



The Meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

Venue Five Ashes Village Hall
Date Monday 11 April 2016
Time 19:30

C11APR16
2015/16 Meeting 10
Adopted

Minutes

Chairman Cllr Jerry Watkiss

Councillors Present and Voting

Jerry Watkiss
Chris Lilly
Herb Hills
Elaine Wheeler

Robert Fitzsimmons
Johnny Marsh
Monica Aitken
Julie Upton

David Miles
Deveda Redman
Rosemary Neal
Ian Parker

Also in attendance:

Cllr B Redman (WDC), Cllr C Dowling (ESCC) and J Todd (Parish Clerk).

Public Questions

- There were no public questions.

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllr Jon Nash, Cllr Gill Weavers, Cllr Patricia Balfour, Cllr G Wells (WDC), Cllr R Standley (ESCC/ WDC) and PCSO Pearce-Martin (Sussex Police).

2. Declarations of Interests

- 2.1. There were no declarations of interests.

3. Chairman's Announcements

- 3.1. The forms to prepare for the annual meeting of the Parish Council will be sent out in April. Cllrs need to consider which Committees they would like to join and organisations they would like to represent. The forms will need to be returned to the Clerk before the meeting.
- 3.2. There have been a number of complaints concerning litter along the A267. WDC have apologised stating that Kier has a backlog of work following the introduction of a new Code of practice introduced by the HSE for street cleaning. It was noted that the verges along the bypass had been cleaned today. Cllr B Redman advised that Kier need to adhere to their contractual responsibilities.
- 3.3. **PCSO Pearce-Martin's report:**
- **Parking:** Four parking tickets were issued in the last 3 weeks and during my daily patrols I have moved a lot of cars off the double yellows in Mayfield.
 - **Crime:** Some door-to-door sellers were stopped by my colleagues in Fletching Street and moved on.
 - **Five Ashes:** Two tickets were issued to vehicles parked on the newly painted double yellow lines.
 - **PCSO Surgery:** My next surgery is on Wednesday 13 April 2016 at 11 am in the Parish council office.

4. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 14 March 2016 (previously circulated)

- 4.1. It was **resolved** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2016 as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

- 4.2. A recent meeting regarding plans for a Hospice in Five Ashes had a high attendance. The majority of local residents were in favour, the main concerns being parking and increased traffic in Five Ashes. The Hospice in the Weald is attending the Annual Parish Meeting.

5. Reports from East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

- 5.1. The ESCC report from Cllr Standley was previously circulated:

- The High Weald Lewes and Havens Clinical Commissioning Group (HWLHCCG) have taken the decision to leave the Better Together programme that sought to bring together health and social services across the County. They were particularly concerned that the Better Together programme was too influenced by the Eastbourne and Hastings Hospital Trust.
- The new Highways contractor, Costains, starts on the 1st May and with the greater freedom given to Highway Stewards to fill in smaller potholes themselves rather than waiting for a separate crew to be assigned repairs should be carried out more quickly.
- Devolution was debated at the recent full council meeting but there will be more information presently on how the proposals will be going forward. There is no current support to a directly elected mayor across the 3SC area (East and West Sussex and Surrey).
- At the third quarter the net overspend was £0.3m which was a significant improvement on the second quarter which predicted an overspend of £5.1m. This change was achieved by the agreed transfer of funds from the Better Together Fund contingency which amounted to £4.6m

- 5.2. Cllr Dowling confirmed that the potholes in Five Ashes near the Christmas Tree farm had been filled. It is thought that the junction of the A267/A272 might be resurfaced in the summer.

- 5.3. Cllr Neal praised Highways for promptly removing a fallen tree from Rotherfield Lane.

6. Reports from Wealden District Council (WDC)

- 6.1. The WDC report from Cllr Standley was previously circulated:

- Digital Inclusion: A proposed scheme in Fairwarp brings together the Pub is the Hub initiative with the Drive to Digital. The Foresters Arms pub in Fairwarp is teaming up with Barclays Digital Eagles to offer local residents a free seven-week course to learn how and why they should be using the Internet and brushing up their online skills. The course will run every Wednesday between 13 April - 25 May 2016. It is free of charge with no need to book. Everybody who wants to take part just needs to bring their own device to the lessons.
- The digital skills course is delivered as part of Wealden District Council's Pub is The Hub scheme to support rural public houses in finding out how, by delivering or hosting services that the local community needs, they can bring in extra customers and strengthen the role of the pub as the centre of rural communities. Any licensees and pub owners interesting in getting involved with the scheme, which is delivered in partnership with East Sussex County Council and the Pub is The Hub not-for-profit organisation, are invited to attend an open day on Tuesday, April 19, from 11am to 1pm at The Reid Hall, Boreham. Call 01423 546165 to reserve a place or for more information visit www.pubisthehub.org.uk.
- Planning: The recent Hopkins and Cheshire East cases that went to the Court of Appeal has swung the pendulum more in favour of developers for the many councils, including Wealden, who no longer have a five year land supply due to the increased housing numbers that are calculated using government formulae to give the Objectively Assessed Housing Need. Planning authorities are more vulnerable to applications in less favoured locations until a five-year supply can be demonstrated.

- 6.2. Cllr B Redman drew attention to the WDC Parish Bulletin circulated last week.

- 6.3. Cllr B Redman will make enquiries to determine who made the decision that barn conversions do not come off the housing numbers allocated to Mayfield and Five Ashes but do count against the total windfall housing numbers allocated in Wealden.

7. Finance Report (previously circulated)

- 7.1. The Finance Report for February 2016 was previously circulated to Councillors.
- 7.2. Expenditure was considerably higher than average. It included an internal transfer of £15,000 in respect of the LED Streetlights project. All expenditure was anticipated and within budget.

8. Minutes for adoption (previously circulated)

- 8.1. The Parish Council **resolved** to adopt the following committee minutes:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Planning Executive | 11 March 2016
04 April 2016 |
| • Community Development | 21 March 2016 |
| • Rights of Ways and Trees | 23 March 2016 |

Matters arising from the minutes

- 8.2. Community Development:

- Shirley Holland has been engaged as administrator for Mayfield and Five Ashes Community Services (MAFACS).
- The April dementia singing group was a success.
- Adult exercise equipment will be on the Agenda for the Annual Parish meeting to try to determine whether residents are likely to use it.

- 8.3. Rights of ways and Trees

- The prospect of purchasing and maintaining BW92 has been put on hold for the time being. The costs provided by ESCC in excess of £100k to make the bridges and tunnel safe for the public is not acceptable.
- Rotherfield Parish Council have confirmed that they are not interested in taking this forward unless Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council find suitable funding sources.
- The maintenance work along BW92 is excessive for the Rights of Ways Volunteer Team.
- The path at the Rotherfield end of the bridleway belongs to the landowner and not ESCC therefore permission would be required to cross their land.

9. Electoral Boundaries Review (information previously circulated)

- 9.1. The proposed electoral boundaries for County divisions and Wealden wards were considered.
- 9.2. It was resolved that the Parish Council's formal reply to the consultation will be to request that the northern boundary should include Rushers Cross which is technically a part of Mayfield and shares the same services. **Action JT**

10. Village sign

- 10.1. Cllr Lilly and Cllr Fitzsimmons were thanked for removing the fallen village sign from the High Street. The base of the supporting column was found to be rotten.

- 10.2. Quotes will need to be obtained for the following:

- A replacement column
- Repairs to the wooden figures
- Patching of the iron work
- A possible new design to make the top lighter

Action JT

- 10.3. Residents will be informed in the Mayfield and Five Ashes Newsletter.

Action JT

11. Mayfield Music and Arts Festival

- 11.1. Permission to erect a banner to the rear of the War Memorial was received from the organisation.

11.2. The Parish Council agreed unanimously that this was not a suitable location, that it would be considered by residents to be disrespectful and that there were already ample posters displaying the event around the village. **Action JT**

11.3. Updates from Committees (for information only)

11.4. Finance and General Purposes

- Nothing further to report.

11.5. Rights of Ways and Trees

- Nothing further to report.

11.6. Planning Committee

- Nothing further to report

11.7. Community Safety and Traffic

- The Committee has been fairly successful getting Highways to fill local potholes.
- The Police Chief Constable hustings take place in Heathfield on 28 April 2016.
- The Local Policing Sussex roadshow is on 22 June at Heathfield Community Centre

11.8. Community Development

- Nothing further to report

12. Updates from representatives (for information only)

12.1. Cllr Aitken informed that the Old People's Welfare meeting discussed the MAFACS and there were no other concerns raised.

13. Other items of information and next agenda items

13.1. Cllrs were requested to send reports from external organisations to the Clerk to incorporate in the Annual Report.

The meeting ended at 20:27

The Annual meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council will be:

Venue: Mayfield Memorial Hall

Date: Monday 09 May 2016

Time: 19:30 hours

.....Chairman's Signature

.....Date

Actions in Progress:

Actions from meeting C14APR14

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	
Actions from meeting C14APR14			
14.3	Three quotes for fencing of Jubilee Woods (After installation of substation)	JT	On hold
Actions from meeting C09NOV15			
12.2	Organise clean up advertising	JT	In hand
Actions from meeting C14MAR16			
12.5	Determine trust details if copy available – None held by Cllr Fitzsimmons	RF	Closed
Actions from meeting C11APR16			
9.2	Reply to Electoral Boundaries Review	JT	Open
10.2	Quotes for village sign repairs	JT	Open
10.3	Update residents on village sign in Newsletter	JT	Open
11.2	Inform Mayfield Music & Arts festival of decision concerning War memorial	JT	Open