



Minutes of the meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

Venue Mayfield Memorial Hall
Date Monday 09 July 2018
Time 19:30

C09JUL18
2018/19 Meeting 03
Adopted

Minutes

Chairman Cllr Deveda Redman

Councillors Present and Voting

Deveda Redman	Gill Weavers	Jerry Watkiss	Eleanor McDonnell-Slater
Chris Lilly	Herb Hills	Rosemary Neal	Tommy Buck
David Miles	Monica Aitken	Patricia Balfour	

Also in attendance:

Cllr R Simmons (ESCC), Cllr B Redman (WDC), Cllr G Wells (WDC) and Janna Todd, Parish Clerk.

Public Questions

- There were no public questions.

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Julie Upton, Cllr Robert Fitzsimmons, Cllr Ian Parker, Cllr R Standley (ESCC/ WDC) and Cllr Jonica Fox (WDC).

2. Declarations of Interests

- 2.1. There were no declarations of interests.

3. Chairman's Announcements

- 3.1. The Chairman recognised all the hard work that Cllr Elaine Wheeler provided for the Council over a long period of time for Five Ashes and was sorry to see her leave.
- 3.2. The Sussex Association of Local Councils (SALC) has contacted the Parish Council about the possibility of Parish Councils sharing Community Wardens and they want to know what services we would like them to provide should we agree to engage one.
- 3.3. The draft Wealden Local Plan published on 27 June 2018 will be raised during the District Council's report.
- 3.4. ESCC is proposing the seasonal closure of Back Lane (Byway 87) to prohibit motor vehicles between 1 October and 31 March each year. (This is the lane that links the A267 opposite Crier's Lane to Leeds Lane.) It was discussed by the Rights of Ways Committee who did not raise any objections.
- 3.5. Councillors were reminded that there is no scheduled Parish Council meeting in August.

4. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 11 June 2018 (previously circulated)

- 4.1. It was **resolved** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018 as a true record.

5. Reports from East Sussex County Council (ESCC)

- 5.1. Cllr Simmons informed that the County Council has to find £45m of savings over the next three years and have had no choice but to make £10m of cuts from Adult Social Care.

- 5.2. There is strong representation to Central Government and the Secretary of State to increase funding and our five MP's have been requested to lobby for this.
- 5.3. The County Council has managed to make savings of £131m over the last four years and they are still spending £166m on Social Care.
- 5.4. Senior positions have been reduced by a third over the last four years and the number of Directors has been cut from 12 in 2001 to just three who are working exceedingly hard.
- 5.5. They are considering closing the household recycling sites in Frant and Wadhurst, as they are not cost effective.

6. Reports from Wealden District Council (WDC)

- 6.1. Cllr Brian Redman informed that WDC is aware of the problems surrounding waste collection, particularly garden waste and are working with Kier to try and resolve it.
- 6.2. The draft Local Plan to 2028 has been published and it was considered at the Planning Committee North and Planning Committee South meeting. Mayfield is one of the few villages that has been allocated housing of 50 dwellings at the Cricket Club and surrounding area and 19 windfalls.
- 6.3. The draft plan includes some protection for Mayfield High Street with 50% of retail units retained to maintain High Street vitality. This is pleasing but comes rather late after seeing valuable retail units already converted to residential use.
- 6.4. It is debatable whether there is any chance that housing on the site of the Cricket Club can succeed as an alternative site in a suitable location is required and no development can proceed until there is a viable built alternative. Permission has to be granted by Sports for England who will not allow it to proceed unless there are like for like replacement facilities for the Cricket Club.
- 6.5. The area put forward previously for potential new Cricket Club facilities to the north of Mayfield may be unsuitable as it is not flat, includes ancient woodland, a pond and has no access onto the A267. Highways would have to approve a new access road in a very dangerous stretch of carriageway. In addition, South East Water is installing a new pipeline across the land.
- 6.6. The suggested entrance to the proposed housing estate is the slip road to the existing Cricket Club however this would not provide access to the surrounding land included in the plan.
- 6.7. If more than five years after the Local Plan is approved no development at the Cricket Club has progressed the 50 houses would be allocated as additional windfalls. It may therefore be necessary to consider publishing a Neighbourhood Plan to have some say in where housing can be developed. The Parish Council has six months after the Local Plan is issued to apply to begin work on a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 6.8. The next stage of the Local Plan is for approval by WDC on 18 July 2018. It will then go out for consultation for eight weeks ending on 08 October 2018.
- 6.9. It is anticipated that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider a change in the constitution for controversial Permitted Developments to be discussed at Planning Committee North and Planning Committee South meetings.
- 6.10. The County and District Councillors left the meeting at 20:25 after this agenda item.

7. Finance Report (previously circulated)

- 7.1. The Finance Report to 31 May 2018 was reviewed. Expenditure was above average but this is anticipated each year during May.
- 7.2. The Finance Report and expenditure to 31 May 2018 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 11 June 2018
02 July 2018
- Finance and General Purposes Executive 25 June 2018
- Rights of Ways and Trees Advisory 27 June 2018

Matters arising from the minutes

8.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

9. Parish in Bloom (information previously circulated)

- 9.1. The main difficulty during the assessment was to complete the visit of Mayfield and Five Ashes within the two-hour time restriction.
- 9.2. There was some very positive feedback and the assessor was particularly complimentary towards the High Street retailers and residents who put in so much effort. It was agreed they and the two Horticultural Societies should be congratulated. Cllrs Aitken and Lilly were also thanked for their achievement.
- 9.3. The results of the judging and feedback from the assessment will be in September 2018 and the criteria to go on to the next level of the competition will be released early next year.

10. Parish Council 2018/19 Action plan v1.6 (information previously circulated)

- 10.1. The Action Plan 1.6 was reviewed and projects were allocated to Committees and Councillors to progress and meet the proposed deadlines.
- 10.2. It was agreed to review the plan and its progress every three months.
- 10.3. Cllr Hills left the meeting at 20:43 after this agenda item.

11. Community Wardens

- 11.1. It was agreed to request that any future Parish Council Community Wardens are provided with powers to enable parking enforcement. This is the most complained about problem by residents.
- 11.2. Whether Community Wardens can perform speed checks and report offenders will be raised.
- 11.3. It was agreed the Parish Council would require a trial period for engaging a Community Warden before any longer term commitment could be considered.
- 11.4. More information is required on who would actually employ the Community Wardens and how much time they would dedicate to the Parish. It would be preferable if their working days are irregular otherwise the public would know when parking would be monitored.
- 11.5. Councillors were requested to forward any other services they would like Community Wardens to fulfil to the Clerk. **Action All**

12. Updates from Committees

- 12.1. Finance and General Purposes
 - 12.1.1. Following last week's meeting, enquiries were made into the purchase of four silent soldier silhouettes for £400 for the War Memorials in Mayfield and Five Ashes. The cost of each silhouette has been increased to £250.
 - 12.1.2. Members of the meeting were of the opinion that £1,000 was excessive and that the best way forward would be to initially go ahead with the purchase of two silhouettes. If residents like them they can be invited to donate towards the purchase of additional silhouettes. **Action JT**
 - 12.1.3. Enquiries will be made into including smaller silhouettes for the Army, Navy and RAF in the design of the replacement railings at Mayfield War Memorial. **Action JT**
- 12.2. Rights of Ways and Trees
 - 12.2.1. Nothing further to report.

12.3. Planning Committee

12.3.1. It is good that the draft Local Plan goes some way to protecting retail space in Mayfield High Street.

12.4. Community Safety and Traffic

12.4.1. Nothing further to report.

12.5. Community Development

12.5.1. Nothing further to report.

13. Updates from representatives (for information only)

13.1. Minutes from WDALC’s 2017 AGM and meeting of 11 April 2018 were previously circulated.

13.2. Cllr Lilly and Cllr Hills attended a meeting with representatives of the Memorial Hall Management Committee and MAYFACS to discuss ideas on how to restart the redevelopment of the Memorial Hall and the possible extension of the Old Library.

13.3. It was proposed an independent person with professional architectural expertise be appointed on a pro bono basis to undertake a feasibility study which would include:

- assessing requirements and needs
- determining estimated build costs
- identifying sources of finance to compete the build

13.4. The resolution that will be considered at the next Management Committee Meeting will be: To agree to the appointment of an independent person with professional architectural expertise to undertake a preliminary scoping exercise to determine basic requirements and needs, estimated build costs and potential sources of funding for a new village hall.

14. Other items of information and next agenda items

14.1. There were no other items discussed.

The meeting ended at 21:20

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

**Venue: Mayfield Memorial Hall
Date: Monday 10 September 2018
Time: 19:30 hours**

.....Chairman’s Signature

.....Date

Actions in Progress:

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	
Actions from meeting C10JUL17			
13.2	Replacement plaque and wording on village sign	JT	In hand
Actions from meeting C11JUN18			
18.1	Inform Highways that Pennybridge Lane is unsuitable for a diversion route	JT	Open
Actions from meeting C09JUL18			
11.5	Forward ideas on services Community Wardens should provide to Clerk	All	Open
12.12	Investigate purchase of Silent Soldier Silhouettes	JT	Open
12.13	Inform contractors of including additional silhouettes in railing design	JT	Open