

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mayfield Parish Council
Wednesday 3rd February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, Mayfield**

132/16 Minutes of the January 2016 meeting

The Minutes were approved by Cllr Gregory and seconded by Cllr Parker.

133/16 In Attendance - Apologies - Absences

Cllrs Cook, Edge, Gregory, Moss, Parker were in attendance. Cllr Watson sent her apologies. Cllr Turner was absent.

134/16 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parker re Item 140/16.

135/16 Public Participation

There were no parishioners in attendance.

136/16 Update – East Staffordshire Borough Council – Cllr Edward Barker

“Please pass on my apologies for Wednesday night’s meeting, as usual it coincides with the ‘Leader’s Advisory group’ meeting in Burton. The Local Plan has been adopted unchallenged but we are currently awaiting the verdict on two appeals to our planning decisions made according to the plan, so we wait to see whether there is any point in having a planning committee. Please let me know if there is anything I can try and help with.”

137/16 Highways & ROW

Update re Slack Lane & Slack Lane Track/Path

The Clerk has written to Staffordshire County Council (SCC) on behalf of the Parish Council: *Residents, businesses (South Staffordshire Water, Moores Cottage Farm) and users of the Lane first reported problems in 2012. The Lane is in a poor state of repair. Patch repairs were made in 2012 but have disintegrated - the lane is littered with pot holes and road edges have given way. This is a narrow lane, and access is required by large vehicles (council bin lorries, tractors, transport for sheep, oil tankers and tankers to empty the cess pit, residents). The businesses and residents request that the lane is properly resurfaced and the edges dug out and lined. The farmer who transports sheep up and down the lane say that the poor road surface is creating a sheep welfare issue). Advance notice will be required for this work as the lane is the only way in and out for businesses and residents and is also used by walkers (a ROW crosses the lane and a bridle path continues from the bottom of the lane by Moores Cottage Farm). See attached letters, emails and photos for further information.*

Action: Clerk to report any response / developments at the March meeting

Slack Lane Track / Path

The Clerk contacted SCC Rights of Way querying the status of the path/track as it is not registered as a ROW or bridle path on the definitive map, and asking whose responsibility it is for maintenance of the path / bridle path. ROW confirmed that the path is not a ROW or bridlepath. The Clerk asked for advice on who to approach regarding maintenance of the path. NB: ROW contacted the Clerk on 5th February and suggested in the first instance contacting SCC Highways to check if they were responsible. If they said they were not responsible then the Clerk would need to check with the Land Registry as to who owned the lane.

Action: Clerk to contact SCC Highways

Update - Footpath 5, Piccadilly Lane

48 hours after the footpath markers were replaced, the footpath marker at Sycamore Croft, Piccadilly Lane, was removed. The Clerk has emailed SCC to ascertain if it was SCC who removed the marker, and if not, that SCC should contact the owner(s) to remind them of their responsibilities and that they are in breach of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Stanton Lane / A52 junction

A parishioner contacted the Council to express their concern about the potential for a serious accident due to excess water/flooding at the junction of Stanton Lane and the A52. The parishioner also requested assistance in asking for Stanton Lane to be treated by Highways during icy conditions. Cllr Moss made a site visit and confirmed that the gullies are blocked and that excess water is running off the fields and contributing to the problem. The parishioner requested that the PC contact Andrew Griffiths MP. However, the PC will first contact Highways and see if they can get Highways to make a site visit. The Clerk also

contacted Stanton Parish Council Clerk, who confirmed that several parishioners in their parish had also raised concerns about ice and flooding.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways

Speed Indication Devices

Cllr Cook raised the issue of the recent installation of Speed Indication Devices on Ashbourne Road. He said that the signs, in addition to displaying speed, can also record speed. He would like the Clerk to contact Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership and ask if there has been a reduction in speed. The Cllrs agreed with the request.

Action: Cllr Cook to forward details to the Clerk

138/16 Maintenance

Cllrs did not have any maintenance jobs for logging. The Clerk asked if it would be possible to increase J Clarke's hours during February in order to litter pick up Leek Road. A resident of Swinscoe had been in contact asking for assistance in getting the grass verges cleared. The Cllrs agreed. NB: On Friday 5th February the Clerk noticed two ESBC litter pickers collecting rubbish down both sides of Leek Road. There is therefore no need to increase J Clarke's hours.

Casual maintenance worker role

No letters of interest have been received. If individuals are interested please **apply in writing** to the Clerk by 29th February.

Parish Council tools

Ms Hayes contacted Cllr Moss regarding returning the tools – Cllr Moss retrieved all the tools except for the strimmer which could not be located. Cllrs suggested contacting Waterhouses PC and asking if they've got the strimmer.

Action: Clerk to write to Waterhouses Parish Council

Millennium Tree – Wallash / Tree – opposite Church Lane

The Clerk clarified the location of the trees with Cllrs Cook and Parker.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways

Advert for casual gardener (self-employed)

The Cllrs asked for the hours to be amended.

Action: Clerk to advertise the role on the village noticeboards and parish magazine

Update - The Crescent

Use of Land

The Clerk contacted Pat Smith for the history of the land. Former Cllr Charles Wimbush arranged with ESBC to mow the grass 3 – 4 times a year. Pat Smith obtained a grant to plant bushes and trees on the land, after the play area was removed due to damage and bad behaviour. There is no rental charge for the lease by ESBC.

Draft Letter to Residents

The Cllrs asked the Clerk to include a sentence asking if any of the residents would consider mowing the lawn, in return for payment. Cllrs approved the letter.

Action: Clerk to amend letter and distribute to all residents of The Crescent

Maintenance of Land

ESBC will no longer mow the grass and the Parish Council must obtain quotes for maintenance and cover the costs. Cllr Moss obtained a quote from a commercial operator - £50.00 every two weeks. Cllrs agreed that the Parish Council could not afford this.

Action: Cllr Parker to contact John Day / Clerk to contact M Smith re mowing

139/16 Finance

Bank Balances & Cash Flow

The bank balance at 03/02/2016 was £4,718.76.

The Reserve Fund balance was £4,868.26.

Cllrs checked the Cash Flow balances and found them satisfactory.

Invoices presented for payment:

001536 - £25.00 Mayfield & Ellastone First Responders (Donation re G Tideswell)

001537 - £20.00 Cllr Gregory (to purchase voucher for E Heapy, village centenarian)

001538 - £40.00 J Clarke (Litter picking, January)

001539 - £60.00 Memorial Hall (rental of meeting room in Sept, Oct, Nov)

001540 - £216.45 F Raistrick (Salary, Stipend, Stationery)

001541 - £300.00 Memorial Hall (donation for maintenance of Memorial plaque)

Credits Received

4501456211 - £550.00 ESBC (Reimbursement for Lengths man work)

Grantmaking: applications

There were no grant applications this month.

140/16 Planning Applications and Decisions

Applications:

P/2016/00055 - Erection of two storey side and single storey front extension. 7 Sycamore Road, Mayfield

The Cllrs made no objections to the plans.

P/2015/01580 - Certificate of Lawfulness for the continued siting of a touring caravan Brook Farm, Church Lane, Mayfield

The Cllrs made an objection to the application as follows:

The caravan is not within the curtilage of the house, it is in a separate field. Therefore its use is not domestic, irrespective of the applicant stating that it is occasionally used by friends and family. We understand that this potentially indicates a material change of use and that planning permission could therefore be required. We are not clear if the caravan has an electric hook up or if it's powered directly from the house. We also don't know how water is supplied to the caravan or how waste is removed. If the caravan is being rented out then presumably there should be separate accounts for water / power etc.

Decisions:

P/2015/01657 - Beech View, 5 Mayfield Place, Mayfield

Selective pruning to 3 limbs of 1 Beech Tree – Consent granted

P/2015/01581 - 11 The Park, Mayfield

Removal of two lowest branches of a Cedar Tree

141/16 Update: Local Plan

Cllr Cook reported that the Local Plan had been agreed and adopted. It doesn't include Upper Mayfield.

Action: Cllr Cook to report further in March

142/16 Memorial Hall

Cllr Parker reported that Mandy and Sara Botham (ESBC) are in contact regarding possible funding via the Neighbourhood Forum. The Memorial Hall finances are back on track.

Parish Projects

Cllr Moss had suggested providing a bus shelter on Sycamore Green. The Clerk contacted ESBC in the first instance, they suggested contacting SCC Highways. The Clerk is waiting to hear back from SCC. Cllrs suggested contacting the bus companies (Glovers and Arriva).

Action: Clerk to chase SCC and to contact bus companies

143/16 Memorial Hall plaque

The donation by parishioners consisted of £200.00 in cash and a cheque from the Memorial Hall for £100.00. The Clerk presented a copy of the paying in slip for the cash and details of the cheque. Cllrs agreed they were happy with the financial records and Cllr Edge proposed that the Parish Council issue a cheque for £300.00 to the Memorial Hall, to be used to cover future maintenance costs for the plaque. Cllr Parker accepted the cheque on behalf of the Memorial Hall and will bring a receipt for the cheque to the March meeting.

Action: Cllr Parker to provide a receipt from the Memorial Hall Committee

144/16 Date(s) for Annual Meeting of the Parish Council & Annual Meeting of the Parish

Cllrs will meet 30 minutes earlier in order to hold the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (closed) before the Parish Council Meeting, in May. The date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish is to be decided.

Items to be included on the next Agenda:

Flooding on Piccadilly Lane, Stanton Lane, Local Plan, Date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish

145/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd March 2016.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm