



# Minutes of the meeting of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council

Venue Mayfield Memorial Hall  
Date Monday 12 November 2018  
Time 19:30

C12NOV18  
2018/19 Meeting 06  
**Adopted**

## Minutes

Chairman Cllr Deveda Redman

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### Councillors Present and Voting

Deveda Redman	Jerry Watkiss	Tommy Buck	Patricia Balfour
Chris Lilly	Ian Parker	Duncan Smith	Gill Weavers
Julie Upton	Herb Hills	David Miles	

### Also in attendance:

Cllr Brian Redman (WDC), Cllr Rupert Simmons (ESCC) and Cllr Bob Standley (ESCC /WDC).  
There was one member of the public present and Janna Todd (Parish Clerk).

### Public Questions

- The Parish Council was requested to consider the following:
  - Recording the name of any member of the public speaking during Public Questions in the minutes for reasons of transparency.
  - Requesting that the Chamber of Commerce readdresses the problem of retailers parking all day in Mayfield High Street thus preventing visitors and shoppers parking.
  - To reconsider the annual contribution donated to St Dunstan's Church towards graveyard maintenance taking into consideration the expenditure by the Diocese of Chichester to compensate victims of child abuse.
  - For the County Council to consider the possible implications of Brexit and its effect on local communities, in particular concerning the supply of medicines available in areas with a large population.
- Thoughts were shared on memories during World War II and the excellent memorial services held on Remembrance Sunday.

### 1. Apologies for Absence

1.1. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Rosemary Neal, Cllr Robert Fitzsimmons, Cllr Monica Aitken, Cllr Eleanor McDonnell-Slater and Cllr Graham Wells (WDC).

### 2. Declarations of Interests

- 2.1. There were no declarations of interests.
- 2.2. Councillors were reminded to update their Registers of Interests as soon as any changes in circumstances occur.

### 3. Chairman's Announcements

- 3.1. Councillors have been contacted by a member of the public requesting information on how they will respond to the consultation on the charging patterns of existing electric vehicles and the interest in switching to use an electric vehicle in the future. It was agreed that there would be a considerable number of questions to be considered at a later date when more information

on charging electric vehicles is made available. Councillors were requested to look at the information provided with the consultation and to respond individually. The meeting was informed that if a new community hall were developed it would have to provide charging points as part of the planning permission.

- 3.2. The director of the Community Play has thanked the Parish Council for their cooperation during the event. It was a great success and the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council has written a short review of how good it was for the community.
- 3.3. Classic Cottages has informed that they are very interested in helping promote tourism particularly in the High Weald and are happy to support any tourism matters if they can.
- 3.4. Due to bank holidays and other scheduled meetings the only available date for the next Annual Parish Assembly on a Monday is 20 May 2019.

#### **4. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held 08 October 2018 (previously circulated)**

- 4.1. It was **resolved** unanimously to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 08 October 2018 as a true record.
- 4.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### **5. Reports from East Sussex County Council (ESCC)**

- 5.1. Cllr Simmons discussed ESCC's financial predicament informing that at tomorrow's Cabinet Meeting they will propose and vote on cutting services back to statutory duties only and going out to public consultation on this matter.
- 5.2. More information should be provided from central government by 06 December 2018 on any additional funding that will be provided following the budget. It will be particularly challenging over the next three years to balance the budget although they are confident that it will be in 2019/20.
- 5.3. It is anticipated that 2021 will be an extremely difficult year financially as they cannot provide adult social care on funding provided from Council Tax and Business Rates alone particularly as East Sussex is such a rural community.
- 5.4. This year's Open Doors is running where pupils visit workplaces across East Sussex and learn about the range of jobs on offer. This will hopefully expand local businesses and increase business rates in the long term.
- 5.5. The meeting was advised that if a council faces financial crisis the government steps in to take financial control.
- 5.6. Further to the public question concerning supplies of medication after Brexit, Cllr Standley informed that this was something that needs to be addressed by the Clinical Commissioning Group and not the County Council.

#### **6. Reports from Wealden District Council (WDC)**

- 6.1. With regards to 2019/20 Council Tax, WDC is debating whether to increase its rates for a Band D property by the minimum of either 1.99% (£3.50 per year) or £5 per year.
- 6.2. There has been a delay of 8 weeks for the scheduled opening of the crematorium following the discovery of gas pipes at the entrance that need to be relocated.
- 6.3. It is anticipated that the proposed Local Plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate before 14 January 2019. If it is submitted after this date it will be judged on new planning policy that will affect the housing allocation numbers.
- 6.4. It is looking more likely that Wadhurst Household Recycling Site will close. £90k per annum is required to maintain it that would result in households being charged an entrance fee of £3 each time they visit the site.
- 6.5. This year's Community Volunteer Awards has opened. Nominations can be sent either to Wealden District Council or to Ward Member Cllr Brian Redman. There are three awards:

- Community Volunteer Hero
- Young Volunteer of the year (under 25 years)
- Volunteer Group of the year

6.6. It was confirmed that air pollution is still being monitored across Ashdown Forest.

6.7. Cllr Standley and Cllr Simmons left the meeting after this agenda item.

## **7. Finance Report (previously circulated)**

7.1. The Finance Report to 30 September 2018 was reviewed. Expenditure was average and the second tranche of the precept was received.

7.2. The Finance Report and expenditure 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                     | 22 October 2018<br>05 November 2018 |
| • Finance and General Purposes Executive | 22 October 2018                     |
| • Community Safety and Traffic Advisory  | 29 October 2018                     |

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

8.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **9. Argos Hill Windmill (information previously circulated)**

9.1. The problem of crash barriers being erected too close to the windmill on opening days was discussed following a request for the Parish Council to assist with resolving the issue.

9.2. The meeting was informed that the contentious access issues are believed to have lasted for as much as 10 years, that is a legal and complex matter and that getting involved could result in entering into a legal minefield for which the Parish Council has no expertise.

9.3. It was agreed that the Argos Hill Windmill Trust will be informed that the Parish Council fully supports the opening days at the windmill and sympathises with the problems they are experiencing over land access. The only suggestion that the Parish Council can make at this stage is for them to attend a local independent and impartial mediation service to attempt to resolve their issues.

**Action JT**

## **10. Mayfield Community Centre feasibility report**

10.1. The meeting was informed of the good progress of the feasibility study and costings report to consider various options and requirements for a new community hall.

10.2. The incorporation of a medical practice is being considered, as a healthy income is required to finance the venture.

10.3. It was agreed that the Parish Council office should remain in Mayfield High Street and not be incorporated within a new community centre.

10.4. Cllr Brian Redman left the meeting after this agenda item.

## **11. Draft 2019/2020 Budget (information previously circulated)**

11.1. The draft 2019/20 Budget v1.7 was previously circulated for review.

11.2. There were a few minor amendments since the previous meeting including the allocation of £15K of surplus funds to Community Projects reserves and £350 towards skate park refurbishment reserves.

11.3. Grants totalling £2,600 were approved at the October 2018 Finance and General Purposes meeting.

11.4. It was agreed that the final approval of the 2019/20 Budget and Precept may need to be delayed until January 2019 after the community centre feasibility study and costings report have been presented and considered by the Parish Council.

## **12. Community Interest Company (CIC) (information previously circulated)**

12.1. It was agreed to investigate the costs and implications of creating a CIC or Charity Incorporated Organisation for community projects and to present a formal proposal if appropriate to full council at a future meeting. **Action CL**

## **13. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

- 13.1. Following a question raised by Ian Bruce (a member of the Memorial Hall Management Committee) requesting that all CIL received should be allocated towards a new community hall it was agreed that it was inappropriate to make that decision at this time.
- 13.2. It is likely that 50 new homes will be approved for Mayfield at some point in the future but that any CIL will become available over a number of years and not in one payment.
- 13.3. It is likely that a percentage of any new dwellings will be classified as affordable housing or another exempt category and therefore CIL would not be payable.
- 13.4. Should the Parish Council decide to create a Neighbourhood Plan an additional 10% of CIL will become payable and there would be no annual cap, which could be worth considering due to the housing allocated to Mayfield in the proposed Local Plan.
- 13.5. Three Councillors are attending a Neighbourhood Plan Briefing this week and will report back to Full Council.

## **14. Naming members of the public in meeting minutes (information previously circulated)**

- 14.1. There was a discussion on whether the names of members of the public that speak during Public Questions should be recorded in the meeting minutes.
- 14.2. It was agreed to continue the current practice of not recording any name in the meeting minutes due to the expectation of privacy. Public Questions does not form part of the formal Council meeting and the Clerk is therefore not obliged to include any information provided during this period in the minutes.
- 14.3. It was agreed to reconsider this at a later date should more requests be received from residents for their names to be recorded in the minutes.

## **15. Election of Councillor to Committees**

15.1. Cllr Duncan Smith was unanimously elected on to the Community Safety and Traffic Committee and the Rights of Ways and Trees Committee.

## **16. Updates from Committees**

- 16.1. Finance and General Purposes
- Nothing further to report.
- 16.2. Rights of Ways and Trees
- Nothing further to report
- 16.3. Planning Committee
- Nothing further to report.
- 16.4. Community Safety and Traffic
- Nothing further to report
- 16.5. Community Development
- The pilot scheme for the Community Book Swap in St Dunstan's Church has commenced and will be closely monitored. It has been advertised in the pew sheet and Newsletter.
  - Truffles, The Shopping Basket and Five Ashes Hall have expressed an interest in hosting a book swap.

- Investigation is taking place into the possibility of installing shelving in the telephone kiosk opposite the Rose and Crown. It was agreed that it would need to be locked at night.

**17. Updates from representatives (for information only)**

- 17.1. Transition Mayfield is concerned that fracking licences have been approved in the north of the country.
- 17.2. The WDALC AGM minutes of the meeting of 10 October were previously circulated.
- 17.3. The Wealdlink minutes of 22 August were previously circulated.

**18. Other items of information and next agenda items**

- 18.1. Late night shopping is on 30 November 2019 subject to Public Liability Insurance.
- 18.2. Members agreed that the Remembrance Service was executed very well and was enjoyed by all generations of the community.

**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 December 2018**  
**Time: 19:30 hours**

.....Chairman's Signature

.....Date

**Actions in Progress:**

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION		STATUS
<b>Actions from meeting C10SEP18</b>			
10.3	Enquire about strength of war memorial railings ( <b>Will support leaning on to</b> )	JT	Closed
10.4	Apply for listed building planning consent for war memorial railings	JT	In hand
10.6	Add Silent Soldier to insurance schedule and asset register	JT	Closed
13.3	Request that Cllr Simmons investigates whether mobile signal has moved	JT	Closed
<b>Actions from meeting C08OCT18</b>			
14.3	Investigate bench at Mayfield War Memorial	JT	Closed
<b>Actions from meeting C12NOV18</b>			
9.3	Recommend Argos Windmill Trust attends mediation to resolve access issue	JT	Open
12.1	Investigate implications of creating CIC/ CIO for community projects	CL	Open