



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAYFIELD
AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL
ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**HELD AT MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL
ON MONDAY 23MAY 2011 AT 1930 HOURS**

**11A01
APPROVED FULL
COUNCIL**

**Chairman of Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council
Councillor Deveda Redman.**

SUMMARY OF MEETING

- Police Report
- Annual Report published May 2011
- Financial provisional figures for 2010/11 Annex 1
- Chamber of Commerce Report received.
- Parking problems in Mayfield discussed.
- Youth report presented.
- Mayfield Charities report received.
- Open Door and newsletter reports received.
- John Hall Memorial Hall reported.
- Power of Well Being criteria announced
- Mayfield Village Centre report.

ATTENDANCE

Robert Fitzsimmons	(RF)	Present
Monica Aitkin	(MA)	Apologies for Absence (P)
Rosemary Neal	(RN)	Present
Patricia Balfour	(PB)	Present
Jayne Bramwell	(JB)	Present
Andrew Burnett	(AB)	Apologies for Absence (B)
Warwick Child	(WH)	Present
Jane Driscoll	(JD)	Present
Ian Parker	(IP)	Present
Chris Lilly	(CL)	Present
Lloyd McLean	(LM)	Present
Graham Playfoot	(GP)	Present
Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present
Jerry Watkiss	(JW)	Present
Elaine Wheeler	(EW)	Present

Present and voting 13

Apologies for Absence 2 Not present 0 Other Council Business 0

Also in attendance: Wealden District Council Brian Redman
David Thompson Parish Clerk (DT)

Apologies for Absence: ESCC R Tidy (RT), C Dowling (CD) and WDC Jonica Fox (JF), Graham Wells (GW), Robert Stanley (RS).

There were 35 members of the public present, two members of the Police and Graham Holland (Love Lane car park).

MINUTES

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL

1.1. DR welcomed members to the Annual Assembly.

2. POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

2.1. MB was not present but the Police Report for Mayfield was as follows:

Local Crimes March

04/03 Theft from van working on East Street, tools taken.

08/03 Theft of daffodil bulbs from Newick Lane.

14/03 Theft of oil from Rushers Cross.

38/03 Damage to gate on Argos Hill.

29/03 Theft of a battery from a bus.

Tickets: 4 for parking on the double yellow lines on the High Street

2 for overstaying the two hour limit on the High Street

Local Crimes April

No crimes reported in April for Mayfield and Five Ashes but please remember to keep doors and windows closed over the summer months if you are not at home, don't give anybody an opportunity to get in.

Tickets: 3 for parking on double yellow lines on the High Street.

2.2. PM reported a quiet time for Five Ashes as follows:

Sussex Police

Five Ashes, Horam, Waldron and Cross-In-Hand

Recent Crime

Five Ashes

No crime to report.

Meetings

20.04.11 Street Meeting at Five Ashes recreation ground.

Please contact Five Ashes PCSO if you would be interested in horse/farm watch or if you know a club or group who would like to meet in the community.

If you would like updates of crime please contact me to attach your email address to community contacts.

Heathfield Police Team have a Twitter account [Heathfield_pol](#) this will give you the opportunity to follow the team.

Dates

15.05.11 Street Meeting Queensmount Five Ashes at 14:00 hours.

16.05.11 Street Meeting Jasons of Waldron 0900 hours.

28.05.11 Heathfield Show.

If you think your street would benefit a street meeting please contact Five Ashes PCSO.

- 2.3. Meeting notices will be placed on the Notice Boards.
- 2.4. John Neal enquired about car parking in Station Road and Rotherfield Lane. In reply it was noted that some of the problem was caused by the building work in Station Road.

3. MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL

- 3.1. Copies of the Annual Report for the year had been circulated. Further copies were available from the Clerk, the post office and library. The report covered all the major issues of the year.
- 3.2. The following agenda items were missed and were not discussed at the meeting. Those with were of a report nature and are listed for completeness as Annex 1.
 - Criteria for Power of Well-Being
 - Audit Report 2009/10
 - Financial Results (provisional) 2010/11
 - Budget date 2010/11 2011/12
 - Grants made for 2011/12
- 3.3. Questions on the Annual Report should be addressed to the Clerk.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- 4.1. With regards the Five Ashes Traffic Calming Scheme, it was questioned whether the reduction of speed from 40mph – 30mph made any difference. In reply it was noted that the speeds on the Five Ashes Traffic Calming Scheme are constantly monitored and that an audit report was done to be published. There was a need for residents to report any problems.
- 4.2. It was considered that speed cameras could not be installed at present.
- 4.3. It was noted that on the southern section south of Five Ashes Village towards the junction with the A272 that the 30mph signs were covered by branches and hedges.
- 4.4. With regards to Love Lane these issues were included in the agenda item on car parking in Mayfield.
- 4.5. There were similar problems to those of Five Ashes being experienced at Argos Hill.

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 7 JUNE 2010 10A01

- 5.1. It was noted that the minutes had been approved by the Parish Council and were approved by the assembly.
- 5.2. There were four actions raised and these had been dealt with as follows:
 - 10A01/5.2 Peter Deller complained about website update. This was in hand.
 - 10A01/5.7 D Kirkness had asked for a Parish Council Reserve to be established. This has been done.
 - 10A01/6.7 The balance of the grant made to fund the Five Ashes Youth Group by Mayfield Charities had been returned.
 - 10A01/6.8 The idea of a short term Parish Plan is still being considered.

6. EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

- 6.1. Councillor R Tidy reported that due to another appointment he had submitted a written report:

The General Election in May 2010 has wrought huge change in all Government, cascading responsibility downwards to local government and local people. Along with this was a huge reduction in inspection but also a reduction in revenue funding, £100 million over four years with £37 million in the first year.

However ESCC for the next two years achieves an extra £30 million to spend on capital projects which will be spent across the departments. High speed broadband will be a priority with hopefully fibre optic cable to each village and settlement cabinet. The library modernised programme with new libraries in Wadhurst and Rye and refurbishments in Uckfield and Crowborough will be augmented by proposals to renew the libraries in Seaford and Hastings.

The road repair programme is progressing well with most pot holes dealt with and rumble strips and poor road structures being dealt in a £23 million investment schedule this summer and next.

Adult social care continues to be maintained at previous year level in spite of rising numbers needing care, as is also the case with young people in care. The numbers have risen from around 150 four years ago to 600 now and is unsustainable without a large injection of cash.

The Cabinet has been reduced by one and the Scrutiny Committee also by one. There is also a steady reduction in staff and practically no recruitment and no pay increase for two years.

Shared services without neighbouring counties, the Police and the NHS are being progressed and will go a long way to offset the reduction in funding but it takes time to bring contracts etc together.

The Council will be a very different beast in two years time ready for the next County Council elections in 2013.

- 6.2. Any questions would be handled through the Clerk's office.

7. WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

- 7.1. BR reported that:

- The Wealden District Council cash limits for the coming year had been agreed.
- Over the past year, 200 new affordable homes have been built in the Wealden District, more than double the number built in the previous year. Some 165 homes have been built by various Housing Associations to let to households on the Council's Housing Register. A further 35 homes were built for sale through affordable home ownership schemes such as Homebuy or Homebuy Direct. The majority of the new affordable homes have been built in Wealden's towns as part of larger developments, although 60 are located in Wealden villages.
- He was supporting the Parish Council's policy on car parking.
- Wealden is to express its interest taking on the role of administrating authority to the joint committee which will be responsible for delivering the Joint Waste Procurement Project. The economies of scale resulting from joining together waste collection services across the county is expected to include the rationalisation of depot facilities and vehicles and the optimisation of collection rounds.

- Core strategy progress was good and the plans had been extended to the year 2030.
- The Argos Hill Windmill Trust had now been set up.
- He thanked residents for the support given to him at the May elections.

7.2. There were no questions on the Wealden District Council report.

8. MAYFIELD CHARITIES AND JOHN HALL MEMORIAL TRUST REPORT

8.1. John Logan reported that income during the year had fallen to £5,200, of which £4,500 was interest on 4% bonds. The Charities capital was £120,000. Their only source of income was from wills.

8.2. Expenditure was by way of grants to individual cases.

8.3. There were no questions on the Mayfield Charities.

8.4. The John Hall Memorial Trust

Warwick Child had submitted the following report:

The Dr John Hall Memorial Trust was formed in February 1908 following his tragic death in 1907 on the eve of his wedding. This cast a great shock and sadness locally, akin to a similar sense of grief in November 1999 at the equally tragic death of Dr Alan Mathams.

It was Dr Hall's wish to see the building, equipping and endowment of a Cottage Hospital serving Mayfield, Rotherfield and Hadlow Down. However, by February 1908 only £408 had been raised, a considerable sum in those days, but still not enough, so the subscribers agreed that part of this be used to provide a memorial over the doctor's grave, the balance to be invested and the interest used to purchase when necessary letters of administration to convalescent homes. Thus the Dr John Hall Memorial Trust came into being.

It is now a registered charity with defined objects that the Trustees shall hold the Capital and income of the Trust Fund upon trust for the relief of persons in sickness and poverty in the Parish of Mayfield and Five Ashes for the relief of persons in sickness and poverty.

The original Trust Deed stipulated that the Parish Council should approve the appointment of all Trustees, a practice that still continues today.

In 2003, my late wife, who was the Secretary of the Trust, formed 'The Friends of Woodhill Surgery', a fundraising ancillary of the Trust, and her annual Coffee Mornings in London House were extremely well supported and funded various items of medical equipment for the Surgery.

In 2004 the Trust was amalgamated with the Dr Alan Mathams Memorial Trust.

In place of the original intention to provide a Cottage Hospital, the recent fundraising efforts have been concentrated upon helping to move the Surgery from its present location in Woodhill, Station Road, to larger and more suitable accommodation. At the present time, however, the search continues.

The funds received a massive boost in 2008 from an extremely generous bequest from the late Roy Eastwood, who was the Trust's Chairman until his death on 29 April 2008, the same day incidentally that my wife died. The balance now stands at £13,222.

9. ARGOS HILL WINDMILL

- 9.1. JD reported on progress with the new Trust, and noted that John Neal was participating in drawing up the first programme for the year.

10. MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- 10.1. IP reported that the Chamber of Commerce would only be holding two events next year – the Mayfair and late night shopping.

11. FIVE ASHES WAR MEMORIAL

- 11.1. It was noted that the Five Ashes War Memorial only needed 22 names. The surplus money from the Mayfield War Memorial fund would be kept to form a maintenance reserve, and a second appeal would be launched for Five Ashes.

12. MAYFIELD VILLAGE CENTRE

- 12.1 The following report (Minutes 12.2-12.5) was submitted by Brian Horwood.
- 12.2 The original concept was to design up a brand new larger building behind the existing Memorial Hall with many bigger and new facilities. On completion the present Memorial Hall would be demolished to provide an extension to the present car park. The estimated cost was expected to be around £4,000,000. This was originally thought to be feasible, with large corporate donations and grants from other bodies such as the Lottery Fund. However it has now become obvious that this could never happen, and, in any case, it would not receive the wholehearted backing from people in the village essential for any large project like this to succeed.
- 12.3 The next thought were to build a smaller hall behind the present one which would cost in the region of £600,000. More feasible? Well perhaps. But the situation changed again with the plans for the new Cricket Club Pavilion and Sports Barn, following the fire, and it has become obvious that two sports centres in a village the size of Mayfield would be irrelevant, and so all plans for future development are currently on hold.
- 12.4 In the meantime we are thinking that we should perhaps concentrate upon a major refurbishment of the present hall, to include perhaps replacing the present half round roof with a pitched one, filling in the area on the East side between the Old Library and the room to the right of the stage, and making the stage proscenium moveable, so that it can be pushed back to create a bigger hall, when this would be needed for a large gathering, such as a U3A Meeting.
- 12.5 Fundraising in its various forms continues apace however, with efforts now directed upon the forthcoming Gilbert and Sullivan Concert on Saturday July 9. The funds now stand at just under £42,000.
- 12.6 R Hammond raised a point from the audience noting that the acoustics of the new building needed to be taken into account.

13. TRANSITION MAYFIELD

- 13.1 JB reported that Transition Mayfield had the following projects in hand:

- Support for local sustainable community – on website.
- Energy project.
- Survey in Yellow Pages on what shops and services were needed for Mayfield and Five Ashes.
- Story telling project.

14 OPEN DOOR AND MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES NEWSLETTER

14.1 D Kirkness had supplied a written report under:

14.2 As I'm sure most of you know the main remit for Open Door is to provide information and I think the popularity of our Welcome Pack and our work with Know Your Village prove that we are certainly answering this need in Mayfield & Five Ashes.

The Welcome Pack was launched in May 2008 and since then 440 packs have been distributed, mainly to newcomers to Mayfield & Five Ashes.

Know Your Village attracted 24 organisations and Open Door (with the help of local estate agents) wrote individually to 65 residents who had moved into the area in the year to February 2011. The event attracted not only the new residents but many established residents came along to talk to various organisations represented who managed to attract new members or offers of help. The evening WI reported that it had the best recruitment session it had ever had!

Although visitor numbers for the CAB in 2010/2011 are slightly down on 2009/2011, Open Door have had very positive comments about the in-depth help offered by Leo our CAB representative. Open Door plans to publicise the various types of help available in the newsletter and has arranged for a CAB representative to attend one session of the Tuesday Afternoon club to talk to members about the type of help available to keep the older generation in their own homes.

We are grateful to all those organisations who help to finance Open Door especially with the continuing difficult financial climate.

14.3 The newsletter is currently without a Chairman as Brian Pilling moved from the village last month.

The newsletter publishes 680 copies a month with outlets in both Mayfield and Five Ashes. If issues run out by the middle of the month, we can print additional copies (as we had to do in April).

During 2010, we purchased a new copier with the help of a grant of £1000 from Wealden District Council. Our finances are in good order but donations from local organisations are a very important part of the income.

We would like to thank the following donations:

Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council
Mayfield Local History Society
Mayfield Horticultural Society
Mayfield WI
Five Ashes WI
RNLI Mayfield & Five Ashes Branch
U3A
Mayfield Wine Society
Mayfield Bowls Club
Mayfield Band
Wealden Conservation Association – Mayfield branch
Mayfield Scouts & Guides Joint Supporters Committee

The newsletter has an account in place to save excess income towards the cost of a new copier which will probably be needed by 2014/15.

15 YOUTH REPORT

15.1 The Youth Leader Janet Stead and her assistant Katherine Duarte both attended the meeting.

15.2 JS reported that:

- They had two members from Crowborough and also Heathfield.
- Activities also included quiz nights and films.
- General lifestyle training.

15.3 Several members now had jobs in the village.

15.4 In answer to a question from the assembly the age range was 11-18 years.

15.5 DR thanked JS and KD for their report and appreciated the effort they had made to make the group a success within the community.

16 PARISH PLAN

16.1 DR reported that the Parish Council were endeavouring to get the development area for Mayfield made the same as the conservation area. This would enable the Parish Council a better chance of deciding where housing development should take place.

16.2 It was generally considered that the Conservation Area was adequate for our needs, and a list of listed buildings was required.

ACTION DT

17 CAR PARKING IN MAYFIELD

17.1 RF reported on Parish Council investigations into car parking in Mayfield. The site being examined or developed were:

- Memorial Hall alongside the Tunbridge Wells Road side off the Memorial Hall
- Love Lane

17.2 With regards Love Lane the Parish Council were considering buying a plot of land at Love Lane for £7500 which would provide parking for five to six cars and provide some children's adventure facilities.

17.3 Ms Pring of Love Lane considered the retention of this car park in community lands was vital. G Holland considered that the land should be retrieved by the community because in addition it would provide space to enable accident and emergency services vehicles room to turn if needed.

17.4 Other comments were the Health and Safety issues should the land be lost, and whether the BMX site could be made safer. There was a view that East Sussex County Council should retain the land because of these Health and Safety issues. It was noted that the Clerk was following up these points with the authorities concerned.

17.5 A meeting with local residents had been set up.

18 ITEMS OF INFORMATION

18.1 A request was made for a sign to be erected in order to stop lorries using Newick Lane. JB noted that East Sussex County Council had already made a 7.5 tonne restriction for safety reasons.

18.2 The question of fitting a tap for the South Street allotment site was raised. It was noted that the tap had been ordered and would be fitted soon.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 22.10 HOURS.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY WOULD BE:

VENUE: MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL

DATE: APRIL 2012

TIME: 1930 HOURS

Annex 1

- A Criteria for Power of Well Being
- B Audit Report 2009/10
- C Financial Results provisional 2010/11
- D Grants awarded 2011/12 budget
- E Budget data 2010/11 and 2011/12
- F Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council Annual Report 2010/11

Copies of these documents are available from the Clerk on request.