

MAYFIELD AND FIVES ASHES PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL ON MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 19.30 HOURS****SUMMARY OF MEETING**

- Geoff Gregory co-opted as a Councillor to replace Felicity Ryan who has now left the area.
- ESCC have adopted a Gypsy and Traveller strategy
- Additional waste re-cycling point for Mayfield being considered
- Criers Lane HOPE project moving to Planning stage. Public consultation taking place
- Results of village development questionnaire available
- A suggestion for ‘twinning’ will go to public consultation
- Parish Council decline to take the Water Tank situated near St Dunstans Church into ownership

ATTENDANCE

Martin Pitcher Chairman	(MP)	Present and voting
Paul Amans	(PA)	Present and voting
Jane Bramwell	(JB)	Present and voting
Peter Deller	(PD)	Present and voting
Philip Dixon	(PX)	Present and voting
Robert Fitzsimmons	(RF)	Present and voting
Herbert Hills	(HH)	Present and voting
Diane Kirkness	(DK)	Present and voting
Chris Lilly	(CL)	Present and voting
Lloyd McLean	(LM)	Present and voting
Graham Playfoot	(GP)	Present and voting
Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present and voting
Andrew Stokes	(AS)	Present and voting
Catherine Swingland	(CS)	Present and voting

Also present

ESCC Councillor Robert Tidy (RT), Wealden District Councillors Brian Redman (BR) and Roberts Standley (RS)

There was one member of the public present – Geoff Gregory

Apologies from Anna Monahan, Chris Dowling and the Courier reporter.

MINUTES

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- 1.1. GP on item 8
- 1.2. CS on item 17

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2.1 St Dunstan's Church had accepted PC's suggestion to hold public meeting which will be 21st September 2006.
- 2.2 The joint meeting of KGF & Development Committees on the 2nd October 2006 to discuss the future of MMH. The Chairman of the Trustees KGF considers there will be insufficient time to discuss agenda items 8 as published. Please amend agenda deleting all KGF items and substituting with KGF announcements. A further meeting of KGF will be convened to cover agenda items deleted.

3. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR FIVE ASHES

Moved to Agenda item 19B

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions

5. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH July 2006

- cross out Annual General
- 5.7 should read that Deveda Redman as Chairman of KGF had become ex officio member of the F&GP committee.
- 5.8. Should read 'a query was raised' not GP asked for details.

5.1 There being no further amendments the minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

5.2. Actions on the minutes

- 13.3 letter drafted and passed to DT to await his attempt to coalesce two drafts, not time critical
- 9.2. Old Cottage, John Maw says timbers in construction by carpenter and he will be starting work shortly.

5.3. It was **RESOLVED** that there was a need for the step at the end of the disabled ramp (near the toilets) to be smoothed out for the use of wheel chairs.

ACTION DT

6. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 24TH JULY 2006

- Amend minute 9.6. by removing words 'and bridleways'
- 5.1. JB raised this item and BR agreed to find out details
- 9.4. PD felt this was 'feather bedding' dog owners
- 11.1 PX raised the issue of composting schemes for green waste

- 13.3 PD questioned what had happened to monies in the Five Ashes Road Improvement account. GP replied he did not know where money was or what it would be used for but he will endeavour to find out. RF thought the money was to be used for a seat by the bus stop.
- 15.2 JB was sure agreement had been obtained to put the notice board on the side of the post office but she would speak to postmaster to confirm. RF said the board in Five Ashes could be either at the Village Hall or on the gable end of the Pub.
- 16.3 to be passed to Security Committee

6.1. There being no further amendments the minutes were accepted as a correct record of the F&GP meeting.

6.2. 13.3 Recommendation accepted by a vote of 10 in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions

6.3. The finance report for July was included in minutes of the meeting and the complete details had been circulated

7. REPORT BY ESCC COUNCILLOR R TIDY

7.1. ESCC adopted a gipsy & traveller strategy following 4 years of forum meetings considering the problems of this group who are now recognised as an ethnic minority. The forum was a partnership with Districts, Boroughs and representatives of the Gipsies & Travellers. There are now four permanent traveller sites and one transit site. The police will move unauthorised encampments if there is somewhere to move the families to. Permanent sites allow for education for the children and proper health care especially for pregnant women.

DR said that the care of pregnant gipsy women was a reflection on their lifestyle not on the NHS

AS said with the advent of new member states to the EU the situation regarding the gipsy population can only get worse. RT replied that this was hypothetical but the situation would be considered and dealt with as situations arose.

LM asked about gipsy & traveller groups who buy plots of land and what controls would be enforced when they set up businesses. RT was not qualified to answer but ESC trying to take this into account. Gipsies & travellers who buy plots are not exempt from planning laws but European Court of Human Rights has stated that everyone has a right to a place to live.

CS asked if those members of this ethnic minority group who now live in bricks and mortar are still considered to be gypsies & travellers.

DK asked if gypsies & travellers on permanent sites have to pay the usual range of taxes. RT replied they do but they are also eligible to claim benefits and are given help to do so.

8. REPORTS FROM WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

RS reported

- Kerbside The Local Development Framework initial consultation is now completed. Final representations can be added up to 20.11.06
- recycling is now being trailed in Forest Row
- Annual electric blanket testing on 5.10.06. Morning in Heathfield and afternoon in Crowborough. DT to write to Age Concern to enquire if they can get blankets from Mayfield & Five Ashes to testing sites for those residents unable to drive.

ACTION DT

BR reported

- New leaflet from WDC for Clean Countryside
- There will only be one session for applying for Community grants. They have to be applied for by 30.9.06
- BR chasing additional re-cycling point at the roundabout. Cllr Doodes is the portfolio holder at WDC for re-cycling. M&FAPC may be asked to contribute to costs of additional re-cycling facilities.
- BR is keeping Flower Place on the agenda and will report back to PC

CS asked about the fly tipping figures in the Clean Countryside booklet. Do they include matter dropped further than 2 metres from highway?

JB said the figure in booklet is 'tip of the iceberg' and asked if WDC could use discretion about business permits for tips.

RT said he would find out more from the ESCC Transport & Environment Disposal Department.

9. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEES HELD ON 10TH JULY, 24TH JULY, 7TH AUGUST, 21ST AUGUST 2006

There were no amendments to these four sets of minutes and they were approved as a correct record of the meetings.

9.1. RF reported that objection had been received at Five Ashes School to 6:P10 3.1 and a site meeting had been arranged with ESCC

9.2. JB asked whether a wooden building at the end of Firtoll Lane had planning permission. LM said they had.

9.3. PD reported that the Hope Project was moving towards a planning application for the Criers Lane site. Consultation with residents of Five Ashes would take place in mid to late October.

10. MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 7TH AUGUST 2006

There were no alterations or amendments to these minutes which were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

PX reported a further meeting had taken place but minutes were not yet available the main items covered were

10.1. Picnic site on South Street allotments where contact had been made with WDC to take over on a temporary basis. BR had taken up the delay in replies to letters to WDC who had received apologies from the officers involved. Doug Moss the chief planning officer will ensure PC gets speedier replies in the future. The site would need a planning application for temporary use.

10.2. Amanda Hodge from the Hope Project has reported that RSL a registered social landlord is interested in developing the South Street allotment site for affordable housing. BR did not know the timetable.

Matters arising from minutes of meeting.

10.3. PD reported that 90 people responded to development questionnaire which he felt was very disappointing and that the population appears to be dis-interested. PX felt the questionnaire was limited in scope and over holiday period but it was important to consult and the committee had consulted widely with many bodies in the parish. PA felt it had given people the opportunity to express their views. DK said 90 responses was 15% of circulation of Yellow Pages.

11. MINUTES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE HELD ON 19TH JULY 2006

There were no amendments or alternations to the minutes and they were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

Matters arising

11.1 North Street footpath. ESCC has taken job away from British Trust for Volunteers. They have agreed to look at job specification and estimate provided to the PC by Clive Gray. If they accept the estimate ESCC will pay for the work to be done.

11.2. Ron Summerfield has agreed to include three Mayfield Walks in the Calendar for 2007.

11.3. English Nature had been asked to look at the Cransden footpath to report on interesting trees, they found none.

12. MINUTES OF THE SECURITY COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST AUGUST 2006

There were no amendments or alternations to the minutes and they were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

12.1. Tamara, the PCSO now has a vehicle although the security situation at Mark Cross has taken her away from the village a great deal

12.2. MP asked if committee could find out how much time Tamara actually spent in village.

13. MINUTES OF YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON 19TH JULY 2006

- Amend DR to show present at meeting

There being no further amendments or alterations the minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

14. REPORT FROM THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

14.1. PD reported that a meeting will be held on 26th October 2006 and he would take suggestions for agenda items at the next PC meeting.

14.2. PD reported on the Ad Hoc Road Naming meeting, minutes of which have been circulated.

14.3. Freedom of Information Act and NCN 21 report for ESCC by Atkins. PD has been pursuing this matter on behalf of the PC. PC wishes to see Atkins first report which ESCC had required revising. Atkins produced second report during the third week of August. PD has asked ESCC to release first report whilst we wait to see second report. He understands that Cllrs. Simmons & Tidy have been blocked from seeing these reports by the officers of ESCC. In reply to question by SC, PD said if he gets no co-operation from ESCC within four weeks he will pass the matter to the Information Commissioner.

15. COUNCIL ISSUES

Consideration was given to taking the large water tank situated in St. Dunstan's Churchyard into PC ownership. The resulting vote was 13 against taking ownership of the tank and 1 abstention.

CS suggested that the tank could be turned into a fountain. This suggestion to be passed to the PCC.

16. CLERK'S REPORT

To be considered at the next full meeting of the PC

PD, who has been monitoring the Parish Office for mail and telephone calls reported

- Application forms received for Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
- West Street will be closed for two days for re-surfacing
- WDC seeking representation to Local Development Forum.

16A TWINNING

The PC had received communication from Santa Lucija in Malta (included in councillor's pack) to further their request to twin with Mayfield & Five Ashes. Other villages in the area have a dedicated committee to handle twinning and therefore a request will be included in Yellow Pages to find out if any parishioners wish to investigate the proposal. **ACTION DT**

16B CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR FIVE ASHES

16B.1 Geoff Gregory was elected to be co-opted to represent Five Ashes

17. ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR NOTING

17.1. CS asked that information pertaining to the firework season be put in Yellow Pages. RF will find out the new laws on fireworks. DT to include in Yellow Pages

17.2. HH mentioned School consultation which was decided to be at the November Parish Council meeting starting at 7pm in Mayfield Primary School. The School consultation in 2007 will take place at Five Ashes. HH & RF to liaise with schools.

17.3 CL raised the subject of fireworks and the fact that Hadlow Down had published a short item in their local Newsletter asking that residents be mindful of the adverse effect of fireworks on animals of all types. CL agreed to investigate and propose a suitable text for inclusion in Yellow Pages under the auspices of the PC.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 22.41 HOURS

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL
WILL BE HELD AT**

VENUE FIVE ASHES

DATE 9TH OCTOBER 2006

TIME 19.30 HOURS