MINUTES

Fulford Parish Council
Full Council Meeting

Thursday 9th January 2025
Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall

Present:
Cllr Carol Baskin
Cllr Anthony Meredith
Cllr Andrew Lovatt
Cllr Stephen Green
Cllr Paul White
Cllr Jane White (Chair)
Cllr Janet Crossley
Cllr Gareth Brunt
Cllr Peter Wilkinson
Cllr Angela Noblett
Cllr Karen Deeth
Cllr Allen Gilbert

SBC Cllr Alec Sandiford (arrived 1922hrs)
PCSO R Davies

In attendance:
Mrs Gemma Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

One Member of the public.

Meeting started at 1915hrs

148/25 **Public Participation**.
One member of the public was in attendance but did not have anything to add.

149/25 **Apologies**
Apologies were received for Cllr T Elder and SBC Cllr Dodson.

150/25 **Declarations of interest and dispensation**
None received.

151/25 **Register of interest**
Members were reminded to update their registers of interest.

152/25 The following **minutes** were approved:

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

Cllr P White raised what he believed to be an inaccuracy. The meeting voted that the minutes were a true reflection. Cllr J White and Cllr P White objected to approving the minutes.

b) Fulford Staffing Committee Meeting Thursday 12th December 2024

Cllr J White raised what she believed to be an inaccuracy. The meeting voted that the minutes were a true reflection. Cllr J White objected to approving the minutes.

153/25 To receive a **Report** from the Police

The Police informed the meeting that an Officer has been replaced so going forward there should always be a representative able to attend the Parish Council meetings.

Blythe Bridge area has experienced break-ins and thefts. The Police would like to remind the public that incidents must be called in as lots of issues are appearing on social media sites that have not formally been reported to the police. Without reports, there will not be resources assigned.

154/25 To receive **Report** from:

a) Stafford Borough Councillors

Cllr Sandiford informed the meeting that he had been working on the following:

- New bins on Windmill Hill.
- Cutting back on the Common to make the bin accessible again.
- Supporting SpringCroft Primary School with fencing.
- Supporting Stallington residents with several issues.
- Garages having CCTV fitted in Blythe Bridge to deter ASB.
- Grit bins not being re-filled.

b) County Councillor

Was not in attendance

155/25 Clerks Report was distributed and time allowed for questions.

156/25 **Accounts/Finance:** Fulford Parish Council approved:

a) December 2024 Bank Reconciliation.
b) December 2024/January 2025 Payments Lists.

157/25 **Planning Applications**

Fulford Parish Council discussed the following applications and has no comments: 24/39935/LSCPP and 24/39502/HOU.

158/25 **Chairman Report**

The Chairman informed the meeting that she attended the Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall Committee meeting and that they have been experiencing thefts from the upstairs store rooms and as a result, the Committee will be carrying out a key audit.

The Chairman also reported to the meeting how disappointed the Village Hall Committee are on the Parish Council's decision to not issue them with a key to the Parish Council Office and that the Committee will be seeking legal advice.

The Chairman reported that the Village Hall Committee had amended their minutes as requested by the Clerk to address inaccuracies. The Chairman also reported that the treasure report and bookings were good.

Finally, the Chairman reported that she will be stepping down from being the Parish Council representative on Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall Committee and a replacement will need to be appointed by the VH's next meeting on 12th February at 1900hrs.

159/25 Cllr P White volunteered to act as the Parish Council **representative for Meir Heath and Rough Close Village Hall**. The Parish Council agreed apart from Cllr Meredith who abstained from the vote.

160/25 The Clerk asked to confirm the **Staffing Committee members** considering the mediation between the Clerk and Cllr J White. The Parish Council agreed to remain at 5 members Cllr P Wilkinson, Cllr J White, Cllr P White, Cllr Baskin and Cllr Brunt.
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161/25 **Neighbourhood Plan**
The Chair asked the Clerk to brief the meeting with regards to the working group meeting held beforehand that the Parish Council meeting. The Neighbourhood plan would start by consulting with the residents to discover what they feel is good about living in Fulford Parish, what is bad about living in Fulford Parish and what they would improve about Fulford Parish. Then use that data to formulate an in-depth questionnaire to use the data to formulate the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council approved going forward with advertising the Neighbourhood Plan to the residents including establishing what they think is good, or bad and what they would change.

162/25 **Travellers Site**
Cllr A Sandiford updated the meeting that there has not been much movement. The police have attended the site a few times and SBC Enforcement is still seeking legal advice to prepare for Court.

The Parish Council approved for the Clerk to continue to support the residents with the use of the Parish Office or room hire.

163/25 **Health and Safety**
Cllr S Green requested that the Warden attend to moss on Fulford Village pavements that is on the footpath and hazardous to the older residents. Cllr S Green will meet with the Warden to identify the location.

Cllr K Deeth raised concerns about the delayed response from the Highways Department in repairing the pedestrian guard near Springcroft Primary School.

164/25 **Devolution**
The Clerk shared the NALC Devolution White paper article. A discussion was held.

165/25 **VE Day Thursday 8th May 2025 80 Years**
The Parish Council approved the purchase of a flag and further investigation into VH availability and cost and if any local churches or groups have anything planned that the PC could support.

Comfort Break 2020hrs

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

166/25 **Replacement Goal Posts – Defer**

167/25 **Items for the Next Agenda**
Pensioners Christmas Lunch
Santas Grotto
VE Day
Neighbourhood Plan
Defibs
Container/Storage

168/25 To **confirm Date, Time and Location** of the next meeting
Thursday 13th February 2025 Fulford Village Hall.
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Meeting Closed at 2028 hrs

Signed **Date** **Position**