



Draft Minutes

**Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 13th November 2017,
7 pm, at Elford Village Hall**

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), 17 members of the public

Open Forum

Elford/Awoingt group - A representative thanked the Parish Council for their agreement to the establishment of a twinning association and reported that people in Awoingt were very pleased with this decision and looking forward to developing links between both communities. A meeting of the group would take place on 30th November and new members, especially younger residents, would be welcome. Cllr Turley was thanked for volunteering to represent the Parish Council.

Outline planning application for land at The Shrubbery – During a long discussion regarding the application the land owner expressed disappointment that the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had not engaged with their planning consultants. The proposed development of the site was discussed by residents, along with issues raised in the Steering Group's housing survey such as the preservation of the conservation area. The land owners were invited to send feedback on their position, and the Clerk agreed to put information on the progress of the application on the Parish Council's website to keep residents informed.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Collins had apologised as he was unwell, his apology was accepted.

2. To co-opt a member on to the Parish Council, to receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Rachael Oakley was co-opted onto the Parish Council and the Declaration was signed.

Cllr Oakley was welcomed as a member of the Parish Council.

3. To receive Declarations of Interest

None

4. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 9/10/17

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

To receive information on matters arising from the meeting of 9th October

Cones – the Scarecrow group would be asked how many cones would be required, quotes would be requested from suppliers and this would be on the next agenda.

Bus services – Cllr Payne would attend the meeting with Cllr White at Clifton which would take place the day after a decision by the County Council on the future of bus services.

5. To receive the Clerk's report

Welcome signs – these had now been installed by Highways' contractors.

Birmingham City Council – they had confirmed that there had been a delay due to staff shortages but work would soon resume on the Leases. They had also informed the Parish Council that a parcel of land behind the walled area near Old Hall Drive was to be sold to the owners of Paget House.

Trees, Old Hall Drive – a resident had enquired about trimming these and had been referred to the church as they owned the land concerned.

Email addresses – the new addresses were in use, Cllr Wright would arrange one for Cllr Oakley.

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

(a) Applications – 17/01379/OUTM Land at The Shrubbery, outline application for up to 25 dwellings including new access and vehicle turning area. The Parish Council's response prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan consultants was approved, it would be sent to Lichfield District Council.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan – A meeting had taken place between representatives of the Parish Council/Steering Group, Urban Imprint and Lichfield District Council to agree on amendments to the First Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan, and minutes had been circulated for information.

Resolved: Approved

7. To consider maintenance

Gavin would repair the sand pit lid, the gate between the school and playground, and the shed; then jet wash the moss and paint the former kiosk. He and Cllr Gilbert would clear the shed, Cllr Gilbert would order a skip. A playground working party would be held on 29th December from 9am.

Action: Cllr Gilbert

Resolved: Approved

8. To consider outdoor fitness equipment

It was agreed that advice was needed about the most appropriate equipment to be installed to fit the budget, and the Clerk would contact Lichfield District Council's Recreation Manager. *Action: Clerk*

Resolved: Approved

9. To consider outcomes of the Sportsfield Committee meeting.

The recent meeting between Councillors and representatives of the clubs had resolved most of the issues, the Football Club had reduced the number of matches and addressed traffic problems. It was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council would continue to monitor this in the coming months and would carry on with current arrangements, as good progress had been made. The clubs would be contacted regarding the amendment of the Under-Leases to confirm current uses.

Action: Clerk

Resolved: Approved

10. To consider consultation on Rights of Way

This would be deferred to the next meeting.

11. To consider the draft budget for financial year 2018 -19

Councillors would give this further consideration at the next meeting.

Resolved: Approved

12. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Jones had received an email from County Cllr Alan White in reply to his representation about the consequences to Elford residents of the possible closure of the 82 bus service

Cllr Turley enquired about a Right of Way near the social club, the Clerk would check this. A resident of Elford Road had commented on speeding vehicles, the Clerk would contact the Safer Roads Partnership.

Cllr Collins had passed on a request from the Village Hall that the Parish Council contribute to a CCTV camera on Church Road; this would be on the next agenda.

Cllr Wright had attended the Remembrance Service at Tamworth Hall of Memory and laid a wreath to remember the fallen of Elford.

Cllr Jones asked Cllr Wright about the decision of the Social Club not to allow school parents to park in the car park, this had been advised for legal reasons of liability.

13. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins and AGM information

Staffordshire County Council environmental maintenance changes and Rights of Way consultation

Lichfield District Council, confirmation that the Council Tax Support Grant would cease in 2018.

14. To receive a financial report

The bank reconciliation and performance against budget was given. At the half year there was just over £16,000 in Parish Council funds and just over £10,000 in the Playground accounts.

15. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

Payments to: M. Jones, salary including overtime, expenses including plants £601.54
Elford Village Hall, room hire for Parish Council meeting and Post Office £151.50
RW Harcombe, maintenance £125.00; Gavin Cox, handyman work £87.36
Staffordshire County Council, sign installation £500; Alrewas Poppy Appeal £20

16. Date of next meeting: Monday 11th December 2017, 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.30

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