

Mayfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Mayfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 7.00 pm at The Church Rooms, Church Lane, Mayfield

An audio recording of this meeting was made to facilitate the minute taking process.

Present:

Cllr. S. Bridgett – in the Chair
Cllr. P. Boura
Cllr. D. Croll
Cllr. A. Golding
Cllr. J. Kennedy
Cllr. G. Moodie
Cllr. J. Watson

Also present: Anne Wilson Parish Clerk
22 Members of the public
One Member of Staffordshire Police

AGENDA

57/2022	To receive apologies for absence/note attendance RESOLVED to note there were no apologies.
58/2022	Election of Chairman Cllr. Watson has resigned as Chairman of Mayfield Parish Council for personal reasons. RESOLVED that Cllr. Bridgett be elected Chairman for the remainder of the municipal year.
59/2022	Declaration of Interests RESOLVED to note that there were no declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. Members are reminded that should you declare a pecuniary interest at a meeting, it is your responsibility to inform the Monitoring Officer.
60/2022	Decision and Recommendations of the ESBC Local Monitoring Officer (LMO) in relation to Complaints about MPC Councillors and breaches of the Code of Conduct. After the Council considered and adopted the findings and recommendations of the LMO at the last meeting Cllr Croll accepted the findings of the report and will undergo training as set out in the recommendations. Cllr. Golding was required to apologise to former clerks Nicky Taylor-Smith and Lesley Brown. He did not apologise, and the Council therefore required Cllr. Golding once again to apologise fully in the meeting and undertake the training specified by the LMO. The Chair read out the four specific breaches

	<p>of the Code of Conduct to which the apologies related and reminded Cllr Golding that there would be no discussion.</p> <p>Cllr. Golding stated that he would not apologise for all elements and began to state which parts he may consider apologising for, on what terms. He claimed that he had a letter from the LMO indicating that a discussion of the findings should be allowed. The Clerk indicated that such a claim had been made at the last meeting, but no letter had been produced. Cllr Golding at this point handed her an email from LMO which the Clerk stated did not support the claim he made, quite the contrary. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to the LMO at length after the last meeting, and it was reconfirmed to her that there should be no discussion on the outcome of the report.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cllr. Golding be unheard at this meeting.</p> <p>Nicky Taylor-Smith addressed the meeting and confirmed that the report made it very clear that Cllr. Golding should apologise to her and Lesley Brown for repetitive breaches of the Code of Conduct and as he had again refused to do so that she would be going back to the LMO as instructed by him if she did not receive an appropriate apology at the meeting. The Chair confirmed that the PC would also revert to the LMO for further advice.</p>
61/2022	<p>Public Speaking</p> <p>Members of the public are welcome to attend. You may speak about any item which is on the agenda. The total time allowed is 10 minutes, so please be brief and to the point. Members of the Council will listen and do not have to respond to any comments made, although comments relating to Agenda items will be discussed at the relevant point in the meeting. During that Agenda item, further public participation cannot be permitted. There will be no debate or discussion between councillors and the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Murfin said that she had engaged in deep research into the Council's behaviour and found it dreadful in insisting that Mr Golding apologise to the people. The Council were not endearing themselves to the village. She further opined that the closed session of Council was against the governance rules. The Parish Council had not looked after the memorial garden which was why the people had arranged for the memorial stones to be cleaned. (See reference below to ongoing maintenance). More speed cameras were needed. (See reference below) • Charles Wimbush asked who the Police Officer was present, and he had not seen Sean for some time and wondered if he still covered the area. PCSO Hayden said that PCSO Elliott was on a rest day hence his presence. • John Parker asked why taxpayers money was being spent on Footpath 25 when the Friends of Mayfield had offered along with the owners of the adjoining properties had offered to for the work free? (See reference below) • Mr Berrisford said that the answer he had to his question was unacceptable. He had asked on what authority the Parish could ask the parishioners what they would like to talk about and discuss any topic? • Mr Blackwell said he didn't feel that the Parish Council was being transparent in the replies to their questions. Did the previous Chair look for alternative quotes for the work carried out by Ed Bentley? (See reference below) He felt that there was a total abuse of democracy at the beginning of the meeting. The Clerk requested that since he had started to make allegations against an

	individual Cllr that he direct any further questions to her in writing, which she had asked him to do at the last meeting but had received nothing.
s	<p>Chairman's report</p> <p>The Chairman said that resignation letter from Cllr. J. Watson, as Chairman, had been published on the Parish Council website and made clear her reasons for standing down. She had presided over a difficult 18 months for the Council, including the long-awaited outcome of the Beglan Report, the loss and subsequent recruitment of several Cllrs and a period of inquoracy, which had inevitably resulted in a lack of continuity and some slowdown in the passage of Council business. Despite this she had presided over the public consultation to establish village priorities and the roll out of the three-year plan which followed. RESOLVED that a vote of thanks be afforded to Cllr. Watson for all her work during this period as Chairman.</p> <p>The Chairman announced that the Clerk had been awarded a national award by the Society of Local Council Clerks for volunteering and mentoring, for all her support to Clerks over many years. Details of this were also on the PC website.</p>
63/2022	<p>Approval of the Minutes</p> <p>RESOLVED to receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting of Mayfield Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th October 2022.</p>
64/2022	<p>Finance, Administration and Maintenance</p> <p>a) Current financial statement.</p> <p>RESOLVED that Members noted that as of 1st November 2022 the Treasurers Account stood at £29,588.99.</p> <p>b) Approval and payment of invoices</p> <p>RESOLVED that Members approved the following invoices for payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Rooms - £28 for speed watch training and October PC meeting • Graham Woodhouse – maintenance/gardening £60 • Annual donation to the RBL Remembrance - £25 • Libra Business Essentials Ltd £151.68 • Libra Business Essentials £65.28 • SLCC September invoice £948.00 • SLCC October invoice £924.30 <p>RESOLVED that Members notes and approved the payments made in between meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashbourne Secretarial Service for printing £10 • Natasha Restrick initial scoping for youth activities £83.75 • Janet Watson 123 Reg – reimbursement for Council e mail and website £42
65/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget 2023/2024 • RESOLVED that Members gave initial consideration to the budget headings suggested for 2023/2024 and the report as per below and agreed that the

	<p>item would be the subject of further discussion in January prior to setting the budget and precept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £2000 for highway maintenance to replace the work that Staffs CC have cut out of their schedules. Cllrs Croll & Moodie are preparing a comprehensive schedule of work going forward. Cllr Moodie stated that he has completed the benchmarking exercise comparing the costs for the verge cutting on an hourly rate, daily rate and contract rate for the work. Cllr Moodie informed the Council that benchmarking showed that Bentley Treescapes were charging the same hourly rates and daily rates as other contractors. He had also obtained the costs from Ellastone PC on what they are charged for the contract they have with their contractor and Bentley Treescapes are cheaper and will cover a larger area than the Ellastone contract. The costs are commercial and in confidence and have been shared with the Clerk as part of the Council's due diligence. • At this point Mrs Murfin began shouting over the meeting. She was asked twice to desist from interrupting otherwise Cllrs would need to consider asking her to leave. She then said that she would voluntarily leave and did so having caused further interruption and delay. John Parker and Geoff Harrison also left at this point followed by Cllr Golding. • SIDS – to purchase a further two SIDS for the parish – which has been recommended by SCC • Graham Woodhouse – he has been contacted about his contract post April 2023 and asked for the costs of his work going forward – an update would be given at the next meeting about this current year and post April 2023 • Speedwatch, no costs beyond hire of meeting room for training were envisaged • King's Coronation – agreed that the Parish Council wish to have a fund for small grants to which local groups and organisations can apply to assist them arranging celebratory events • Signage – New village signage is already in the 3 Year-Plan, and it was agreed that this should be taken forward allied to the Coronation • Funds should be put into the budget for the continuation of the work for the Three-Year Plan (noting that any unspent/unallocated funds from 2022/2023 will be earmarked and available in future years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allotments ○ Youth Activities ○ Any other area related to the 3 Year Plan • Coronation Year Tree – do the Parish Council wish to plant a tree to commemorate the Kings' Coronation? This should be incorporated into other plans, which acknowledging that beyond the MRA site no other viable locations have been suggested
66/2022	<p>Planning notifications</p> <p>i) Planning Applications</p> <p>RESOLVED that Members were asked to consider the following planning applications and they made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P/2022/01231 Bank Farm Barn, Calwich Bank, Mayfield

	<p>Erection of a single storey link extension, pitch roof canopy and door to rear, installation of 2 no. roof lights to front elevation and detached single storey garden room in rear garden</p> <p>RESOLVED that Members had no objections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P/2022/01232 Bank Farm Barn, Calwich Bank, Mayfield Listed Building Consent for alteration of a single storey extension, pitch roof canopy and door to rear, installation of 2 no. roof lights to front elevation and widening of 2 window openings to form a door in rear elevation <p>RESOLVED that Members had no objections</p> <p>ii) Planning Decisions since the last meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED that Members noted the Planning decisions made since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P/2022/00614 Dove House, Previously Red House, Calwich Bank, Mayfield Change of use of the land to form part of the domestic curtilage and erection of detached building for use as a domestic workshop/store and erection of a 1.7m high retaining wall • P/2022/00889 Land adjacent to 4 Bridge Hill, Mayfield Erection of a detached garage • P/2022/00483 Certificate of Lawfulness East Staffordshire Borough Council hereby certifies that on 20/04/22 the operations/use described in the First Schedule to this certificate in respect of the land specified in the Second Schedule to the certificate and edged red on the plan attached to the certificate, was lawful within the meaning of Section 191 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for the following reason – The use has been continuous for a period of ten years prior of ten years prior to 20/04/2022 <p>With regards to a query about an application to divert a footpath on the MRA site, Cllr Boura explained that this was an administrative error that required rectification and the application, which would not be circulated to the usual consultees, would simply clarify and confirm what was the existing footpath.</p>
11/22/11	<p>Highways & traffic management</p> <p>The Chairman gave an update regarding the purchase of SIDS and village gateways as agreed at the October Parish Council Meeting. She had circulated a further report which detailed companies approached for quotes in relation to various aspects of the work. Confirmation had been received that Highways were happy with the locations proposed for the SIDs as they were based on the CSW speeding hot spots. The preferred company Elan was a major supplier of the equipment internationally and the majority of SIDS in the area were supplied by them. They had a good reputation for customer service. The Chair indicated that there were significant benefits in terms of shared knowledge and practical application for this make of equipment across a</p>

	<p>number of local parishes, with whom she had been in contact about the project. Cllr Boura suggested that this was an important VFM consideration. The Chair indicated that this make offered flexibility in terms of programmable functions and download applications and was the most competitively priced of the three quotes received. The clerk confirmed that all necessary work had been completed to enable an order to be submitted to the company.</p> <p>With regard to the proposed gateways only one quote had been sought to date as it appeared only one company makes Wooden Gateways – Glasdon – this company as recommended to MPC by SCC Highways. It was suggested that the PC also look at plastic gates - a company - Street Furnishings Ltd – supply recycled plastic gates which the Chairman agreed to do. There was a feeling that they may not be as aesthetically pleasing in rural areas and claims of longevity and economy of maintenance should be explored. It was agreed that additional information on this and confirmation about siting would be circulated before the next meeting.</p>
11/22/12	<p>Terraces Ginnel F25</p> <p>Members were given an update on the current situation regarding the repair of The Ginnel F25. The Chairman reported that the specification had been received from SCC the afternoon of the meeting, which confirmed the quotes for the tarmac work reported to the previous meeting. SCC feels a motorcycle inhibitor to be the best solution to the replacement of the barriers in that location.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The PC supported the detail of the scheme proposed by SCC noting that the responsibility for it was not that of the Parish Council, b) that an offer of £500 be made towards the scheme as a gesture of goodwill and partnership working subject to the scheme being completed in this financial year. <p>It was confirmed that as of the date of the meeting no money has been spent on the Ginnel, beyond the agreed maintenance of the bordering greenery, by the Parish Council and neither have the Parish Council held up work agreed by SCC.</p>
11/22/13	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED to note that the date of the next meetings of Mayfield Parish Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 7th February 2023 – date to be confirmed • Monday 6th March 2023 – this is dependent of when Purdah commences and may need to be changed • Monday 15th May 2023 Annual Meeting- may need to be moved due to additional Bank Holidays in May tbc

Signed **Date**

Chairman