

Minutes of the Meeting of Mayfield Parish Council
Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 7.00pm in the Mayfield Recreation Association Hut

- 120/17 Consider for approval the Minutes of the meeting on 1st November 2017.**
Cllrs approved the Minutes, which were signed off by the Vice Chair, Cllr Cook.
- 121/17 In Attendance & Apologies**
Cllrs in attendance - Cllrs Amy, Cook, Edge, Moss, Parker. Cllr Turner arrived at 7.30 due to a prior commitment.
Apologies - Cllrs Golding and Watson.
- 122/17 Declarations of Interest**
See Item 128/17 - P/2017/01409 – adj 1 Slack Lane, Mayfield, DE6 2JX - Cllr Edge is related to the applicant and is not eligible to comment.
- 123/17 Public Participation**
None
- 124/17 Update - East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) - Cllr Edward Barker**
Please accept my apologies for tonight's meeting. I have spoken to Philip White (Cabinet support member for education) and he has received a draft business plan from the Governors of Henry Prince, which he will now go through with Geoff Crockett (The Officer responsible). They will check that the plan is financially viable, sustainable and acceptable within the regulations. They will take into account the costs associated with the closure and hopefully come up with a solution to keep the school open. Philip has offered to make himself available to help and answer any questions as he is not on the decision making committee. I pointed out the Wallash Wheelie bin problem to the planning officer. I would appreciate your views on the lodges on Slack Lane and anything else you want. (Update received via email after PC meeting, accessed on Monday 11th December 2017)
- 125/17 Highways & ROWs**
Discussion - Highways - cuts by Staffordshire County Council to highways works
The Clerk has been in touch with Trevor Mellor, Community Liaison, Staffordshire County Council (SCC) regarding the potential implications for Parish Councils of cuts to Highways Services and what services Parish Councils may be required to undertake in the future. SCC still hasn't decided if parishes will continue to be supported by the Neighbourhood Teams, who currently clear vegetation along classified roads e.g. the A52 and Ashbourne Road. It is likely that grass cutting of the verges along Ashbourne Road will continue in 2018 but we await confirmation. The Parish Council will continue clearing vegetation / Weeds around the parish on unclassified roads. The Parish Council or SCC are not responsible for clearing vegetation on private roads / paths – information on the status of roads can be found on the SCC website.
For consideration - request for tarmac footway, Sunny Bank
Residents of Sunnybank wrote to ask if a tarmac footway could be provided opposite the end set of steps – the other two accesses to Sunnybank have footways. The Clerk contacted Trevor Mellor, SCC, and asked if Highways would consider this – Trevor said that Highways have no money available for this kind of work, and that the estimated cost of the work was around £1,000.00. He said that if residents wanted to fund the work they could contact him. In addition, Cllr Moss pointed out that the work would need to be in line with Highways Regulations. This would include a sub base, surfacing and tactile paving. The Clerk has obtained an electricity cable map from Western Power Distribution and there appears to be underground electricity cables adjacent to the proposed footway. Cllrs then discussed whether or not this was an issue the Parish Council should fund. Based on the fact that there is already one set of steps and a ramp leading to Sunnybank, both of which have footways, and the fact that there is tarmac access to the rear of No 9 and No 10, combined with the estimated cost of such an undertaking, it was decided that this was not a project the Parish Council could afford to fund.
Action: Clerk to write to residents
Action: Clerk to contact SCC and ESBC regarding funding and let residents know

Jobs for reporting to Highways

The Clerk reported on the state of the pavement on Bridge Hill – there are potholes, a crumbling surface and grass growing. Cllrs agreed that this should be reported to Highways.

The Clerk noted that the grass verge along Ashbourne Road between Wallash and Middle Mayfield was encroaching on to the pavement. Cllrs agreed that this should be reported to Highways.

Cllr Moss reported that there was a pothole on Congyree Lane near Doveside and Holme Bank. Cllrs agreed that this should be reported to Highways.

Action: Clerk to report all three jobs to Highways

6.4 Update – Jobs reported to Highways

Item 73/17 August 2017 Minutes - Complaints re lorries for the Mill turning into Ashlea and Moorlands Drives - Trevor Mellor, Community Liaison Officer, SCC, said that Parish Councils are not permitted to put up signage, and he has spoken to Richard Rayson, Community Infrastructure Liaison Manager, SCC, about the lack of signage. He is waiting for a response.

Action: Clerk to follow up as there has been no response from Trevor / Richard

Flickering Light – bottom of Gallowstree Lane

Clerk reported this to Highways on 22/11/2017.

Damaged pavement surface Ashbourne Road (between Hermitage Lane and Church Lane)

Inspector visited and could see no damage to the pavement. Cllrs say that the pavement surface is damaged. *Action: Clerk to follow up with Highways*

Increase in traffic A52/Swinscoe Hill & potential impact of Ashbourne bypass

Mayfield Parish Council has been invited to a meeting on 20th December with Highways to discuss the results of a recent speed and volume count on Swinscoe Hill – requested by the Chair of the Okeover Parish Meeting, Sue Bridgett. Neither the Clerk or any Cllrs can attend but Cllr Cook offered to follow up with Cllr Bridgett.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways and Cllr Bridgett

Action: Cllr Cook to liaise with Cllr Bridgett and report back to the January meeting.

The Clerk contacted Cllr Philip Atkins, Leader of Staffordshire County Council, regarding the potential impact of the Ashbourne bypass on Mayfield and the need for Derbyshire County Council to liaise with Staffordshire County Council about it. Parish Council concerns about the possibility of increasing numbers of HGVs using the road between Uttoxeter and Mayfield as a short cut to Ashbourne was also raised. Cllr Atkins responded as follows: *Thank you for your email. There is no doubt Ashbourne needs a solution to the heavy commercial traffic issues in the town. I have copied the appropriate people into this email who will be liaising with Derbyshire CC in their work. I agree that adequate safeguards need to be in place to avoid any displacement of HCVs.* The Clerk has also contacted Ellastone Parish Council to ask if they think there are more HGVs on the road.

Signage for Memorial Hall

Cllr Turner has spoken to the Harrisons who've said the Memorial Hall can trim the hedge around the Memorial Hall sign on Conygree Lane. Cllr Parker reported that the Memorial Hall Committee want to raise the height of the sign. The Clerk advised that the Memorial Hall need to liaise with Community Liaison, SCC.

Action: Clerk to contact Stephen Dunn with contact details for Community Liaison

Traffic Regulation Orders – A52 - for Information only

Derbyshire County Council are combining all the current Traffic Regulation Orders into one order. This covers the A52 from Hanging Bridge to Markeaton roundabout. There will be no changes to speed limits.

Discussion - Rights of Way consultation

Staffordshire County Council “... need to find savings and new ways of working ... [so] are proposing news standards for how they maintain rights of way, focusing money on the footpaths and bridleways which are important to communities and for promoting tourism.”

SCC has assigned paths as A, B or C. A paths are national trails / paths important to communities / tourism. SCC has assigned paths A, B or C without parish council or local

consultation. The Clerk and Cllrs discussed the consultation and agreed the following: status of paths: it was decided that Mayfield 4, 17, 20, 22 and 31 should be blue paths, not orange. These are heavily used paths and very important to the local community. Mayfield 25 should be green not orange. This path is very important to the community as a vital link between the Mill terraces, the Mill and Church Mayfield and also to tourism. The Parish Council would like clarity regarding who is responsible for maintenance of the tarmac surface and cycle barriers. Mayfield 13 should be categorised as C not B as this path is not as important to the local community as the ones above. Cllrs agreed that the Parish Council will be the eyes / ears on local paths, will look after stiles / ROW access. (NB: The PC already repairs fingerposts and clears vegetation on some paths). Cllrs also agreed to work with local landowners on rights of way. The consultation and link to the map can be found on the Parish Council website.

Jobs for reporting to Rights of Way / PC Maintenance

Cllr Parker asked that the Fingerpost on Mayfield 15 be fixed as it has been knocked by a tractor during hedge cutting. *Action: Clerk to contact Graham re job*

126/17 Maintenance

The Clerk has asked Graham to work on the Memorial Garden, to fix the box for poo bags near the school and put up a post, supplied by Cllr Moss, for a bin on Slack Lane, opposite the Pumping Station. This work will be carried out in January.

127/17 Finance

Bank Balances

The current account bank balance at 06/12/2017 was £16,023.00

Invoices presented for payment:

001616	£ 17.50	Ashbourne Royal British Legion (Remembrance Day wreath)
001614	£234.02	F Raistrick (Salary, Stipend, Printing)
001618	£100.00	Mayfield Memorial Hall (rent for meeting room)
001619	£ 25.00	Ashbourne Royal British Legion (donation)

Discussion - Budget Planning - precept 2018 - 2019

The Clerk supplied a draft budget for the Cllrs' consideration along with the suggested precept amount from ESBC. The tax base has been reduced slightly from 480.09 to 476.26 so ESBC have suggested a precept of £10,973.03 plus a grant of £420.00. However, Cllrs want to consider an increase to the precept in light of increasing expectations from SCC that Parish Councils undertake work on Highways and Rights of Way. They will decide at the January meeting.

128/17 Planning Applications and Decisions

Applications:

P/2017/01475 – The Hermitage, Hermitage Lane, Middle Mayfield – Removal of three Yew trees, one Beech tree and a Conifer and Leylandi hedge

Cllrs consider that these are healthy trees and should be left in place. They are an important part of the landscape in Middle Mayfield, which is a conservation area.

Action: Clerk to contact ESBC with this objection

P/2017/01504 – Mayfield Hall, Middle Mayfield - Felling of 1 Holly tree, 4 Western Red Cedar trees, 1 Horse Chestnut tree & 1 Leylandii tree, crown reduction in height and spread by 2m to 1 Maple tree & crown lift to 3m to 4 Yew trees & 1 Beech tree

Cllrs consider that there is not enough evidence from the tree surgeon to prove TP 10 and TP 11 should be removed. Cllrs suggest that the wall is taken down rather than the trees be removed. They appear to be healthy trees and are part of the conservation landscape of Middle Mayfield. *Action: Clerk to contact ESBC with this objection*

P/2017/01409 – adj 1 Slack Lane, Mayfield , DE6 2JX

Siting of 5 holiday lodges, installation of package treatment plant and formation of access track

1) The 'bridal' path adjacent to the site is a BOAT (byway open to all traffic) - mainly used by dog walkers, hikers, horse riders, cyclists and dirt bikes. There is also at least one farmer who has field access onto this byway and this lane is used more than is alluded to in this application. It is not clear from the proposed site layout what the red mark labelled 1 by the entrance to the site and the BOAT refers to. There should not be any structure

around this point as the access to the site, and the BOAT is here, and tractors go down the path. I understand from Cllr Barker that at least one parishioner has expressed concerns that the site is encroaching onto the BOAT at this point so this needs to be looked at and possibly signage provided by Staffs County Council to clearly indicate the byway.

2) It is not clear from the application if the 5 lodges replace the 5 caravans that the current site can take, or if it's 5 lodges and up to 5 caravans - if the latter then the traffic on this quiet lane and on Hermitage Lane will double. Councillors are therefore concerned about road safety as these are quiet, small lanes in a conservation area, not built for large volumes of traffic and do not have pavements.

3) The status of the units is unclear. We would like them to have short let holiday use status / non residential: not to be occupied as an independent dwelling at any time during the lifetime of the development; not be occupied by any one person for a period exceeding 28 days in any calendar year; and the owners to maintain a register of occupants for each calendar year, which should be made available for inspection by the Local Planning Authority on request.

This is in line with East Staffordshire Local Plan Policy SP8 for the reason that it would constitute unsustainable development in the countryside, and guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework. *Action: Clerk to contact ESBC with the above comments*

Decisions – Planning Applications:

P/2017/00867 - Installation of a 15m slimline lattice tower supporting 3 no. antennas and 2 No. 0.6m transmission link dishes within a timber stock proof fenced compound together with ancillary telecommunications, including formation of a new vehicular access and dropped kerb
This application was withdrawn by the agent / applicant on 4th December 2017.

129/17 Update – The Henry Prince CE First School & Nursery

Denstone Parish Council contacted Mayfield PC to offer this support to the campaign to keep the school open. The Clerk advised them to contact the school office at Henry Prince CE First School. Cllr Parker has been given correspondence between the Diocese of Lichfield to Henry Prince School – the Diocese states that they can't provide funding to cover the deficit. They would be prepared to liaise between the school and SCC to try and secure temporary funding.

Cllr Golding has been asked to meet with Mark Sutton, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to discuss Section 106 funding. He will attend, along with Cllr Parker and Cllr Turner, as parishioners, not as Cllrs.

Correspondence

All correspondence has been emailed round to Cllrs prior to the meeting.

130/17 Items to be included on the January Agenda:

Decision - 2018 - 2019 Budget setting - Precept - *Cllrs / Clerk*

For Information - General Data Protection Regulation - *Clerk*

Noticeboards for Upper Mayfield and Middle Mayfield

131/17 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd January 2018, Meeting Room, Memorial Hall

The meeting finished at 8:20pm