

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.15 P.M.  
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs Brayford (Chairman), Brunt, Colclough, Mrs Jennings, Mrs Lightfoot, Lovatt, Monks, Mrs McPherson, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw, Taylor and Mrs Wheat.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** S. Beck (Clerk).

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Mrs Barker, Evans, Holmes (also Borough Councillor) Borough Councillor Dodson

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None present, however the clerk had been asked by a member of the public to raise the issue of speeding traffic on Hilderstone Road and Grindley Lane and asking the Parish Council to push for reduced speed limits.

**89/13 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Clerk declared an interest in item 7(d)

**90/13 POLICE REPORT**

None

**91/13 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

It was agreed to pass the concerns onto the police.

**92/13 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2013, having been circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

**93/13 COUNTY, BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' & POLICE REPORTS**

Borough Cllr Roycroft said he had nothing to report. Cllr. Lovatt asked about reports he had received of leaking sewage close to the Woodside gypsy site. Cllr Roycroft had not heard of any issues.

**94/13 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) Parish Council Insurance Renewal**

**RESOLVED:**

It was agreed that the annual insurance would be renewed for 1 year only at a cost of £1270.35 and not at this stage take the option of a new 3-year agreement. An information booklet on the Council insurance was distributed to members.

**(c) Independent Internal Audit**

**RESOLVED:**

Details of the audit were noted by the Council.

**(d) Disposal of old photocopier**

**RESOLVED:**

It was agreed that the old photocopier be sold to the clerk for £20.

**(e) External Audit Report**

**RESOLVED:**

No issues having been raised by the external auditor and the report was noted.

**95/13 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/ 19061/FUL – Stallington Mews, Galton Croft, Stallington, Stoke-on-Trent –

retention of revised access alignment and erection of pole mounted satellite dish

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

13/18962/HOU – 170 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – extension of the front dormer roof at both sides

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

13/19050/HOU – land adjacent 7 Green Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – construction of 3 x detached 3 bed dwellings.

2) That objections be raised to the following applications:

13/19223/HOU – 3 Meadowside, Saverley Green, Stoke-on-Trent – removal of existing single storey garage and conservatory to be replaced with new 2-storey extension for the following reasons:

- the loss of privacy of neighbouring properties and:

- that the character of the existing row of houses will be substantially altered.

13/18831HOU – 47 Grindley Lane, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear extension, loft conversion etc. for the following reasons:

- the loss of privacy of neighbouring properties and the Council also believes this property has already been considerably enlarged in the past and that the planned work will possibly take the size of the property beyond the permitted 70%.

13/19004/FUL – land adjacent 9 Field Close, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent for the following reasons:

- impact on the surrounding area and in particular the new dwellings would not be in keeping with neighbouring properties (there are no other 3 storey properties in the area);
- loss/damage to trees;
- access is very difficult up a very narrow lane running off a cul-de-sac with the extra traffic having an adverse effect on neighbouring properties and:
- loss of privacy to neighbouring properties.

**(b) Decisions**

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

**Approved:**

- 13/18409/FUL – The Outwoods Farm, Stone Road, Rough Close – demolition of existing buildings and construction of new dwelling
- 13/18885/HOU – 2 Willow Lane. Meir Heath – 2-storey side extension.
- 13/18507/HOU – Fulford Dale farm, Fulford Dale, Fulford – proposed agricultural building to house livestock etc.
- 13/18886/HOU – Hilberry House, Fulford Road, Fulford – bay windows to study and living room.
- 13/18854/HOU – 9 Grindley Lane. Meir Heath – single storey and 2-storey rear and side extension.
- 13/18931/HOU – 67 Sutherland Crescent, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey rear orangery and resiting of existing conservatory

**(c) Woodview, Hilderstone Rd. – planning appeal**

The Clerk reported that the planning appeal for the above application was due to be heard on Tuesday 17th September.

**96/13 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:-

- Maintenance of land at the end of West View
- Interpretation panel by seat in Fulford Lane
- Motion from Cllr. Taylor “That the Parish Council consider the question of noise coming from the rear of the home for the severely disabled on Hilderstone Road during daylight hours, as reported by members of the public.”
- Dog incidents on Grindley Park

**RESOLVED:**

- 1 Site needs clearing of stones etc. and seeded, before a cutting regime can be introduced, it was therefore agreed that a contractor would be engaged to do the initial work.
2. The Clerk to seek advice from the Borough Council on the type of board and content.
3. Cllr Taylor reported that he had spoken to the Matron at the home and was content that everything was been done concerning any noise.
4. It had been mentioned to one of the councillors that a couple of dogs had been taken ill after being on the park, however it was unclear as to what had caused the problem, therefore it was agreed that no action was appropriate at this point in time.

**(b) Play Safety Inspection Report**

Details had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

No action was required following the inspection; therefore the Council noted the report

**(c) Plan for Stafford Borough**

The Clerk reported on the arrangements for the public examination of the Plan

**RESOLVED:**

The arrangements were noted by the council.

**(d) Grindley Park play area**

Details and costs associated with developing a play area on Grindley Park for smaller children had been circulated with the agenda

**RESOLVED:**

It was agreed that the scheme as submitted by SMP (including the fencing) be accepted and the Clerk was instructed to move forward with the proposal.

**(e) Affordable Housing**

The Clerk reported that Stafford and Rural Homes/HousingPlus are now ready to run a consultation event on the proposals for affordable housing on Hilderstone Road.

**RESOLVED:**

The Council asked the clerk to arrange a briefing event for Councillors a.s.a.p. and prior to any consultation event

**97/13 MATTERS FOR REPORT**

*SPCA meeting* – Cllr Mrs McPherson reported on the recent meeting of the Area Committee. Particular areas covered were a shortage of funding to enable the area committee to continue, building beautiful Staffordshire and Best Kept Village.

*Friends of the Common* – next meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October

*Litter bin for end of West View* – Stafford BC will provide

*Local policing* – PC Dave Perry has reported that Becky Powell is currently on restricted duties due to pregnancy

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – Members digest (186 & 187)

Staffordshire Police – details of a new Chief Inspector appointment for Stafford.

Community Council of Staffordshire – AGM details

Staffordshire Playing Fields Assoc. – AGM details

**98/13 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

None requested

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN