



The Meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

Venue Mayfield Memorial Hall
Date Monday 13 March 2017
Time 19:30

C13MAR17
2016/17 Meeting 09
Adopted

Minutes

Chairman Cllr Deveda Redman

Councillors Present and Voting

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Deveda Redman | Jerry Watkiss | Ian Parker | Robert Fitzsimmons |
| Chris Lilly | Patricia Balfour | Herb Hills | Gill Weavers |
| Johnny Marsh | Julie Upton | David Miles | |

Also in attendance:

Cllr R Standley (ESCC/ WDC) and Cllr B Redman (WDC), Cllr R Simmons (ESCC), Cllr J Fox (WDC). Two members of the public were present and Janna Todd (Parish Clerk).

Public Questions

- Members of the public were present to determine the Parish Council's stance on the development of the cricket ground.
- A reply was provided that until there is an outline planning permission proposal submitted to WDC it could not be considered. There is currently a Screening Opinion submitted to WDC to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required before outline planning permission is submitted and the Parish Council is not a consultee for this process.
- The recent proposal for housing in Mayfield in the Wealden Local Plan draft submission document issued this month is that no housing has been allocated.

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Rosemary Neal, Cllr Elaine Wheeler, Cllr Monica Aitken and Cllr C Dowling (ESCC).

2. Declarations of Interests

- 2.1. Cllr Fitzsimmons declared a pecuniary interest in minute number 6.5 of the planning minutes of the 20 February 2017 that are to be adopted during agenda item 8.
- 2.2. The Chairman reminded Councillors to ensure their Declarations of Interests are up to date and to inform the Clerk of any changes.

3. Chairman's Announcements

- 3.1. When communicating on Council issues, Councillors should consider the following:
- To ensure that any e-mails which create obligations or give instructions on behalf of the Council are never sent out under the name of a Member.
 - To remember not to include anything in an e-mail that would not be put in a letter.
 - To remember that information held on a Council's internet server is disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Information held by members in private email accounts could also be disclosable under the FOIA if it relates to Council business. It is therefore

better for members to have separate email accounts for private use and Council business to assist with establishing disclosable status should it become necessary under the FOIA.

- When replying to comments in the Newsletter or on the village Facebook page remember to stipulate that it is your individual opinion as a resident and that you are not replying on behalf of the council.

- 3.2. The Conservators of Ashdown Forest have invited a councillor to attend a meeting on 27 April at 7pm to discuss their funding cuts and to request funding from Town and Parish Councils. Cllr Lilly is able to attend if required.
- 3.3. Councillors should send any suggestions for topics to discuss at the Annual Parish meeting to the Clerk by the end of March 2017.
- 3.4. Councillors were requested to forward any planned holiday dates to the Clerk to identify possible dates for a bespoke training course for members.
- 3.5. Mayfield has won an accolade from The Times 2 naming it as the best village in Britain, thanks to its picturesque High Street.

4. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 13 February 2017 (previously circulated)

- 4.1. It was **resolved** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2017 as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

- 4.2. There was no update on the repairs to the southbound carriageway of the A267 near Great Trodgers farm.
- 4.3. Cllr B Redman has confirmed that WDC's electronic planning system is working properly.
- 4.4. There were no changes or recommendations forwarded to the Clerk in respect of the Invitation To Tender document for the Mayfield playground upgrade.

5. Reports from East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

- 5.1. Cllr Standley provided the following information:

- ESCC's economy is improving and has increased by 5%.
- Members are lobbying MP's to change the criteria for determining funding particularly for smaller schools as the system is currently unfair.
- Last week was Apprenticeship Week. There is concern on the apprenticeship levy that schools will have to provide particularly with the funding issues they are already facing.
- The Highways contactor appears to be taking longer to fill some of the potholes. There are two more on the northbound carriageway of the A267 near Great Trodgers Farm that have been reported but not filled despite the advertised turnaround times for main roads.
- The reduction in speed limit at Argos Hill to 40mph is progressing slowly. It is not anticipated that is any funding required from the Parish Council towards this project.

6. Reports from Wealden District Council (WDC)

- 6.1. Wealden District Councillors provided the following information:

- There will be Fun and Safety days running in Uckfield on 05 April 2017 and in Crowborough on 12 April 2017 for children.
- The Conservation Areas consultation will be different to that of the Wealden Local Plan. There are new boundaries for Mayfield, Coggins Mill and Five Ashes. It is estimated that the consultation will take 18 months and will look at the characterisation of different areas and require significant input from Parish Councils. Once completed WDC will make an article 4 direction which will restrict permitted development rights and control planning development within the Conservation Areas.

- The housing numbers in the new Wealden Local Plan draft submission document are significantly reduced because of nitrogen deposition in Ashdown Forest due to vehicle emissions throughout the whole of Wealden. This will take precedence over WDC planning policies and will affect how many houses can be approved in the future. There are 7,500 dwellings already approved in Wealden and an additional 4,000 only is now required until 2028. All areas have a reduction in housing allocation numbers compared to those in the Wealden Local Plan Issues and Options consultation in October 2015.
 - It has to be acknowledged that the reduction in housing numbers will mean reduced Community Infrastructure Levy throughout Wealden.
- 6.2. Information was provided that each new planning application submitted that is outside the development boundary will be considered on its own merits. It may be acceptable to planners if it can be proven that a development will not result in increased traffic, if it does it will be in breach of habitat regulations.
- 6.3. Over the next two years WDC will be taking a coherent approach to traffic flow management to mitigate the impact of pollution and its impact on human health as traffic increases in line with any new housing.
- 6.4. Cllr Fox informed that in the future it may be possible to introduce a 20mph zone around Five Ashes Primary School or a possible quiet zone once the hospice has been built.

7. Finance Report (previously circulated)

- 7.1. The Finance Report to 31 January 2017 was previously circulated.
- 7.2. The expenditure during January 2017 was below average and finances remain healthy.
- 7.3. The Finance Report was approved unanimously.

8. Minutes for adoption (previously circulated)

- 8.1. The Parish Council **resolved** to adopt the following committee minutes and they were signed by the Chairman:
- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Planning Executive | 20 February 2017 |
| • Finance and general Purposes executive | 27 February 2017 |
- 8.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes:

9. Wealden Local Plan

- 9.1. The new Wealden Local Plan Draft Proposed Submission issued March 2017 and the implications for Mayfield and Five Ashes were discussed previously during agenda item 6.
- 9.2. There will continue to be the opportunity for additional housing in Mayfield within the development boundary but this has been constricted. There has been no housing allocated to Mayfield or to Five Ashes.
- 9.3. The possibility of developing land off East Street that is not within the development boundary may be possible if it can be proven that there will be no increased traffic movement.
- 9.4. Cllr Fox left the meeting after this agenda item.

10. Parish Council action plan (information previously circulated)

- 10.1. The Parish Council action plan for 2016-17 was reviewed.
- 10.2. Proposals for plans and projects during 2017/18 were considered.
- 10.3. It was agreed to support Woodhill Surgery in securing new modernised premises.
- 10.4. Traffic volume and speed issues will continue to be monitored particularly on the A267.
- 10.5. It was acknowledged that there is good support for the elderly in the Parish. The possibility of MAYFACS taking over the role of Old People's Welfare will be considered at a meeting this week.

10.6. Cllr Standley and Cllr B Redman left the meeting after this agenda item.

11. Mayfield skate park upgrade (information previously circulated)

11.1. The £10K lottery grant for the upgrade has to be utilised by the end of May 2017 or returned to the provider.

11.2. A Community Interest Company has been formed to enable access to additional grants. The bank account is in the process of being opened.

11.3. There will be a further skate park update at the next full Council meeting.

12. Mayfield village sign

12.1. Confirmation was received that the top of the village sign will be restored before the 2017 May Fair. Assistance to arrange the installation may be required from the Parish Council.

13. Business rate relief on public toilets

13.1. Business rates on the South Street public conveniences are £1,118.40 for 2017/18.

13.2. It was resolved unanimously to request our MPs to support the amendment to the Local Government Finance Bill to provide 100% mandatory business rate relief for public conveniences.

Action JT

14. Updates from Committees (for information only)

14.1. Finance and General Purposes

- Nothing to report.

14.2. Rights of Ways and Trees

- There is a meeting next week.

14.3. Planning Committee

- Nothing further to report.

14.4. Community Safety and Traffic

- We are still awaiting advice from ESCC on the criteria required to identify suitable sites to install speed indicating devices.
- Repairs to the bollard lights on the traffic islands in Five Ashes have still not taken place since reporting the problem in June 2016.

14.5. Community Development

- There is a meeting next Monday.

15. Updates from representatives (for information only)

15.1. There were no updates from representatives.

16. Other items of information and next agenda items

16.1. The loose wooden bollards on the top of the wall protecting pedestrians from traffic on the south side of Mayfield High Street were reported in September 2016. ESCC has replied that they do not cause a safety issue.

16.2. A tree has fallen on power lines in Tidebrook Road near Acorn Farm. This has been reported to UK Power networks and to East Sussex Highways but no acknowledgement has been received.

Action JT

16.3. The last service has been held in Five Ashes at the Church of the Good Shepherd before the building is relocated to Etchingham.

16.4. In the Times last week Wadhurst was voted to be the best place to live in the South East.

The meeting ended at 21:00

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

Venue: Five Ashes Village Hall

Date: Monday 10 April 2017

Time: 19:30 hours

.....Chairman's Signature

.....Date

Actions in Progress:

| 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 10 October 2016 | | | |
| 9.4 | Plan play area upgrade & investigate grants | JT | Closed |
| 12.5 | Investigate relocating and refurbishing telephone kiosk at Love Lane | JT | In hand |
| Actions from meeting 13 February 2017 | | | |
| 10.3 | Advice note of tree work applications in newsletter | JT | Closed |
| 11.5 | CLLrs to comment on ITT Specification by 28 February 2017(No Comments) | All | Closed |
| 13.2 | Reply to HWAAG re: Department of Transport Night Flight Consultation | JT | Closed |
| 14.4 | Investigate how other Parish Council's are overcoming the reduced service | JT DR | Open |
| Actions from meeting 13 March 2017 | | | |
| 13.2 | Write to MPs to request support for 100% rate relief on public conveniences | JT | Open |
| 16.2 | Chase Highways & UK Power Networks to remove tree on power lines | JT | Done |