



Draft Minutes

**Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 12th November 2018
7 pm, at Elford Village Hall**

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), one member of the public

Open Forum

The Chair of Elford Village Hall had attended to ask about the Christmas tree installation at the Village Hall. The Clerk would order this for delivery, Cllrs Gilbert and Hidderley would assist with installation.

It was noted that the Remembrance Service at St Peter's Church had gone well; everyone involved with this was thanked.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Wright had apologised as the Social Club EGM was taking place that evening.

Cllr Oakley was on maternity leave. The apologies were accepted.

District Cllr Leytham had apologised.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 8/10/18

The Minutes were approved by Cllrs and signed by the Chair.

To receive information on matters arising from the meeting of 8th October

Cllr Turley had been asked about the publishing of draft minutes and the Clerk confirmed that it was mandatory under the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities for these to be published within a month of each meeting. Matters raised by Cllrs requiring a decision would be put on the following agenda for consideration.

4. To receive the Clerk's report

Maintenance – Alan had planted out the pansies in the tubs but had reported that some at the playground had been uprooted by persons unknown and had to be replanted. He had been unable to paint the kiosk yet but would do so when possible.

Stop sign at The Shrubbery/The Beck/Church Road junction - Highways had replied that this would be considered in relation to other priorities by the County Council and reviewed with traffic management issues in the area on a biannual basis.

May 2019 elections – information to encourage local people to stand as Councillors had been received from the Staffordshire Parish Councils Association. Those wishing to stand would need to complete nomination forms and submit these to the District Council next April, and if more than 7 applied an election would be held.

Resolved: Approved

5. To consider planning issues

(a) Applications; 18/00462/COU Elford Lowe, erection of 12 self catering cabins for holiday accommodation and associated works. A response stating that the Parish Council had no objection had been sent.

18/01350/ABN Home Farm House, erection of machinery and implement storage building. RESOLVED no objection.

Permissions had been granted for recent applications at Church Gate Cottage, Avenue House, and Howard Primary School.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. This would be held on Thursday 29th November at Elford Village Hall. The Chair said that if approval was given to the Plan and it was 'made', the Parish Council would receive funding from local developments to spend on local projects such as the School and recreational facilities. A letter would be prepared for Councillors to deliver to residents to encourage them to vote.

(c) Conservation Area. Cllr Jones commented on correspondence with the Planning Department regarding the legality and procedure of the proposed Conservation Area Appraisal. Although the Parish Council felt the matter had been dealt with in an unsatisfactory way and had not been kept informed by the District Council it was agreed that it was too late to change matters now.

Resolved: Approved

6. To consider work required at the Sportsfield

Work had been agreed to provide a further pitch between the cricket and football fields by levelling out the surface and moving the turf, this would be done in early Spring. Cllr Gilbert would obtain quotes for consideration at a future meeting and the Cricket and Football Clubs would be kept informed. A quote would be obtained for work to improve visibility for traffic leaving the Sportsfield by cutting back the hedge.

Action: Cllr Gilbert

Resolved: Approved

Cllr Gilbert then left the meeting to attend the Social Club EGM

7. To consider work required at the Playground

Cllr Payne described key issues which needed to be addressed; the surfacing required treating, equipment needed sanding and painting, the play train needed repairs, the barbecue and sandpit should be removed.

Meetings would be arranged for Cllr Payne with playground companies for advice on siting of new equipment such as a roundabout, as funds were available, and ideas on how to improve the surfacing would also be requested.

The Clerk would ask Alan to continue to keep the area tidy and a working party would be arranged early next year. *Action: Clerk, Cllr Payne*

Resolved: Approved

8. To consider the bus service

Further information had been received from the County Council on the legal status of the service. Councillors discussed various alternative ways to fund the bus hire and it was agreed to consider this further at the December meeting.

Resolved: Approved

9. To consider land at The Avenue

A letter had been received from a resident on this matter and the Chair would phone to respond. It was noted that the ground had meanwhile been remedied.

It was also agreed that the grass cutting maintenance would carry on next year.

Action: Chair

Resolved: Approved

10. To consider installation of Christmas Tree

This had been agreed during Open Forum. A reader would be required for the Christmas Carol Service, Cllr Payne offered to do this.

Action: Cllr Payne

Resolved: Approved

11. To consider traffic concerns

It was agreed that no action was required at present.

Resolved: Approved

12. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Turley reported that a cherry tree was rotten in the alleyway near the school, the Clerk would obtain a quote for its removal. The fence needed replacing along the pathway from the Square to Croft Close, the Clerk would also obtain a quote for this. Cllr Turley also asked about the Post Office, the Clerk had no further information from them but would chase it up.

Cllr Turley had spoken to the neighbour about the dog barking complaints, they had been cooperative but if this resumed local people should report it to Environmental Health and log the behaviour.

Cllr Turley mentioned the Elford historic photo presentation on 21st November; following this the photos would be stored and displayed on the Elford Village website.

Cllr Payne was pleased to see that a mobile shop was being established in the village. It was noted that the clothes bank been removed from the Village Hall, although it was hoped to reintroduce such a facility elsewhere in the village.

Cllr Jones had heard about dog fouling complaints around Croft Close, this would be monitored as another dog waste bin could be required if it continued.

13. To receive correspondence

Rawlett School; consultation on expansion.

Lichfield District Council; precept calculation information, electoral information, Neighbourhood Plan Referendum information, land ownership mapping.

SPCA; bulletins, AGM and Annual Report.

14. To receive a financial report

The bank reconciliation was given. Available funds were £9,764; Playground funds were £10,216.

Updated bank signatory details were given. Cllr Wright was now an internet banking user.

Receipts to date; users' October bus donations £165, Edingale share of October bus invoice less donations £270, HMRC VAT reclaim £1,014.55.

Resolved: Approved

15. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

Payments to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; £376.13;

Elford Village Hall, room hire £17.50;

RW Harcombe, maintenance, £125.00;

A. Robey, handyman work, £80.00;

Solus Coaches, hire, £810;

Eon, lighting maintenance £214.55

King's Bromley Poppy Appeal £40

Resolved: Approved

16. Date of next meeting: Monday 10th December.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm