



Minutes

**Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 16th April 2018
7 pm, at Elford Village Hall**

Present: Councillors Jones (Chair), Gilbert, Oakley, Payne, Turley and Wright

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), 4 members of the public including a representative of Bromford Homes.

Open Forum

Various residents had attended to receive an update on the bus service. The County Council had not yet sent any information about the results of the tendering process. A private hire bus service had been organised but had not been booked until local Parish Councils had confirmed they would fund this. Edingale had now agreed but Harlaston and Clifton had decided not to proceed. The Parish Council would consider later in the meeting whether to proceed with a service to Edingale and Elford, on two days a week, with users making a voluntary donation to the Parish Councils. This would be monitored and Councillors would consider at a future meeting whether it would continue. Cllr Gilbert would contact Solus and if agreed the Clerk would put information on notice boards, the website and Facebook. The representative of Bromford Homes stressed how important public transport was to their residents and to the community.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Collins had apologised; the apology was accepted.

District Cllr Leytham had also apologised.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

None

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 19/3/18

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

To receive information on matters arising from the meeting of 19th March

There had been no response from Highways yet regarding the Church Road/The Beck/The Shrubbery junction. A resident had offered to provide hedging for the gap in Church Road near the Avenue.

4. To receive the Clerk's report

The further quote for work to the oak tree at the playground had been received and accepted. The firm had notified the Planning Department. The Parish Council would pay the whole cost of £350 as it owned the tree.

The next playground rota had been done and sent to the volunteers.

Resolved: Approved

5. To receive the Clerk's report on planning issues

(a) Planning applications: 18/00463/FUL Elford Lowe; variation of conditions 11 and 13 to include storage of cars and motorhomes. Councillors had concerns about the intensification of use of the site, and particularly the danger for road users on the A513. RESOLVED to object.

18/00435/FUL, The Woodlands, The Shrubbery; demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a 5 bedroom dwelling with a detached double garage. Councillors discussed the size and design of the proposed building, and agreed it was not inappropriate in the location. RESOLVED no objection.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan; A report on the recent Steering Group meeting was given. Amendments had been proposed to reflect the decision to allow house building on land at The Shrubbery. The Consultants would be requested to make these changes as soon as possible so that the Plan could be submitted to the District Council for them to undertake Regulation 15 consultation.

Resolved: Approved

6. To consider the Sportsfield Leases

The Sportsfield Committee Meeting to consider changes in the wording of the Leases had been postponed and a date would be arranged as soon as possible. This would consider the amendments to the Leases, as well as residents' concerns about the use of the field, and the siting of trim trail equipment.

Resolved: Approved

7. To receive an update on the bus service

Following discussion with bus users during Open Forum it was agreed to contribute £45 per journey to a joint service run by Solus on Tuesdays and Fridays to Tamworth from Elford and Edingale. The next meeting would monitor its usage and how long it could be required.

Resolved: Approved

8. To consider maintenance

The playground surface had now been cleaned although moss killer could be required. Wooden surfaces had been replaced, along with other repairs.

Alan had cleared the alley ways. Cllr Gilbert would meet him to advise on work required. It was agreed to purchase plants for the tubs for May.

9. To consider commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day

This was deferred until Cllr Collins could report back to the next meeting.

10. To consider Data Protection Officer.

The requirement for this for small councils had not yet been confirmed; it would be arranged through the County Council if required. The Clerk had begun updating procedures and policies; to be agreed at a future meeting.

11. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Turley would attend the signing of the twinning agreement with Awoingt on 24th/25th June; a letter confirming Elford's agreement had been sent by the Chair. Cllr Jones asked whether the microlight airfield near Fisherwick had planning permission, the Clerk would look into this. Cllr Wright said that light aircraft flying over the village should comply with regulations and if there were concerns they should be reported to the Civil Aviation Authority.

Cllr Collins had passed on a request from the Walled Garden for a replacement dog waste bin. He had been informed that spreading at Home Farm should finish soon.

Cllr Payne referred to an email from a family asking whether the Parish Council could assist 6th formers unable to travel to the academy now that the bus service had ended. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council had only enough resources to assist the most vulnerable residents, and it was hoped that parents would be able to arrange joint transport with other families.

12. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

Staffordshire County Council Dying matters campaign; Rights of Way consultation

Lichfield District Council GDPR Training 23rd April

13. To receive a financial report

The Bank reconciliation was given.

The Internal Audit had taken place and the Annual Return prepared for signing.

Resolved: Approved

14. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

Payments to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; £407.65; HMRC, 66.80;

Elford Village Hall, room hire and post office £113.50;

RW Harcombe, maintenance £132.50; A. Cox, Avenue maintenance £70;

Scottish Power, playground electricity, £25.20; A. Robey, handyman work, £65

Resolved: Approved

15. Date of next meeting: Monday 14th May 2018, 7pm Annual Meeting of the Council, 8pm Annual Parish Assembly.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.