
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MAYFIELD AND
FIVE ASHES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD
AT LONDON HOUSE, HIGH STREET, MAYFIELD,
ON MONDAY 13 AUGUST 2007 AT 1930 HOURS**

SUMMARY OF MEETING

- Local Development Framework housing process debated
- Local Development Framework consultation questionnaire reviewed

ATTENDANCE

Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present and Voting
Patricia Balfour	(PB)	Present and Voting until 2035 hours
Jerry Watkiss	(JW)	Present and Voting
Cathering Swingland	(CS)	Apologies for Absence
Garnet Shackel	(GS)	Not Present
John Coulter	(JC)	Present
Leonard Trevellion	(LT)	Present
Steve Harland	(SH)	Not Present

Councillors Present and Voting	3	Apologies for absence	1	Not present	0	Total	4
Other Members Present	2	Not Present	2	Apologies for Absence	0	Total	4

Also Present

David Thompson (DT) Parish Clerk

MINUTES

1. COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

1.1. There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING 7D04 (16 July 2007)

2.1. It was noted that these were draft minutes which would be presented at the September Council meeting. There were no issues arising.

3. ACTIONS

3.1. Action progress was as follows:

MINUTE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
• 6D10/6.2	Mayfield Open Day Questionnaire packs to be presented to mothers visiting Mayfield Primary School – Held for later date.	HELD
• 6D10/11.2	PX/JC to consult with Mayfield and Five Ashes Society with regard to the update of the 1969 Conservation Area Paper. In hand.	OPEN
• 6D10/11.3	WDC requirements with regard to any proposed changes to development and conservation area boundaries.	OPEN
• 6D11/9.1	Future of post office business. Clerk to enquire. In hand. See minute 7D5/3.5	OPEN
• 6D3/5.5	Clerk to invite BR to next meeting to discuss LDF. Done.	CLOSED
• 6D3/5.6	Short paper on housing initiatives – Done.	CLOSED

3.2. With regard to minute 6D10/6.2, the Clerk explained that this was the existing questionnaire which had been carried out on both residents and the children from the two primary schools. The results had been published in Yellow Pages.

3.3. With regard to minute 6D10/11.2 the Clerk reported that as yet no information had been received on progress on this item.

3.4. With regard to minute 6D10/11.3 it was reported that the Parish were still awaiting advice from WDC.

3.5. With regard to minute 6D11/9.1 it was reported that the Post Office had intimated that they wished to withdraw from the Post Office Bus Contract. However the Clerk had contacted ESCC Councillor R Tidy and WDC and reported encouraging results over the future of the service.

3.6. DR reported that the future of the Post Office was still a problem and it was rumoured that the current owners were waiting the results and announcement on the second round of Post Office closures.

4. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CONSULTATIONS DOCUMENT

- 4.1. The Clerk had circulated copies of the Committee's response on behalf of the Parish Council to the LDF questionnaire. It was agreed that the response document although giving the answers to the various questions raised by the questionnaire did not give the background thinking behind the questions. It was agreed that the Clerk would attempt to marry the questionnaire results back into the Consultation Document thus producing a more comprehensive response document to the Full Council. It was agreed that this should be achieved by the October meeting with a presentation by DR.

ACTION DT ARRANGE DR TO DELIVER

5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – HOUSING POLICY AND NUMBERS

- 5.1. The Committee noted that at the previous meeting, (6D04), WDC Councillor B Redman had intimated that the LDF Housing target for Mayfield and Five Ashes, would include all new builds and housing projects from 2006 including all those which form part of the WDC Non Statutory Plan.
- 5.2. It was now reported that it was thought that the Wealden District Council Planning Department had changed their mind and were asking for the current LDF housing target of 135-160 as additional to the Non Statutory target.
- 5.3. The Clerk had asked Councillor B Redman a number of questions in order to establish clearly what the Wealden District Council policy was. DR reported that she had been informed that these issues were currently being progressed, and a report back would be received in the near future.
- 5.4. The Committee were of the view that it would now be necessary to monitor WDC actions with regard to planning policy on a continual basis.

ACTION COMMITTEE

- 5.5. The Clerk reported that as instructed under action 6D3/5.6 the paper on housing numbers had been completed and would be available for review and adoption at the next meeting.

6 MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL STRATEGY AND ST LEONARDS MAYFIELD SCHOOL PLAN

- 6.1 The Committee noted that on 6 August the Planning Committee Minute 6P9/4.1 had raised an objection on the grounds of over development to the Planning Application submitted by St Leonards Mayfield School for the erection of 10 dwellings on the "Maintenance Yard" situated next to the primary school.
- 6.2 Arising from earlier discussions on this subject it had been established that ESCC were content that the existing primary school complex had sufficient capacity and consequently there was no need to use the maintenance yard for future expansion.
- 6.3 It had also been established with the ESCC development department that their view of Mayfield Primary School was:

Capacity 234

Current numbers 141

These numbers were challenged by RT and others.

- 6.4 The view of the Committee was that the maintenance yard facility had an important strategic role in the development of Mayfield and Five Ashes, and to this end DR had emailed Council members for their views on the subject. From the ensuing debate in which LT a school governor in Rotherfield for many years gave valuable insight into educational needs, the following emerged:
- The site is next to the primary school, and if lost now is lost forever.
 - Primary school numbers are clearly not known, and neither are local forecasts available.
 - The development boundary, can be adjusted if required.
 - The future of Five Ashes Primary School has a bearing on the future of Mayfield Primary School.
 - If the development of the maintenance yard was carried out with a substantial number of affordable houses rather than a mixed development it could lead to a 'ghetto' site with all its attendant problems.
 - The Committee needed to develop for the Council a set of fixed but flexible rules to development boundary adjustment which would prevent step by step encroachment on AONB lands.
- 6.5 The following actions were agreed:
- LT to frame a series of questions on Primary School Development and future needs.
 - DT to write and pose these questions to:
 - Mayfield Primary School
 - Five Ashes Primary School
 - East Sussex CC
 - Mayfield Pre School
 - Five Ashes Pre School

ACTION LT/DT

7 PLAN DELIVERY

7.1 The Clerk explained that the production of a 20 year strategy and an attendant 4 year plan was now essential, and the Committee agreed that many of our problems resulted from the lack of such a document.

7.2 It was agreed that sufficient data existed for consultancy drafts to be produced. A target date for end of October was set.

ACTION DT

7.3 The Clerk would produce an outline strategy draft from existing material by end October.

ACTION DT

7.4 The Clerk would approach PD and ask if he would assist in producing an initial 4 year action plan with the same target date.

- 7.5 Following this there would be a consultancy period at which short versions would be mail dropped and a suitable exhibition would be held. DK would present the findings to Full Council.

ACTION DR

- 7.6 The rough timetable would be:

Draft Reports

Exhibition

Council Approval

Consultancy

Council Approval

Completion

- 7.7 To achieve these initiatives a sum of £5000 for the completion of both projects would be sought in Budget 2008/9.

8 ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- 8.1 There were no issues.

- 8.2 It was agreed that the next meeting would be on 22 October 2007.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2050 HOURS

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE:

VENUE: LONDON HOUSE, HIGH STREET, MAYFIELD

DATE: MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2007

TIME: 1930 HOURS