



**Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
Monday 9th March 2015
7pm at Elford Village Hall.**

Present: Councillors Wain (Chair), Batchelor, Gilbert, Newport, Taylor and Standerwick

In Attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk).

Notice and quorum: Due notice of the meeting had been given and a quorum of Councillors was present. The Chair declared the meeting open.

1. To receive apologies

Cllr Smith had apologised due to illness and the apology was accepted.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation

None received

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 9/2/15

Resolved: Approved

To receive information on matters arising from the meeting of 9/2/15:

- (1) Scout Group Proposal – publicity had been sent out to assess the level of interest from potential members and leaders.
- (2) Best Kept Village – information on the photo competition would be sent to the school. The Social Club had agreed to tidy the car park area. Best Kept Village would be on the next agenda.

4. To receive the Clerk's report

Election briefing – Anyone wishing to be a member of the Parish Council from May onwards should submit a nomination and consent form, available from the Clerk or the District Council, this should be delivered by hand to the District Council between March 23rd and April 9th.

First Aid Training – the second group had not yet been arranged but this would be done soon.

Rights of way – The Rights of Way team would be contacted to ask about progress.

Clerk's conference – The Clerk had attended this and been updated on data protection, openness and transparency regulations and public sector mapping.

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

- (a) 14/00634/FUL Construction of a lagoon to hold liquid fertiliser at Home Farm, Elford. This application would now be heard at Planning Committee on 16th March. Further information had been added to the odour reports and as some of the information was unclear it was RESOLVED to submit a further letter of objection.
- (b) 15/00011/FUL East Wing, Elford House; Retention of summer house and decking. The Clerk had confirmed there was no objection.
- (c) 15/00157/FUL The Woodyard, Church Road; First floor and single storey extensions. RESOLVED no objection.
- (d) Lichfield Local Plan; This had now been approved by the District Council.

6. To consider the Sportsfield

Cllr Gilbert confirmed that the work on the car park as previously agreed was taking place during that week.

7. To consider the Playground

The mandate for the existing bank account would be changed so that the Clerk would be able to manage the funds on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Wain would be added as a signatory in addition to Cllr Gilbert. Derek would continue to maintain the playground, and a volunteer rota for checks would be drawn up. *Action: Clerk*

Cllrs Gilbert and Standerwick would inspect the playground in order that a future plan of action could be made.

Resolved: Approved

8. To consider village maintenance

Derek would undertake the playground safety inspections until the volunteer rota was done. He would pressure wash the safety surfaces, and may need extra hours to do this task.

Resolved: Approved

9. To consider the website

The pictures would need to be replaced by Spring ones. Information would be added about the Parish Council elections and the school proposals.

10. To consider Police and Crime Commissioner grant information

Grants were available for community safety and it was suggested that improvements to the picnic area could be funded through this. Birmingham City Council and the local police would be consulted, and an application made. *Action: Clerk*

11. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Newport reported back on the recent Village Hall meeting, and the Social Club meeting, which had discussed making improvements to the area. Cllr Standerwick reported back on the meeting at the school regarding Academy status. This sounded an excellent proposal and the Parish Council would assist with promoting it to the village.

Cllr Batchelor stated that a road sign near Elford Mill was down, this would be reported to Highways. She also queried the safety of trees nearby and this would be reported to the landowners.

12. To receive the financial report.

- (a) Insurance - the annual renewal would be done under the long term agreement. The goal posts would be added to the list of assets covered.
- (b) Earmarking of funds – it was resolved to earmark £2,000 for youth leisure carried forward from this financial year and £10,500 for the playground funds when transferred to the Parish Council.
- (c) End of financial year 31st March – predicted payments against budget were given, these were in line with the budget. It was agreed to spend some of the sum carried forward and it would be discussed at the next meeting.
- (a) Bank statements had been forwarded and the bank reconciliation was noted.

Resolved: Approved

13. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment.

Payments to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; HMRC PAYE;
D. Beaumont, handyman work £50;
Community Council, Best Kept Village fee £15.42
Broker Network Insurance £615.31
Barry Wright, web hosting £70.00
PP Tamworth, printing £38
Scottish Power, playground electricity £24.16
Moss Office, stationery £28.06

Resolved: Approved

14. To receive correspondence.

Staffordshire Parish Councils Associations bulletins
PCC Grants
Came & Co Insurance renewals
Community Council – entries for diary of village events 2015
Community Paths Initiative bids 2015
SCC Superfast Broadband information
Howard Primary meeting on change to Academy status
Phone call regarding policy on safeguarding.

Resolved: Noted

15. Date of next meeting.

Monday 13th April, 2015, 7.00 p.m., Elford Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.