

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 7.30 P.M.
AT MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Bennett (Chairman), Mrs Brayford, Brayford, Colclough, Mrs Jennings, Mrs McPherson, Mycock, Shaw, Taylor & Mrs Wheat (after item 67/10).

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Parry, Borough Councillor Roycroft, 6 members of the public and S Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Holmes, Oxby and Mrs Weaver and Borough Councillors Harp and Oldfield.

OTHER NON ATTENDEES: Councillors Baggaley, Bevan, Mrs Holmes and Lovatt

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Several members of the public raised concerns about the proposed planning application for the development of 7 properties on the George & Dragon site, Rough Close. In particular they expressed concerns regarding the unsuitability of the development for the village, close proximity of the properties to existing dwellings, lack of facilities in the village, loss of trees and increased traffic.

As this was an item on the agenda it was agreed that it would be brought forward on the agenda to be discussed after the minutes had been received.

65/10 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Mrs Jennings declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7(c)

66/10 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5th August 2010, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

67/10 Consideration of planning application 10/14268/FUL (George & Dragon development)

(Cllr. Mrs Jennings having declared an interest left the room for this item)

RESOLVED

Following a full discussion it was agreed that the Council would object to the proposed development on the following grounds:

- The proposed development is next to the A520, which is a well used road, not only by cars, but also by heavy goods vehicles heading for the A34, A50 and M6. The road has seen a number of accidents and fatalities in recent years close to this particular site. Having a development that will increase the amount of traffic accessing what is already a very busy and dangerous road and would exacerbate existing problems;
- There are few facilities in the village with a small oversubscribed primary school, no shops and a very limited and infrequent bus service;
- The development will result in the loss of a number of trees to the area.

It was further agreed that the Borough Council should be made aware that this was a development that was generally not wanted by a number of Rough Close villagers. Borough Councillor Oldfield would also be requested to call this application in.

68/10 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS

County Councillor Parry reported that the A50 barrier issue does not seem to going any further and therefore he suggested more direct action should be considered for example organising a demonstration at the Highways Agency office in Birmingham. He said he would be prepared to organise the bus to take potential demonstrators to Birmingham.

He reported on the progress with the Safer Routes to School initiative and the plans for a zebra crossing outside Springfield school on Grindley Lane. He felt Hilderstone Road was a greater priority however Safer Routes to School money was ring fenced.

Over the next 3 years Staffordshire County Council will need to make savings of £100m Cllr. Parry was asked if any action could be taken regarding the sale of cars by the Tesco roundabout. He said he was aware of the situation and had alerted County trading Standards. Nothing to report from the Borough Council.

69/10 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 contribution to drainage work at Fulford Village Hall

Details of the request had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed with one (1) objection that further information be requested from the Village Hall Management Committee before considering this request. The additional information to be requested was as follows:

- has any other quotation for the work been obtained
- what other sources of income are being sort for the work
- has any thought been given to seeking assistance from the local community to perhaps do some of the work
- what use will this area be put to after it is drained?

70/10 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:

10/14218/FUL – UPVC double glazed conservatory – 22 Adamthwaite Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent
10/14189/FUL – proposed extension to semi-detached dwelling – 17 West View, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent
10/14146/FUL – alteration & extension to existing residential dwelling – Bermar, Windmill Hill, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent
10/14229/PTEL – removal of existing 12.5m high Vodaphone street pole, installation of 13.8m high joint operator street furniture pole & installation of new equipment – Whitestone Road/Grindley Lane junction, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7TX
10/14083/FUL – single storey rear extension – Village Hall, Fulford Road, Fulford, Stoke-on-Trent ST11 9QT

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

10/13359/FUL – 13958/FUL –kitchen & wc extension – 8 Midway Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent.

10/14051/FUL – change of use from C3 dwelling to C2 residential institution including conversion of garage to provide 2 new bedrooms – Southlands, Aynsley Drive, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent.

10/14061/FUL – rear conservatory – 59 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent.

71/10 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:-

- Saving Shelton pool

RESOLVED:-

1. It was agreed that although the facility was outside the parish, nevertheless it was a facility that was used by local parishioners and therefore the Parish Council should lend express their concerns to the City Council concerning the likely closure.

(b) Consultation on Local referendums to Veto Excessive Council Tax

Details of the consultation had been circulated to members with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

The Clerk was asked to respond to the above consultation expressing a number of concerns that were highlighted in the meeting.

(c) Grindley Lane proposed traffic regulation order

Details had been circulated to members with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

The Council had no objections to the order.

72/10 MATTERS FOR REPORT

SPCA area meeting– Cllrs Mrs Brayford and Mrs McPherson reported on the meeting held in Fulford Parish on 7th September. The SPCA had expressed their thanks for the Parish council's hospitality. The Councillors also reported on the main item of the evening which was a presentation on the Big Society Initiative (copies of slides are available from the Clerk). All salt bins should be replenished during October.

Autumn newsletter – will be hitting the streets w/c 13th September

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members Digest (no.146)

Stafford Borough Council – Change to Executive arrangements (the Parish Council would like the present model of Leader & Cabinet Model to remain)

Stafford Borough Council – Licensing Act – Statement of Licensing Policy – Consultation (details to be sent to members for comment)

Stafford Borough Council – details of Parish Forum on 30 September (Cllrs. Mrs Jennings and Mrs Wheat to attend)

Community Council of Staffordshire – notice of AGM on 23rd September

SPCA – details of training event on 29th September

Staffordshire County Council – details of briefing event on 15th September dealing with electoral review of Staffordshire

The Rural Challenge: Achieving sustainable rural communities for the 21st Century (available on the rural communities government website)

Stafford Rural Forum – details of conference on 22nd September (Cllr. Mrs Jennings to attend)

73/10 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- speed cameras (Stallington Lane)
- plastic bollards on Grindley Lane

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be convened at Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on **Thursday 14th October 2010 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN