

MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES PARISH COUNCIL



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

HELD AT MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2009 AT 1930 HOURS

Chairman of Mayfield And Five Ashes Parish Council
Councillor R Fitzsimmons

9C02
FINAL
R FITZSIMMONS

CHAIRMAN

SUMMARY OF MEETING

- Councillor R Fitzsimmons elected Chairman
- Councillor D Redman elected Vice Chairman
- Committees re-elected
- Representatives elected
- Presentation on early history of Mayfield and Five Ashes by Tim Cornish
- Year End provisional financial results approved
- Internal Auditor appointed for 2009/10
- Footpath developments reported
- Proposed housing needs survey discussed
- Swine flu pandemic working group launched

ATTENDANCE

Martin Pitcher	(MP)	Present and Voting
Paul Amans	(PA)	Present and Voting
Peter Deller	(PD)	Present and Voting (Resigned at 2020 hrs)
Jane Driscoll	(JD)	Present and Voting
Elaine Wheeler	(EW)	Present and Voting
Patricia Balfour	(PB)	Present and Voting
Jayne Bramwell	(JB)	Present and Voting
Graham Playfoot	(GP)	Present and Voting
Hubert Hills	(HH)	Present and Voting
Deveda Redman	(DR)	Present and Voting
Robert Fitzsimmons	(RF)	Present and Voting
Chris Lilly	(CL)	Apologies for Absence (H)
Jerry Watkiss	(JW)	Present and Voting
Lloyd McLean	(LM)	Present and Voting
Monica Aitken	(MA)	Present and Voting

Present and voting 14 Present and not voting 0
Apologies for Absence 1 Not present 0 Other Council Business 0

Also Present

Wealden District Councillors: G Wells (GW) ESCC Councillors Robert Tidy (RT) and Chris Dowling (CD), David Thompson Parish Clerk (DT)

Apologies for Absence

Jonica Fox (JF), R Standley (RS), B Redman (BR).

There was 1 member of the public present, and Courier Newspaper Group.

MINUTES

1. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

- 1.1. Councillor Martin Pitcher, outgoing Chairman of the Parish Council, held the election for the Chairman 2009/10. It was noted that five members had nominated Councillor R Fitzsimmons, and that there were no other candidates.
- 1.2. Before the vote PD asked whether there would be a relationship between the Chairman and the Clerk over the administration of the Parish Council – answer from RF yes.
- 1.3. PD asked the candidate whether he had read and supported minutes of the F&GP Committee 9F01 – answer from RF yes.
- 1.4. MP proposed RF as Chairman of the Parish Council for 2009/10. This was seconded by HH. The vote was:
For 10 Against Nil Abstentions 3
RF was duly elected Chairman of the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council
- 1.5. MP left the Chair in favour of the new Chairman.

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

- 2.1. RF signed the Declaration of Acceptance in the presence of the Clerk, who then countersigned.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

- 3.1. There were three nominations for Vice Chairman:
 - Councillor Jayne Bramwell
 - Councillor Chris Lilly
 - Councillor Deveda Redman
- 3.2. Councillor Jayne Bramwell withdraw her candidature.
- 3.3. CL was proposed by MP and seconded by RF
Vote for 4 Abstention 1
- 3.4. DR proposed by RF seconded by LM
Vote for 8 Abstention 1
- 3.5. DR was elected as Vice Chairman of the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council.
- 3.6. MA stated that she wished to thank the outgoing Chairman for his work and achievement over the past four years.

4. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 4.1. Councillor members were elected to the following Committees:
 - F Finance and General Purposes Executive
 - P Planning Executive
 - D Development Advisory
 - K Court Meadow Advisory
 - R Rights of Way

- S Security
- T Traffic
- Y Youth

The list of members is shown in Annex 1.

- 4.2. The membership of Committees was confirmed by **UNANIMOUS** vote.
- 4.3. It was noted that membership of the Risk Assessment Advisory Sub-Committee will be confirmed at the F&GP meeting on 1 June 2009.

5. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

- 5.1. The following representatives on other bodies were **UNANIMOUSLY** elected:

1	Mayfield Charities	Ms Mary Pennington
2	Mayfield Primary School	JD; DR
3	Mayfield Memorial Hall	HH
4	Mayfield Village Centre	Vacant
5	Transition Mayfield	PB
6	Five Ashes Primary School	GP
7	Five Ashes Village Hall	EW
8	Chamber of Commerce	PA
9	Old People's Welfare	JB
10	National Health Matters	DR, HH
11	Argos Hill Windmill	JD
12	Open Door	JB
13	Village of the Year	MA
14	Gypsies and Travellers	RF

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- 6.1 There were no declarations of interests by members.

7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7.1. There were no Chairman's announcements.

8. PRESENTATION ON NEW RESEARCH ON THE FOUNDATION OF MAYFIELD AND FIVE ASHES BY MR TIM CORNISH

- 8.1. Tim Cornish gave an excellent presentation on the early history of Mayfield and Five Ashes, covering its relationship with the Church and King Edward 1. He also covered the development of Mayfield as a Commercial Centre with 85 shop places, with the village development around 1350.
- 8.2. The presentation was accompanied with a written paper and two coloured maps (the record is available File V/ORG/09/CORN).

- 8.3. After the presentation Tim Cornish took questions from the Councillors present which included DR, RF and MA. Tim Cornish will be making a further contribution to Mayfield history at a talk to be given at Mayfield Memorial Hall on 23 October 2009.

9. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

10. MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON 20 APRIL 2009 (9C01)

- 10.1. Five minor points of correction were accepted by the Clerk after which the minutes were approved by the Council.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

- 10.2. LM noted that Minute 9C01/6.5 the Clerk had not placed the requested debate on the Agenda of the Annual Meeting.

The Clerk noted that there had been no request from the MVC for the appointment of a consultant to examine the Council's decision on the compromise agreement approved under minute 9C01/6.1 and had not placed the item on the agenda. However he could do so for the June meeting.

ACTION DT

- 10.3. There were no further observations or comments on the minutes.

11. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 APRIL 2009 (9F01)

- 11.1. One minor error to the minutes was accepted.
- 11.2. PD drew attention to Minute 9F01/9.2 and 9F01/9.3 and noted that Mr Blundell's letter of complaint and the Parish Council's response was still in the public domain. RF noted that rightly or wrongly its withdrawal would not help the overall position, and a member of the public was involved.
- 11.3. LM considered that the letter was incorrect and a further letter should be sent, however PD noted that the letter had been fully agreed by four senior members of the Council, and indicated that he had no alternative but to resign and that he was going to leave the meeting. He left the meeting at 20.20 hours.
- 11.4. The proposal for a second letter was revisited and it was agreed by For 9, Against 0 with 4 Abstentions that such a letter be sent. It was to be vetted by RF/MP/DR and PA and a copy sent to PD. It was noted that the complaint outstanding should be treated as a complaint against a Councillor and the complainant informed.

ACTION DT

- 11.5. The Minutes were confirmed by **UNANIMOUS** vote.

- 11.6. There were no observations on the minutes.

12. APPOINTMENT OF MAZARS AS EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR 2009/10

- 12.1. The Council noted the above appointment.

13. FINANCE REPORT MARCH 2009 (8FA12)

13.1. The Finance report was approved by the Full Council.

14. RESOLUTION 9F01

14.1. RESOLUTION 9F01

That the Mayfield and Five Ashes Parish Council **RESOLVE** to appoint Graham J Parish, ACMA as Internal Auditor for the Year 2008/9.

Proposed by MP seconded by RF

Passed by **UNANIMOUS** vote

15. REPORTS FROM ESCC COUNCILLORS R TIDY AND C DOWLING

15.1. RT congratulated RF on his election as Chairman.

15.2. RT reported that ESCC had completed its strategy on climate change and considered that it was important that the strategy was followed, since there would be considerable dangers if action was not taken.

CO2 emissions in ESCC were 3.2 million tons per year or 6.2 tons per person

29% Vehicles etc

30% Industrial

41% Domestic activities

15.3. It was reported that ESCC had set up a small fund of £1m to help small companies and others withstand the effects of the recession, grants were available.

15.4. DR wondered if a time recession was the right time to tackle climate change. RT considered it was and said that many things, such as wood burning and the use of peat extracts would help.

15.5. JB considered that a 40mph limit on country lanes would have a beneficial effect both on climate change and road safety. The community wanted it. RT noted that this issue was not included in the ESCC strategy and should be progressed through Highways.

15.6. In answer to a question from RF, it was noted that the distribution of CO2 emissions as shown in Minute 9C02/15.2 above was similar in all counties.

15.7. CD noted the current position with regard to the speed restrictions project for Five Ashes which was currently awaiting police approval. It was noted that the current scheme had been developed from the earlier parish review and that there would be a full consultation and exhibition in Five Ashes.

16. REPORT FROM WDC COUNCILLOR GRAHAM WELLS

16.1. GW congratulated RF on his election as Chairman.

16.2. GW noted that the South East Regional Plan had been formally adopted on 6 May 2009 and that it included 11000 new houses for the Wealden District of which 7000 would be on the coast areas and the remaining 4000 spread over the rest of the Wealden area.

The District Council would be working through the revised numbers and would be reporting shortly.

16.3. It was reported that there would be free swimming for the over 60s at allotted times in WDC establishments.

- 16.4. It was reported that a Market Towns initiative was making available small grants for local organisations.
- 16.5. Employment issues were being dealt with by WDC to assist with the growing unemployment problem. Benefit claims were up.
- 16.6. There were no questions for Graham Wells.

17 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE 9P02 HELD ON 20 APRIL 2009

- 17.1 The minutes were confirmed by UNANIMOUS vote.
- 17.2 There was no report on the two cases reviewed.

18 MINUTES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND TREES COMMITTEE (9R01) HELD ON 22 APRIL 2009

- 18.1 There were no changes to the minutes which were approved by UNANIMOUS vote.
- 18.2 JB drew attention to the following development in the Committee Portfolio of work.
- BW92 proposed extension to the Trout farm, in Rotherfield, where a diversionary route had been agreed in the past.
 - The Mayfield College reclaim path project. Thirty witnesses had made reports, and although offered a permissive path by the owners the Committee had considered that the public interest was best served by having a dedicated path and were continuing to press ahead with the claim.
- 18.3 The revised Terms of Reference were noted by the Full Council.

19 MINUTES OF THE COURT MEADOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 27 APRIL 2009 (9K01)

- 19.1 The changes were accepted to the minutes which were approved by the Full Council by UNANIMOUS vote.
- 19.2 There were no comments on the minutes.

20 REPORT FROM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- 20.1 DR reported that she and the Clerk had attended the WDC presentation on the housing needs survey, which was being designed to assess the needs for housing in the future. The survey which was comprehensive and complex was to be distributed next July.
- 20.2 It was decided to place an article in Yellow Pages for June.

ACTION DT

21 REPORT FROM SECURITY COMMITTEE

- 21.1 The Security Committee will next meet on 12 May 2009.
- 21.2 Following a request from LM, it was agreed that PCSO Mathew Boyle would be asked about the selling of drugs in Mayfield.

22 TRAFFIC AND YOUTH COMMITTEES

- 22.1 There was no report from these committees.

23 REPORT FROM ARGOS HILL REPRESENTATIVE

23.1 It was reported that no further progress had been made since the last report.

24 REPORT FROM TRANSITION MAYFIELD

24.1 JB reported that the Transition Mayfield event at the Memorial Hall had been very successful. LM considered that they should be encouraged to do more.

25 MAYFIELD VILLAGE CENTRE

25.1 It was reported that so far as the MVC team were concerned that the agreement with the Parish Council still held.

25.2 It was agreed that the Parish Council would request minutes of the MVC committee meetings be sent to the Clerk on a regular basis.

ACTION DT

26 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

26.1 PA reported that:

- The next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was 18 May 2009.
- Peckish Café High Street Mayfield in the same week informal meeting.
- Mayfair was successful with two PCSOs on traffic duties.

27 NHS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

27.1 DR reported that she had organised a working group to oversee and provide help in the case of a swine flu pandemic. The Swine Flu virus was different because it consisted of a mixture of Avian, Swine and Human elements.

27.2 The group would work on a cascade principle, working through village groups to aid individuals. The intention should there be an outbreak would be to try to reduce human contact, and provide help with shopping and checking up on those who had been infected. There was a need to get volunteers and there would be an article in Yellow Pages and the Church magazine.

27.3 The current outbreak of Swine Flu was not considered severe, but the secondary mutation expected towards the end of 2009 was anticipated to be more aggressive.

27.4 In question JB asked how help would be provided. Answer it was anticipated that this would effect mainly the elderly people who would be encouraged to look after themselves, and would not call for help unless needed.

27.5 There were no further questions.

28 DOCTOR JOHN HALL MEMORIAL FUND

28.1 Reviving a previous practice the minutes of the Committee were forwarded for noting by the Parish Council.

28.2 There would be a short presentation at the Parish Assembly.

29 CLERK'S REPORT

29.1 The Clerk's report was noted by the Full Council.

29.2 In answer to a question with regard to action 9C01/5.3, the Clerk gave a brief explanation of the High Street South Side pavement project.

29.3 The Clerk gave a brief explanation of the information items listed in the report to JB.

29.4 Progress towards power of Well-Being status was:

- Examination paper submitted
- Numbers of briefing sent to SALC

Next steps:

- Statement of community involvement
- Briefing of councillors 80% needed
- Resolution to use Power of Well Being instead of Section 137

29.5 Attention was drawn to the complaints against individual Councillor legislation and processes. Details to be circulated and a presentation from WDC in June.

29.6 Attention was drawn to the lessons learnt from the last meeting, and the need to manage within a laid down process.

30 ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

30.1 JB drew attention to the revamped Tourist Notice Board situated in South Street car park.

30.2 JB drew attention to the Open Door Newcomers Pack which is given to all new residents.

30.3 PA drew attention to the National Garden Scheme event on the 7 June 2009 between 14.00 hours and 17.00 hours. Price £4 admission proceeds to charity. Five gardens will be open. Last year £2500 had been raised.

30.4 Next Agenda Items

- Presentation on the Work of the Standards Committee
- Debate on the retention of a consultant to examine the agreement reached between the MVC committee and the Parish Council with regard to the siting of the new Mayfield Village Centre.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 2245 HOURS.

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

VENUE: FIVE ASHES VILLAGE HALL

DATE: 8 JUNE 2009

TIME: 1930 HOURS

Annex 1 - Committees

Committee F	Finance and General Purposes
Type	Executive
Meets	Each month Monday evening 11 times per year
Subject	Finance, Budgets and General Governance of the Parish Council
Membership Councillors	MP, PA, JD, HH, LM, CL, DR, EW RF (ex officio)

Committee P	Planning
Type	Executive
Meets	Every three weeks Monday morning 17-20 times per year.
Subject	Planning Applications
Membership Councillors	PD, PA, PB, JD, GP, MA

Committee D	Development
Type	Advisory
Meets	Monday evening 4 times per year
Subject	Parish Plan and all strategic planning matters
Membership Councillors	JW, JD, LM

Committee K	Court Meadow Management
Type	Advisory
Meets	Every two months Monday morning
Subject	Maintenance and care of all aspects of Court Meadow
Membership Councillors	PB, JD, LM, MA

Committee R	Rights of Way and Trees
Type	Advisory
Meets	Every two months Wednesday afternoon
Subject	Care and maintenance of the Parish footpaths and bridleways and trees
Membership Councillors	JW, JB

Committee S	Security
Type	Advisory
Meets	Every two months, Tuesday evenings
Subject	Policing, Neighbourhood Watch and emergencies.
Membership Councillors	RF, HH, PA, EW

Committee T	Traffic
Type	Advisory
Meets	Two to three times per year
Subject	All road traffic
Membership Councillors	PD, GP, EW

Committee U	Risk Assessment
Type	Advisory Sub-Committee
Meets	Monday evening 4 times per year
Subject	Parish Council Risk Management
Membership Councillors	To be elected by F&GP Committee

Committee Y	Youth
Type	Advisory
Meets	Every two months
Subject	All youth related matters
Membership Councillors	DR, EW