

Minutes of the Meeting of

Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council Ordinary Meeting



Venue Mayfield Primary School

Date Monday 11 February 2013

Time 19:30

12C11
Adopted

Minutes

Chairman: Councillor Jerry Watkiss

Attendance

Councillors:

Robert Fitzsimmons	(RF)	Present and Voting
Jayne Bramwell	(JB)	Present and Voting
Warwick Child	(WH)	Present and Voting
Jane Driscoll	(JD)	Present and Voting
Ian Parker	(IP)	Present and Voting
Graham Playfoot	(GP)	Present and Voting
Jerry Watkiss	(JW)	Present and Voting
Elaine Wheeler	(EW)	Present and Voting
Chris Lilly	(CL)	Present and Voting
Monica Aitken	(MA)	Present and Voting
Andrew Burnett	(AB)	Present and Voting
Rosemary Neal	(RN)	Present and Voting
Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present and Voting
Lloyd McLean	(LM)	Present and Voting

Also in attendance:

Bob Tidy (ESCC), Chris Dowling (ESCC), Brian Redman (WDC), Jonica Fox (WDC).and Robert Standley (WDC)

Janna Todd (Parish Clerk).

There were three members of the public present.

1. Election of Chairman

- 1.1. Cllr Lloyd McLean resigned as Parish Council Chairman at the Council meeting of 14 January 2013.
- 1.2. Cllr Jerry Watkiss was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Chris Lilly and seconded by Cllr Ian Parker. The Chairman was elected by unanimous vote.

2. Public Questions

- 2.1. Michael Sutton gave a short summary of the recent meeting to discuss the Fletching Street traffic calming proposal with an estimated cost of £15K. It is no longer certain that ESCC will contribute 50% of the cost. Fundraising by local residents and at the May Fair was suggested. Mr Sutton and Cllr Tidy were thanked for their help with the proposal which will be debated at the next Safety and Traffic Committee meeting.

- 2.2. The problem of speeding commercial traffic in Five Ashes and the danger to pedestrians was raised. The ESCC Highways officers and Safety Teams will be meeting in the spring and it is hoped that the carriageway improvements will be completed and that Five Ashes will be used as a pilot scheme for traffic speed reduction by other villages.

3. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Patricia Balfour, Cllr Graham Wells (WDC) and Matt Boyle (Sussex Police).

4. Declarations of interests by members on agenda items

- 4.1. There were no declarations of interests.

5. Election of Vice-Chair

- 5.1. Cllr Chris Lilly was proposed as Vice-Chair by Cllr Jayne Bramwell and seconded by Cllr Andrew Burnett. The Vice-Chair was elected by unanimous vote

6. Chairman's Announcements

- 6.1. Cllr Watkiss thanked Cllr McLean for his time as Chairman.
- 6.2. Cllrs were requested to keep their discussions to the agenda items only.

7. Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held 14 January 2013 (12C10) previously circulated.

Matters arising from the minutes:

- 7.1. The possibility of the Carpenters Arms having access to Court Meadow (4.2) will now be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting on 11 March 2013.
- 7.2. The incomplete carriageway improvements in Five Ashes (5.3) are being looked in to by Cllr Fitzsimmons.
- 7.3. It had been suggested to upgrade the footpath from the Memorial Hall car park to Coggins Mill Lane instead of implementing the Fletching Street traffic calming. There is no access to the mid-point of the path from Fletching Street so it seems inappropriate.
- 7.4. After minor amendments the minutes were passed and adopted by UNANIMOUS vote.

8. Reports from ESCC

- 8.1. Cllr Tidy gave an overview of ESCC's draft budget and informed that their budget for grass cutting, highway maintenance and the winter gritting programme should be protected.
- 8.2. ESCC and Medway CC are working together to form a proposal for a south east regional public sector communication service.
- 8.3. Over 1,500 pot holes have been filled so far this year with 16 gangs working on them. Pot holes can be reported on 0345 6080193.
- 8.4. The County Council has granted of £1m to small rural businesses to increase employment. Any small business looking to expand their activities can contact ESCC.
- 8.5. TrAC (Training and Apprenticeships in Construction) is up and running where the County Council employ apprentices who are then made available for small businesses.
- 8.6. Village Gangs are still available for routine village maintenance but will now be jointly funded by the County Council and the Parish Councils engaging them.

- 8.7. Cllr Dowling gave a short review of Build East Sussex which is aimed at developing construction supply across East Sussex, keeping contractors and sub-contractors local and supporting small businesses.
- 8.8. Councillors were reminded to register their demand for Superfast Broadband on the Go East Sussex website.
- 8.9. Cllr Dowling thanked Mr Sutton for his work on the Fletching Street traffic calming proposal.

9. Report from Wealden District Council.

- 9.1. Cllr Fox reported on the Joint Waste Scheme and summarised which products will be recycled from the kerbside including glass and an increased variety of plastics. Residents will need to register for green waste collection if it is required and will be supplied with a new bin. Leaflets will be circulated in April to advise residents of the new service and it will come in to operation in July 2013.
- 9.2. WDC has recommended no increase in Council Tax.

10. Finance Report.

- 10.1. The Finance Report was previously circulated.
- 10.2. Internet banking is now available.
- 10.3. Expenditure will remain for essential items only for the remainder of the financial year.
- 10.4. Expenditure for December 2012 was approved by unanimous vote.

11. Minutes for adoption.

- 11.1. The following minutes were reviewed:
- 12S05 – Community Safety and Traffic Advisory
 - 12P15 - Planning Executive
 - 12R05 – Rights of Ways and Trees Advisory
 - 12F08 – Finance and General Purposes Executive
- 11.2. Matters arising from the minutes.
- (12S05) Cllrs were reminded that theft activity particularly of heating oil is still in the area.
 - (12S05/6.1) Residents of Love Lane are being asked to fund the work on the stay wire at the car park entrance.
 - (12S01) Despite being requested twice, the invoice for the handrail at Jason's is still outstanding. **Action JT**
 - (12F08/4.5) The cost of replacing the benches must include securing them to the ground.
 - (12F08/8) It has since been determined that this driver did not knock down the village sign.
- 11.3. After a few alterations the minutes were adopted by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

12. South Street Toilets

- 12.1. The general public consensus following the meeting concerning the closure of the South Street toilets was to retain them.
- 12.2. The cost to maintain the toilets is approximately £8.5k per annum. This is only £3.5k more than WDC could contribute to Mayfield for their Toilet Scheme, so the initial strategy will be to request that WDC continue maintaining the toilets.
- 12.3. Should the Parish Council take over the maintenance of the toilets WDC will be requested to improve their state of repair.
- 12.4. The rates for the toilets are £1,125.00 which appears substantial. Cllr Standley will investigate the possibility of a reduction.
- 12.5. A meeting with WDC to decide a strategy has been arranged for 13 February 2013.

13. Youth Drop In

- 13.1. The Youth Drop in is roughly £3,8k per annum. There is a maximum of 8 girls currently attending, 3 who reside in Crowborough. The legal ratio of adults to children for this age range is 1 in 12.
- 13.2. A large proportion of the time is taken on talking to the girls and listening to their problems.
- 13.3. There are a number of other facilities available to Youths in the village. An information pack of Youth groups and contact details will be produced. **Action IP**
- 13.4. The meeting was minded to bring the Youth Drop In to a close at sometime in the near future.
- 13.5. It was suggested that the Parish Council try and find alternative activities for the five Mayfield girls who would be affected should the Youth Drop In close
- 13.6. Nic Voss and Gavin Ross will be invited to the next Parish Council meeting to give an update on their Youth Project. **Action JT**

14. Management of Jubilee Wood

- 14.1. It had been hoped initially that residents in Love Lane would be interested in managing the woodland.
- 14.2. A working group led by Cllr Wheeler will be formed to reach a solution. Cllr Driscoll and Cllr Aitken also volunteered and it was suggested that David Thompson might be involved.

15. Committee Reports

15.1. Finance and General Purposes:

- Internet banking is providing an immediate review of current finances.
- The Natwest Reserve account will be categorised with the funds split in to their different projects

15.2. Rights of Way and Trees: Nothing to report.

15.3. Planning Committee:

- Cllr Playfoot will contact WDC planning to enquire why planning notices were not displayed at a property or letters sent to the neighbouring properties.

15.4. Community Safety and Traffic: Nothing to report.

15.5. Community Development: Nothing to report.

16. Reports from other representatives.

16.1. Cllrs were requested to inform the clerk of which external Committees they attend.

16.2. Chamber of Commerce

16.2.1. Following an investigation Cllr Burnett suggested that the two hour parking restriction might be extended from the High Street along Tunbridge Wells Road and including the Memorial car park during the daytime.

16.2.2. It was reported that St Leonard's Mayfield girls were now parking in the South Street car park. The JD will speak to the Head of 6th Form. **Action JD**

16.3. Argos Hill Windmill

16.3.1. The Friends' quiz night will now be held on Saturday 16 March 2013 at 19:30 in Five Ashes Village Hall. Tables are for 6 at £6 each on sale at Rosina.

16.3.2. A grant from the Architectural Heritage Fund of £2,386.00 has been awarded for the professional drawings and specifications.

17. Clerk's Report.

17.1. The Clerk's Report was previously circulated.

17.2. There were no questions for the clerk.

18. Other items of information and next agenda items

18.1. The Finance and General Purposes Committee decision to maintain the current parking restrictions in South Street car park will be relayed to Cllr Redman.

Action JT

18.2. In preparation of the Annual Assembly, Committee Chairs are requested to report on their achievements, problems and future plans to the clerk.

18.3. The path in Five Ashes playing field to the notice board appears unsafe. This will be investigated.

18.4. WDC has given Sandalls Farm 3 months to remove their flood lights for the sand school.

18.5. Cllr Bramwell is looking in to the possibilities of removing the white van from the Memorial Hall car park.

The meeting closed at 21:30

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

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Date: Monday 11 February 2013
Time: 19:30 hours

Annex 1

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Actions from meeting 12C07		
12.1.3	Monthly job list to be prepared e.g. Court Meadow drainage clearance	In hand
Actions from meeting 12C08		
13.3	Request help for Youth facility via Mayfield Newsletter - awaiting report from NV	JT Open
Actions from meeting 12C09		
PQT	Investigate cost of cutting Southmead verges- awaiting feedback from ESCC	JT Open
Actions from meeting 12C10		
4.1	Letter of thanks for Wildsplash advice	JT Closed
4.3	Letter to confirm ownership of rock face behind Carpenter's Arms	JT Closed
4.6	Investigate church clock insurance to try to determine ownership.	JT Closed
5.3	Write to ESCC re: unfinished markings in Five Ashes RF & C Dowling dealing	In Hand
9.2	Request resurfacing of footpath from Memorial Hall car park – Coggins Mill Lane	JT Closed
13.3	Inform Bursar of St Leonards girls not using their own car park	JD Closed
13.4	Draw up wish list for newsletter	JB Open
13.5	Draw up list of works for ESCC village gangs	JT Open
Actions from meeting 12C11		
11.2	Payment for Jason's handrail – 2 letters sent & 1 verbal request	JT Open
13.3	Develop information pack of youth groups	IP Open
13.5	Invite Nic Voss & Gavin Ross to review progress	JT Done
16.2.2	Request St Leonards Girls to not use South Street Car Park	JD Done
18.1	Inform Cllr Redman of PC decision on South Street car park.	JT Done