MINUTES

Fulford Parish Council
Full Council Meeting

Thursday 10th October 2024
Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall

Present:
Cllr Carol Baskin
Cllr Anthony Meredith
Cllr Andrew Lovatt
Cllr Stephen Green
Cllr P White
Cllr J White (Chair)
Cllr T Elder
Cllr Janet Crossley
Cllr Gareth Brunt

SBC Cllr Mike Dodson

SCC Cllr Ian Parry

In attendance:
Mrs Gemma Keiher-Knapper (Clerk/RFO)

Meeting started at 1915hrs

084/24 **Public Participation**.
No members of public attended.

085/24 **Apologies**
Apologises were received for Cllr A Noblett, Cllr K Deeth, Cllr C Marlow, Cllr Wilkinson, Cllr A Gilbert and SBC Cllr A Sandiford.

086/24 **Declarations of interest and dispensation**
None received.

087/24 **Register of interest**
Members were reminded to update their registers of interest.

088/24 To following **minutes** were approved:

a) Fulford Parish Council Meeting Thursday 12th September 2024.

089/24 To receive a **Report** from the Police
The Police were not in attendance.
The Clerk informed the meeting that the PCSOs had also cancelled the Police drop-in clinic that was due to take place next month at Fulford Village Hall because of an event at Trentham Gardens.

090/24 To receive **Report** from:

a) Stafford Borough Councillors

Cllr Dodson informed the meeting that before the change in Government the SBC new Local Plan was ready for consultation. It is now awaiting Labour Government new planning direction which now includes 800 extra homes every year over the current plan, the percentage of affordable homes will also need to be higher which then makes some developments not viable.

The Solar Farm application is still awaiting a committee date.

SBC main effort has been on budget controls recently.

b) County Councillor

Cllr Parry informed the meeting that the SID poles that he funded are due to be installed next week.

Neighbourhood Highways smaller teams are to be re-introduced to address low level maintenance requirements faster.

Meir Heath mini islands major re surfacing scheme is set to begin 21st October.

The County Council budget report is available on the website as the half year results are published. An additional 8 million pounds has been given to Highways to address the resources required to cater for climate change and the Country experiencing such wet weather. Also, there are still ongoing budget demands within the County Council for Children's Services experiencing high demands for looked after children and ECHPs.

Cllr Parry left the meeting 2025hrs

091/24 Clerks Report

- Wardens works requests shared.
- Neighbourhood Plan meeting update with SBC from 18th September.
- Neighbourhood Plan training update from 25th September.
- Reminder of MP Visit 11th October to discuss ongoing issues in the Parish.
- Update from new allotments meeting 23rd September and skip requirements.
- Signage updates for allotments and planters.

092/24 **Accounts/Finance:** Fulford Parish Council approved:

a) Noted competition of Audit for Year Ended 31 March 2024.
b) September 2024 Bank Reconciliation.
c) September/October 2024 Payments Lists.
d) 2024/25 Budget Review was reviewed.
e) 2025/26 Budget was deferred.

093/24 **Planning Applications**
Fulford Parish Council discussed the following applications and have no comments:
21/35167/HOU

094/24 **Report** from Fulford Parish Council Chairman.
The Chairman attended Meir Heath and Rough Close Village and reported that they have most planned works complete. They have changed to a local accountant and bookings are looking full.

Cllr Dodson left the meeting 2030hrs

095/24 **Fun Days**
The majority of Councillors voted to run a Fun Day at Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall in 2025.

The Clerk expressed concerns with regards to very few Councillors being involved organising and helping at this years Fun Day and for it to be a successful event everyone would need to be involved from the beginning. The Clerk agreed to check the Village Hall availability dates again and share.

096/24 **Produce Show**
A produce show was voted against, but a possible allotment event was discussed when Blythe Bridge allotments are up and running.

097/24 **Newsletter**
The Clerk reminded all Councillors that their articles for the Christmas newsletter are required by the end of October and hopefully a draft will be available at the November meeting.

098/24 **Christmas Celebrations**
Cllr Brunt and Cllr Baskin will source this years Christmas trees and a total budget was set for each Ward of £250 for Christmas tree and decorations. The Wardens will assist in erecting Rough Close and Meir Heaths trees. Fulford and Blythe Bridge Councillors will assist each other in erecting their Wards Christmas trees.

The Clerk thanked Cllr Lovatt for sourcing, delivering and disposing of previous year's Christmas trees.

099/24 **Village Volunteers Storage request**
Fulford Parish Council agreed to take over ownership of Fulford Volunteers equipment then loaning it back to them as and when they required. Ownership would have to be given to Fulford Parish Council because of insurance etc in the Parish Councils container.

Confidential Items to be discussed at the end of the meeting if Public and Press are present

100/24 **Grounds Maintenance Quotes**
Considering the quotes were deferred until the November meeting in case Friday's meeting with the MP can help rally the Highways to carry out the works required.

101/24 **Meir Heath Car Wash Planters**
Fulford Parish Council approved the purchase of two planters in green with gold band and Fulford Parish Council writing

102/24 **Items for the next Agenda**
Budget
Quotes for plastic tommies

103/24 To **confirm Date, Time and Location** of next meeting
Thursday 14th November 2024 Fulford Village Hall

Meeting Closed at 2110 hrs

Signed **Date** **Position**