

MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL

6C:11
FINAL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAYFIELD
AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL, MAYFIELD
ON MONDAY 12 MARCH 2007 AT 1930 HOURS**

SUMMARY OF MEETING

- Parish Council supports rebuilding of Mayfield Community Hall
- New website contract issued and work started
- Five Ashes affordable housing sites now in planning process
- Fireworks and loud bangs debated
- First draft of new Parish plan scheduled for Q3 2007/8

ATTENDANCE

Martin Pitcher Chairman	(MP)	Present and Voting
Paul Amans	(PA)	Present and Voting
Peter Deller	(PD)	Present and Voting
Philip Dixon	(PX)	Apologies for Absence (B)
Diane Kirkness	(DK)	Present and Voting
Lloyd McLean	(LM)	Present and Voting
Jayne Bramwell	(JB)	Present and Voting
Graham Playfoot	(GP)	Present and Voting
Hubert Hills	(HH)	Present and Voting
Andrew Stokes	(AS)	Apologies for Absence (B)
Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present and Voting
Catherine Swingland	(CS)	Present and Voting
Robert Fitzsimmons	(RF)	Present and Voting
Chris Lilly	(CL)	Present and Voting
Geoff Gregory	(GG)	Present and Voting

Present and voting 13 Present and not voting 0
Apologies for Absence 2 Not present 2 Other Council Business 0

Also Present

Wealden District Councillors Brian Redman (BR),
David Thompson Parish Clerk (DT)

There was one member of the public present.

Apologies for Absence were received from WDC Councillors Jonica Fox (JF) Robert Standley (RS) and Monaghan (AM) and ESCC Councillor Chris Dowling (CD) and Robert Tidy (RT)

MINUTES

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- 1.1. There were no declarations of interest.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2.1. The Chairman announced that the website contract had been awarded to Rother Media and that work on the new website had started.

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- 3.1. There were no questions from members of the public.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL (6C10) HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY

- 4.1. A number of minor typing errors were noted.
- 4.2. The following changes to the minutes were accepted by the Clerk:
 - Minute 6C10/3.1 penultimate paragraph delete 'however there had to be a 100m clear visibility to install any such measures'
 - Minute 6C10/9.3 delete 'last page' and substitute there were some pages missing.
 - Add new minute 6C10/10.9 GP asked whether HA had been made aware of the Five Ashes Village Hall bid.

ACTION DT TO ASCERTAIN

- 4.3. With these amendments, the minutes were approved by UNANIMOUS VOTE and signed by the Chairman.

5. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE (6F10) HELD ON MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2007

- 5.1. The following amendments were accepted to the minutes:
 - Action 6F7/16.3 amend Five Ashes School to read Mayfield School
 - Action 6F10/7.1 third line 'not' to read 'now'

With these changes the minutes were approved by UNANIMOUS VOTE

- 5.2. With regards minute 6F10/11.2 it was noted that WDC had issued a leaflet detailing information on the use of fireworks and the local environment. The Clerk noted that details of the law appertaining to the use of fireworks had been published in the Yellow Pages.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Mayfield Bonfire Boyes and Belles on the subject and place the issue on the Agenda for the next meeting of the F&GP (6F11), and also inform Fr Nigel Prior.

ACTION DT

- 5.3 It was agreed that the Clerk would place the subject of the proposed Five Ashes Nature Garden on the Agenda for the next meeting of the F&GP (6F11)

ACTION DT

5.4 It was noted that expenditure on the youth project was now fully included in the Parish Council accounts.

6. FINANCE RESULTS

6.1 DK explained the key issues arising from the Finance Reports for December 2006 and January 2007.

6.2 It was noted that the Finance Report had been expanded to show the total budget and also the bank balances at the end of the month.

6.3 The Financial reports were approved by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

7. REPORTS BY ESCC COUNCILLORS ROBERT TIDY AND CHRISTOPHER DOWLING

7.1. With apologies for absence received from both ESCC Councillors, no report was made.

8. REPORTS BY WDC COUNCILLORS BRIAN REDMAN AND JONICA FOX

8.1. BR reported on current issues at WDC.

- WDC + 4.2% community charge.
- Parish Planning Workshops to be held on 13 March at Pine Grove.
- Argos Hill Windmill - a proposal to maintain it as a “static display”.
- Conservation area report target April 2007
- Core strategy work to start July 2007

8.2. PD drew the attention to the fact that although the precept as approved by the Parish Council had not increased, the official figure produced by WDC showed an increase of 0.4%., and that this was because of a drop in the estimated number of equated class D dwellings on which the levy is placed.

8.3. Jonica Fox submitted the following report on housing at Five Ashes:

- **Affordable Housing at Queensmount Garages, Criers Lane**

This application was approved as it is both inside the development boundary and the existing use as eight garages meant that ESCC Highways were unable to object to what should be a reduction in vehicles on site. The pedestrian access via Queensmount allowing residents to avoid walking down Criers Lane to get to the bus stop was a key consideration.

- **Affordable Housing at Downsvew, Criers Lane**

This application was refused on Highways Grounds in line with the ESCC recommendations for refusal. It has however been called into the Regulatory Committee by the Regulatory Chairman (who is quite entitled to do this) so it will now be finally determined at the Regulatory Committee which is to be held in Crowborough at 2 pm on 26 March. The policy under which it was called in was HG6 of the Wealden Non-Stat Local Plan.

8.4. There were no questions for Wealden District Councillors.

9. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9.1. There were five sets of meetings for approval:

6P20 8 January 2007

6P21 22 January 2007

6P22 5 February 2007

6P23 19 February 2007

6P24 5 March 2007

All were approved without amendment by UNANIMOUS VOTE, except 6P23 where a minor amendment was accepted after which the minutes were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

9.2. DK commented that with regard to minute 6P23/4.1 and 6P23/4.2 that as these cases were for affordable housing and had been approved by the Full Council she was surprised that objections had been made. LM replied that whilst they agreed in principle the strong local objections on matters of road access had meant that they had registered an objection until a satisfactory report from ESCC on traffic access was carried out.

10. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

10.1. DT reported that the questions raised at the last meeting, had been answered through the Clerk's report (see Section 4)

11. MINUTES OF THE MAYFIELD MEMORIAL HALL STEERING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2007 (6G03)

11.1. CL reviewed the minutes and reported that a report had been agreed by the sub-committee for the way ahead for the proposed Mayfield Community Hall.

11.2. CL drew attention to WDC advice that building on Court Meadow should only be to the west of the logical boundary building line, and that this would have implications for the proposed medical centre.

11.3. It was reported that Dr Coates had stated that they would not take up a position within the proposed new building, but wanted to obtain land on which to place a separate structure.

11.4. In answer to a question from DK it was confirmed that the PCT did not have a problem in locating the proposed medical centre within the new Community Hall.

11.5. After accepting two amendments to minute 6G03/3.4 and 6G03/8.6 the minutes were approved by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

11.6. The final issue of the Report on the selection of options for the New Community Hall was approved by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

12. RESOLUTIONS 6G01, 6G02 AND 6G03

12.1. Three resolutions were placed before the Full Council:

- **RESOLUTION 6G01**

To consider and vote on the following resolution. The Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council is in full support for the proposal to build a new Mayfield Community Hall at the earliest opportunity.

- **RESOLUTION 6G02**

To consider and Vote on the following resolution. The Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council is in full support for the proposals outlined in option 3 of section 5 of the Steering Group report 6GCP13.

“Build new hall on Parish Council land adjacent to existing hall, demolish old hall and create expanded car park on the old village hall site”

- **RESOLUTION 6G03**

To consider and Vote on the following resolution. The Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council is in full support for the proposals outlined in section 6 of the Steering Group report 6GCP13.

“To take the project forward it is proposed that a New Hall Project Management Group be established, which would be a sub-committee of the Hall Management Committee, with representation from the Parish Council and other interested parties. In representing the whole village this combination provides considerable credibility with regard to the obtaining of grants. The Parish Council representatives would represent the Council’s views and provide regular feedback to the Council.”

12.2. Debate centred on the following issues:

- MP how and what form the new Community Hall Management Committee would take and the calibre of people required to make the committee work. CL agreed that the new committee would need a very high calibre of membership.
- PD noted that the report did not give sufficient detail to support the opinions required by option (III) of Para 5. It was noted that the detail was included in the larger version of the report 6GCP11.
- IB reported that the Management Committee would ideally need three council members but one immediately because of funding issues. There was a need for active people with financial and secretarial experience.
- PA noted that the forthcoming elections may effect the availability of members.

12.3. There was also a debate on ownership of the Hall. CL was of the view that the Management Committee would be the owners of the new hall, and that trustees would eventually take ownership. LM was prepared to serve on the Committee and the Parish Council would need to be represented.

BR noted that WDC carried out similar schemes and processes needed were known.

12.4. GP considered that the scheme had been completed with undue haste, and that there was a long way to go. MD noted that a public meeting would be held.

12.5. GG asked what the Parish Council policy was for funding the respective village halls. DK noted that at present it was done on an equal basis.

12.6. CL noted that at present no funding was available for the Mayfield Hall until 2007/8.

12.7. Votes were then held for the three resolutions as published.

6G01	Proposed CL, Vote For 12,	Seconded HH Against 1
6G02	Proposed CL, Vote For 11,	Seconded HH Against 1, Abstain 1
6G03	Proposed CL, Vote For 12,	Seconded HH Against 1

12.8. CL suggested that the Parish Council keep an open action to clarify the issues of ownership in the new financial year.

ACTION DT

13. MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (6D11) HELD ON MONDAY 5 MARCH 2007

13.1. The main issues were noted:

- Parish Plan underway
- Five Ashes Plan exhibition organised for Saturday 17 March 2007
- Existing Parish Plan updated to give more detail on the two village hall projects

13.2. The minutes were approved without amendment by UNANIMOUS VOTE.

13.3. There were no questions from the Council.

14. MINUTES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE (6R5) HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2007

14.1. The minutes were approved by the Council by UNANIMOUS VOTE and no changes were made.

14.2. JB reported that ESCC were seeking an injunction against the owner of the dogs of Strathborne.

14.3. It was noted that Tim Cornish has been invited to join the Rights of Way Committee.

14.4. In answer to a question JB described the role of Andrew Le Gresley of ESCC in Rights of Way matters.

15. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES NOT HOLDING MEETINGS DURING THE PERIOD

15.1. Traffic Committee PD reported that the next meeting of the Committee would be on Thursday 26 April. Agenda items were required.

15.2. The latest position with repairs to the bank by St Leonard's Convent on the Old Tunbridge Wells Road was noted.

15.3. Security Committee – No issues to report except for the continued lack of presence from PCSO.

15.4. Youth DK reported that the Youth Committee would meet on the 27 March. Attendance was now 14-17 per meeting and new premises would be needed.

16. REVISION OF PARISH PLAN

16.1. The existing Parish Plan had been updated to include a stronger reference to the rebuilding of the two village halls. The revised plan (circulated) was adopted by majority vote.

Proposed CL Seconded DK

Vote for 11 Against 1 No recorded abstentions

16.2. CL in reply to LM reported that the draft of the new Parish Plan was scheduled for Q3 2007/8.

17. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES

17.1 CS reported that she would prepare a draft policy for discussion.

ACTION CS

18 CLERK'S REPORT

18.1 The Clerk reported that the second waste site proposal had completed its public consultation phase and the results would be sent to WDC for consideration.

18.2 GP raised the question of the funds held in the Five Ashes Road Safety Fund, and why the Parish Council was concerned. PD noted that it was a public accountability issue and in any case once the new seat was installed there was unlikely to be any remaining money in the account.

19 ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

19.1 PD drew attention to the forthcoming Parish Plan Exhibition to be held at Five Ashes Village Hall on 17 March 2007.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2145 HOURS.

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

**VENUE: MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
DATE: MONDAY 16 APRIL 2007
TIME: 1930 HOURS**