

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.15 P.M.
IN MEIR HEATH & ROUGH CLOSE VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Colclough (Chairman), Mrs Baskin, Mrs Brayford, Brunt, Lovatt, Monks, Mycock, Miss Noblett, Oxby, Shaw and Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: S. Beck (Clerk).

APOLOGIES: Councillors Holmes (also Borough Councillor), Mrs Jennings, Mrs McPherson, Mrs Wheat & Borough Councillor Roycroft.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

87/14 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Oxby in relation to item 10(a) on the agenda (Fulford Village Hall)

88/14 POLICE REPORT

There was no police report

89/14 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

None

89/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th August 2014, having been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

90/14 COUNTY & BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

None available

91/14 FINANCE

(a) Parish Council Insurance Renewal

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the Council should commit to a 3-year binding agreement with Came & Company up to 30 September 2017 at a reduced renewal premium of 5%. The premium for 2014/15 will be £1,354.62

(b) 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.

(c) Donation to the late Ellis Bevan's nominated charity

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that £100 be donated to Cancer Research UK in memory of the late Ellis Bevan.

92/14 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 application:

14/ 20771/COU – 420 Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – single storey side extension and rear extension and change of use of side and rear extension to A3 and A5, however the Council had concerns regarding car parking and access to and from a very busy road on a mini-roundabout.

14/21006/FUL – 424 Sandon Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – installation of security shutters to shop front

That objections be raised to the following application:

14/20779/REM – 5 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath – reserved matters

The Council objected on the following grounds:

1. Means of access – access is regarded as inadequate as there is only a single track leading from Golborn Avenue to the proposed development
2. Layout – the layout is not in keeping with the area with 3 houses on this small plot of land being too many.
3. Scale – most properties around this development are bungalows and as such 3 houses would not fit into the surrounding area. Additionally they will overlook properties below this site
4. Landscaping – the area is prone to flooding and any development would need to address this. If this development does go ahead adequate screening should be imposed as part of any full approval.

Also if the development were to go ahead the Council pointed out that construction traffic would be very disruptive to the area and contractors should be required to ensure any dirt deposited on the roadway is cleaned up.

(b) Decisions

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

Approved:

14/20126/FUL – 211 Stallington Road, Blythe Bridge – demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling with integral garage

14/20688/HOU – Rough Close Farm, Stone Road, Rough Close, Stoke-on-Trent – sun room to rear and new boundary walls

14/20694/HOU – Blacklake Farm, Stallington Road, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – replacement flat roof with pitched roof and single storey rear extension

14/20723/HOU – 8 Golborn Avenue, Meir Heath, Stoke-on-Trent – front extension, front porch and elevation alterations

(c) Goods Vehicle Operating Licence – Littlefields

It had been brought to the Council's attention that Roe Contractors, Littlefields had applied to the Traffic Commissioner for a licence to permit extra 2 vehicles and 2

trailers at their premises. The Council agreed that this was unacceptable and the Clerk was asked to inform the Traffic Commissioner of the Council's objection on the following grounds:

The operation of the business is already causing considerable concern to neighbours in the area and is currently subject to investigation by Stafford Borough Council as to how the site is being used.

The premises are situated on a narrow country lane in a designated Green Belt area and the coming and going of large vehicles to the site already cause traffic problems for local residents and damage to the grass verges alongside the lane.

Additionally the Clerk was asked to copy this objection to the Borough Council, including our Borough Councillors, asking them to also object.

93/14 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:-

- Fulford Village hall kitchen refurbishment

RESOLVED:

1 Following an outline of the work that is being undertaken to refurbish the kitchen in Fulford Village hall Cllr. Oxby, having previously expressed an interest in this item, withdrew from the room whilst the item was discussed. It was agreed that £5000 be donated to the village hall to help fund this work.

(b) Business Risk Assessment

RESOLVED:

Following some discussion on this document it was resolved to adopt it without amendment.

(c) Annual Safety Check of Grindley Park

This report had previously been seen and discussed by the Grindley Park working group. The Clerk outlined the main findings contained in the report and set out the costs involved in carrying out the repairs required.

RESOLVED:

The report was accepted and it was agreed that the repairs would be undertaken as soon as possible at a cost of £1673.10.

(d) Tree maintenance work on Grindley Park

The Clerk outlined work to be undertaken.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed to undertake the necessary tree maintenance work at a cost of £600.

(e) Accident on Hilderstone Road

Cllr Taylor reported on an accident that had occurred on Hilderstone Road the previous day at a time when children were being dropped off at the school. Thankfully

it did not appear that anyone had been hurt, however it did again highlight the need for some action on this stretch of road to make it safer for pedestrians.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that the issue of a pedestrian crossing be again raised with the County Council and that correspondence should be copied to the Road Safety Partnership, Police & Crime Commissioner and Cllr Parry.

94/14 MATTERS FOR REPORT

Royal Mail (letter collection) – it was reported that the Royal Mail are to change collection time at some post boxes to fit in with the delivery of post. Notices are being put on those boxes affected.

Receipt of the following correspondence/reports was noted:-

Stafford Borough Council – members digest (198)

Department for Communities & Local Government – discussion paper on Right to Challenge Parking Policies

95/14 ITEM(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Litter on Hilderstone Road
- Fulfest 2015

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened at **Meir Heath & Rough Close Village Hall on Thursday 9th October 2014 at 7.15 p.m.**

CHAIRMAN