



MINUTES

Fulford Parish Council Full Council Meeting

Thursday 14th March 2024

Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall

Present:

Cllr A Meredith
Cllr P Wilkinson
Cllr J Crossley
Cllr A Lovatt
Cllr P White
Cllr G Brunt
Cllr C Baskin
Cllr A Noblett
Cllr C Marlow

SBC Cllr M Dodson
SBC Cllr A Sandiford
SCC Cllr I Parry (arrived at 1922hrs)

In attendance:
Mrs G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk/RFO)

Two PCSOs (arrived at 1920hrs)

One Member of Public SMDC Cllr T Holmes

Meeting started at 1915hrs

194/24 Public Participation.

No Comments.

195/24 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received for Cllr J Whitham, Cllr T Elder, Cllr A Gilbert, Cllr J White and Cllr K Deeth

196/24 Declarations of interest and dispensation (from agenda).

None were received.

197/24 To following minutes were approved:

- a) Fulford Parish Council Meeting Thursday 8th February 2024.
- b) Fun Day Working Group Minutes Wednesday 14th February 2024.

198/24 To receive a **Report** from the Police

The Police attended and reported that vehicle theft is an issue all over the district and to encourage people not to leave their vehicle keys by their front doors.

- a) The Clerk is still awaiting meeting safety guidance from the PCSOs and SPCA.

The PCSOs left the meeting.

199/24 To receive **Report** from:

- a) Stafford Borough Councillors

Cllr Dodson informed the meeting that he has recently returned from an extended visit to family. Cllr Dodson informed the meeting that the solar farm application has been appointed a new planning officer and that the application failed on valid validity. There is now a new law with regards to 10% increase in biodiversity pre and post development. Only applications with special circumstances should be considered for green belt land and there has been no confirmation of when or where access to grid connection will be.

Cllr Dodson informed the Parish Council of other work involving outgoing auditors and that the District Council have a strong balance sheet and are working towards joining Cannock and Stafford.

Cllr Sandiford informed the meeting that he had been working on:

- A possible new allotment site in the Parish with Homes Plus.
- Homes Plus will be removing garages on Highfield and Green Close and creating more parking spaces.
- Ongoing issues with local care home in one of the Wards.
- Lighting improvements around the Parish to LED.
- Working on resolving flooding on Hilderstone Road and Uttoxeter Road.
- Carried out a survey in Stallington with regards to ongoing issues.
- Dealing with problem trees on Stone Hills Close Heir Heath.
- 15 Volunteers for litter picking.
- Grants available to Village Halls, Historical Buildings and Defibs and local businesses.
- Local plan and Neighbourhood Plan.

b) County Councillor

Cllr Parry informed the meeting that it has been the wettest winter in 120 years and the water table is at its highest level it has ever been. There are many defects and flooding issues and trying to keep up has been hard. It has not been possible to carry out permanent repairs as it has been too wet. Cllr Parry urges everyone to continue to report any potholes and any flooding. Not all flooding issues are the responsibility of the Highways Dept as the Highways is not a drainage system. Cllr Parry encourages people with any vehicle damage to submit a claim. It is hoped that by the end of May roads should be back to a reasonable standard. There has been increases over the last fifteen years on spending on our roads and hoping investments in plant will be seen soon.

Cllr Parry informed the meeting that Meir Heath crossroads had to only have a temporary fix because of the weather and agrees that the temporary fix wasn't the best. However, it is earmarked to complete the works once the weather is drier.

Cllr Parry also informed the meeting that he will chase when the speed limit changes outside St Matthews Primary school and will also chase the speed van having a presence on Fulford Road.

Cllr Parry is also going to investigate assessments for crossings on Grindley Lane (in between the two entrances to Meir Park) and Uttoxeter Road after the turning for Grindley Lane he informed the meeting that each assessment costs in the region of £1500.

Item 203/24 was brought forward because Cllr P White needed to leave early.

203/24 To consider **Planning Applications** received.

24/388858 Call it in as Green Belt development.

No other comments

Cllr I Parry and Cllr P White left the meeting at 2015hrs

200/24 To receive **Reports** from Council Committee's/Working Groups and accept any **recommendations** made.

Fun Day Working Group have met and no recommendations currently just a request for volunteers.

201/24 Clerks Report

The Clerk's report was distributed to all members. The following key points were raised:

- Shared Wardens monthly jobs lists.
- Update regarding solar SID now installed on Hilderstone Rd.
- Village Hall Updates with regards new lease from the solicitors and complaint.
- Correspondence received for:
 - Damage to Common fencing.
 - Support to re surface unadopted road.
 - Folded car scheme monies.
- The Parish Council agreed to have funding space scheme activities on Apr agenda.

.Climate Change Project Bee Metre Squared

Cllr Lovatt updated the meeting that the visit went well to Springcroft Primary and that they were very receptive to any community projects.

The Clerk updated the meeting that Meir Heath Primary School wanted the seeds to be dropped off and that they would distribute them themselves. The Clerk also informed the meeting that Fulford Primary school have not responded to emails.

202/24 **Accounts/Finance:** Fulford Parish Council approved:

- a) Fulford Parish Council approved Feb/March payments list.
- b) Fulford Parish Council approved February 24 Bank Reconciliation.
- c) Fulford Parish Council approved 2024 Asset Register.
- d) Fulford Parish Council approved The Clerks Annual Incremental Rise.
- e) Fulford Parish Council approved Year End Budget Virements.

204/24 **Report** from Fulford Parish Council Chairman.

The Chair informed the Parish Council that he attended Fulford Village Halls meetings and that the complaint has been resolved.

- a) Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th May 1800hrs at Fulford Village Hall.

205/24 **Health and Safety**

No reports already discussed the damaged fence on the Common.

206/24 Newsletter

The content for the next Newsletter was agreed and requested to be submitted to the Clerk by the end of March:

- Climate Change article about the Parish Project – Cllr Lovatt
- Free Defib training poster – Cllr Gilbert
- How to report Highways Defects including streetlights article – Cllr Parry
- Public Consultation Survey about Land off Grindley Park – Clerk
- Produce Show Advert – Cllr Meredith
- Solar Farm Petition – Cllr Marlow
- Cresswell Development applications – Working Group
- Group Litter Pick – Cllr J White
- Common Volunteers – Cllr Sandiford
- Summer Fun Day – Clerk
- Climate Change schools – Cllr J White
- Tea and Toast – Cllr Elder
- Community Bus – Clerk
- SPACE -Clerk
- Police Drop in Clinic – Clerk
- SID – Clerk

207/24 D Day 80th Anniversary

The clerk is to investigate quotes for a flagpole at the village hall and a possible ceremony and buffet.

208/24

To change Standing Orders to an **Annual Chair change** at every May Meeting and starting with Meir Heath Ward followed by Blythe Bridge Ward, Rough Close and finally Fulford Ward then repeat.

For: 7	Against: 1	Abstentions: 0
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Confidential Items to be discussed at the end of the meeting if Public and Press are present.

209/24 To consider a quotation to reestablish Grindley Lane footpath

Fulford Parish Council decided to continue to pursue the Highways Dept to carry out the work.

210/24 The budget so far for the **Fun Day** was shared with the Councillors and a request for volunteers.

211/24 Items for **next Agendas**.

212/24 To **confirm Date**, Time and Location of next meeting.

Thursday 11th April 2024 at Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall at 1915hrs

Meeting Closed at 2110 hrs

Signed

Date

Position

