

Mayfield Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Mayfield Parish Council held on **Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 7.00 pm at The Church Rooms, Church Lane, Mayfield**

Present: Cllr. S. Bridgett – Chairman

Cllr. P. Boura

Cllr. D. Croll

Cllr. A. Golding – arrived at 7.05 p.m.

Cllr. G. Moodie

Cllr. J. Watson

Also present: Mrs Anne L. Wilson Parish Clerk

Nicky Taylor-Smith

18 residents

70/2022	<p>To receive apologies for absence/note attendance</p> <p>RESOLVED to receive apologies for absence from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr. J. Kennedy – work commitment
71/2022	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <p>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.</p>
72/2022	<p>Decision and Recommendations of the ESBC Local Monitoring Officer (LMO) in relation to Complaints about MPC Councillors and breaches of the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>This item was taken after 73/2022 as Cllr. Golding was not present at the meeting when this item was due to be discussed.</p> <p>The Chairman updated Members on the meeting held with Cllr. Golding, Cllr. E. Barker and John Teasdale, the Monitoring Officer. Cllr. Bridgett outlined the meeting and confirmed that although Cllr. Golding was reluctant to make an apology John Teasdale had offered to help Cllr. Golding write the apology. The Chairman and the Parish Clerk had seen the agreed apology before the meeting. Cllr. Bridgett re-iterated that Cllr. Golding had been told that he should make the apology only and not add anything else to the agreed apology. Members noted that as two attempts at an apology had been refused if it was not taken seriously and a sincere apology was not given then the next step would be the Standards Committee.</p> <p>Furthermore, Members are reminded that after the Council considered and adopted the findings and recommendations of the LMO at the October meeting David Croll accepted the findings of the report and will undergo training as set out in the recommendations.</p>

	<p>Cllr. Golding was required to apologise to Nicky Taylor-Smith and Lesley Brown. He did not apologise, either in October or November and the Council are therefore requiring Cllr. Golding once again to apologise fully in the meeting and undertake the training specified by the LMO. There will be no discussion.</p> <p>Cllr. Golding refused to just make the apology and added the words before the apology "I Have not been found guilty of any bullying in the report but I will sincerely make the following apology:</p> <p>Clerk to add the words</p> <p>Some Councillors and residents did not hear the apology so Cllr. Golding was asked to read it again. Residents started shouting from the floor at the Parish Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the apology made by Cllr. Golding not be accepted as he had not followed the agreement with the Monitoring Officer in that he had not just read the apology but again and added his own take on the situation. Cllr. Bridgett read out from the Bedlan Report all the places where Cllr. Golding had been found guilty of bullying in the report so questioned why he said he was not guilty. Cllr. Golding stated that he had written to the Monitoring Officer a lengthy reply telling them where mistakes had been made in the report but to date no reply had been received.</p> <p>Cllr. Golding stated that the apology was sincere in the only way it can be and that it was what was agreed with the Monitoring Officer. Members agreed that the apology may be but it had been made clear that no discussion and no report could be read out and he had ignored this clear instruction.</p>
73/2022	<p>Public Speaking</p> <p>This item took place before 72/2022 as Cllr. Golding had not arrived at the meeting to enable the item above to take place at the correct point in the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Parker asked that the locations of the village gateways be amended as Surrison Hill is not a gateway to the parish. It is in the parish of Oakover on the A52 which does not go through Mayfield. Cllr. Bridgett pointed out that the site proposed was at the commendation of the County Council Officer. • A resident asked that a more cost effective way of Clerking arrangements be made for both this year and next year. The cost was not on the agenda, the budget or seen on invoices. • Mr Wimbush asked for clarification on three matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) John Teasedale has said that interference with other people's property was an offence therefore the removal of the Parish Council

	<p>noticeboard outside the shop was an offence and the removal illegal</p> <p>ii) There were no notices up in the shop that there was CCTV present which was a legal requirement. The owner said that there were photographs available off the CCTV system and he had told the Police Sergeant about it. The Assistant Manager of the shop was telling people about the incidents at the shop</p> <p>iii) Margaret had made enquiries about the interference with the memorial stone and had spoken to the National Arboretum about it. The work had not been carried out satisfactorily.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob said that he agreed with Cllr. Golding calling the Councillors idiots • Comment was made in that no one from the Parish Council had asked for the noticeboard key back and the Police had done so. The question was asked about why the Police picked up the key and who asked them to do so? • Mr Blackwell stated that the Parish Council were accused of not making the minutes open and transparent. He said referring to Cllr. Golding and not allowing him to speak was an abuse of democracy. A Councillor disagreed and stated that they held a different opinion to the resident and that the resident did not understand Standing Orders. • A resident asked why the Parish Council did not work for the village and asked that the Council give them time. The Chairman stated that this village is what has happened to the Parish Council. • A question was asked about whether this meeting was called properly given that the notices were not put on the agenda until Saturday morning. The Chairman replied that the meeting paperwork was served within the legal timeframes and the agenda was subsequently put on the website and the noticeboards.
	<p>After minute number 72/2022 Members RESOLVED that under Standing Order 2 that Cllr. Golding be asked to leave the Parish Council meeting as he is being discourteous and disruptive and not allowing the business of the Parish Council to be transacted.</p> <p>Cllr. Golding refused to leave the meeting and went and sat with the public.</p> <p>The Chairman closed the meeting and announced that a date for the remainder of the business on the agenda to be transacted.</p> <p>Signed Date</p>

	Chairman

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