car park at rear with new entrance & fencing to match – The Hunter Inn, Saverley Green, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9QX

Hedgerow regulations 1997 – land adjacent to Bird in Hand, Cresswell Road, Hilderstone, Staffs.

- 2) That objections be raised to the following application for the reasons stated at the meeting:-

09/12527/FUL – extension of residential cartilage & retention of workshop erected thereon – The Hollies, Moss Lane, Moss gate ST15 8RQ

(b) Decisions

It was reported that the following applications had been approved:-

09/12067/FUL – 2-storey rear extension & single storey side extension – 65 Hilderstone Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7NU

09/12074/FUL – extension to surgery to include revised parking provision – Trinity Medical Centre, Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9HQ

09/12102/FUL – new dwelling in grounds adjacent to Ivy House Farm, Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent

09/12187/OUT – outline application for one detached dwelling – Saverley, Common Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7PE

09/12222/FUL – side double storey & rear/front single storey extensions – 8 Greenacres Avenue, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9HU

09/12234/FUL – change of use of existing 3-storey stables & store into a 3 bed dwelling – barn attached to Poplars Farm, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7NY

09/12394/FUL – demolition of ex-kennels & store & replacement with garage for camper van/mobile home with garden & mower store attachment – High View, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7PJ

09/12425/FUL – proposed single storey side extension – 1 Grindley Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9LL

74/09 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:-

- SPCA Executive Committee
- Adoption of local red telephone kiosks
- Equipment on Grindley Park

RESOLVED:-

1. That Cllr. T Holmes be nominated for appointment to the SPCA Executive
2. The Parish Council will not adopt any red telephone kiosks; however they will support any local organisation who want to do so. Potential adoptees should contact the Clerk.
3. It was agreed that the present old equipment on Grindley Park should be taken down as soon as possible. The Clerk to arrange.

(b) Playbuilder working group

A verbal report was given on the progress of this application with a community consultation event planned for the 3rd November.

RESOLVED

It was agreed that £500 should be made available to pay for the printing of leaflets and distribution. The Clerk was also requested to write to school headteachers thanking them for their support.

75/09 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Resignation of Cllr Moore – it was reported that Cllr Moore had tendered his resignation with immediate effect, due to him taking on some voluntary work that would not allow him to devote any time to parish council business. The Clerk would begin the process of finding a replacement.

Report from Parish Forum – the following key issues were reported from the Forum:

- Stafford BC are in the bottom quartile nationally for processing planning applications;
- the B.C. will look at the adoption of the national model for Parish Councils
- the B.C. will report back on what has happened to the money returned to them from central government for commercial rates;
- further information was given on the LDF.

Anti-social behaviour in Fulford – it was reported that the individuals involved in the damage to the playing field in Cockieshall Lane have been dealt with under a process called ‘Community Resolution’. It was also reported that instances of petty damage was the worse it had been for many years caused very often by young people being transported into the village by parents.

Garages at the rear of the post office, Grindley Lane – a letter had been received from a member of the public pointing out the poor state of repair of these garages. It was not known who they belonged to, however Cllr. Mrs Wheat would check with Stafford & Rural Homes.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – consultation on Dog Control Orders

Staffordshire County Council – introduction of Neighbourhood Teams

Letter from Bill Cash M.P. – copy of letter re: objections to George & Dragon development.

Stafford Borough Council – review of Council’s Statement of Gambling Policy

Stafford Borough Council – details of Mayor’s Christmas Ball

Stafford Borough Council – policy for street naming & numbering

Staffordshire Police – details of a consultation exercise seeking views from the community

76/09 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

CCTV around Fulford Village Hall

Response to Stafford Borough Council’s consultation on Dog Control Orders

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be convened at Fulford Village Hall on **Thursday 5th November 2009 at 7.15 p.m.** (please note the change of date)

CHAIRMAN