



Draft Minutes

**Meeting of the Parish Council
Monday 10th December 2018
7 pm, at Elford Village Hall**

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk)

Open Forum

No members of the public had attended

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Payne and Cllr Oakley had apologised, 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 12/11/18

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

4. To receive the Clerk's Report

A Christmas tree had been purchased and installed by Cllr Gilbert at the Village Hall and the lights had been put up by the Village Hall Chair. An extra set could be needed next year. Cllr Hidderley had suggested an alternative supplier for next year.

St Peter's Church had requested the sweeping of leaves in The Avenue before the Christmas services and the District Council had been informed about this and had said it would be done.

The carol service would be on 16th December, no request for a reader from the Parish Council had yet been received.

The Cricket Club had requested assistance in obtaining a recycling bin at a reduced rate and this had been discussed with Lichfield District Council, who would arrange this in time for next season.

Resolved: Approved

5. To consider Planning Issues

There had been no applications since the last meeting.
The Neighbourhood Plan referendum had achieved a yes result.

Resolved: Approved

6. To consider the Bus Service

The service was of great benefit to a small group of residents, although passenger numbers and donations had reduced due to the winter and some users being unwell. Harlaston would not proceed after the trial period ended as there had been too few users. Edingale had agreed to continue with the service and to increase their precept to fund it. Cllrs discussed the costs, and various options which could be possible including sponsorship and local fund raising. It was agreed to continue to support the bus service and RESOLVED to fund one journey a week from 4th January, costs and usage to be reviewed in 6 months.

Resolved: Approved

7. To consider the future of the Social Club

At a recent well attended Extraordinary General Meeting the members had agreed to the closure of the club for financial reasons. Legal advice had been taken and the next EGM would vote on the dissolution of membership. Cllr Wright would keep the Parish Council informed.

8. To consider repairs to stile on public footpath

The stile behind the Village Hall had been reported to the Rights of Way team, it would be repaired when resources allowed.

9. To consider quote for fencing repairs in the footway off the Square

RESOLVED to proceed with this work.

Resolved: Approved

10. To consider improving visibility for vehicles exiting the Sportsfield car park

Following a report by Cllr Gilbert RESOLVED to cut the hedge lower, rather than installing a fence, as a cheaper and easier solution to ensure that drivers could see oncoming traffic.

Resolved: Approved

11. To consider playground repairs required

RESOLVED to action various minor repairs brought to the Parish Council's attention in the Annual Inspection report.

Quotes for pressure washing to clean the surfacing had been obtained and it was agreed to accept a quote for £440.

Cllr Payne had met one playground equipment representative and would meet another shortly. Proposals for improvements to the playground would be sent in January for discussion at the next meeting. Cllr Gilbert advised that the existing surfacing would be expensive and difficult to remove and it would be preferable to install bark around new items.

Resolved: Approved

12. To consider trim trail proposal

The firm who had quoted for this had enquired whether it would go ahead. Cllr Turley would check whether the donor wished to proceed; if so the Parish Council would agree the location and check with the clubs before ordering the equipment.

Resolved: Approved

13. To consider quote for tree removal in footway off Church Road

A tree surgeon had quoted for the dead tree to be cut down and removed, it was RESOLVED to do this work.

Cllr Hilderley offered to remove a fallen tree from the cricket pitch.

Resolved: Approved

14. To consider the draft budget for financial year 2019-20

Various amendments were made to the draft figures, RESOLVED to confirm the final budget at the next meeting.

Resolved: Approved

15. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Wright confirmed that the CCTV cameras continued to function at the club.

Cllr Wright had uploaded historic photos onto the Elford Parish website.

The recent rise in vehicle crime was mentioned.

Cllr Jones asked whether anything had been heard about the lagoon at Home Farm.

16. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

Lichfield District Council news releases, referendum information.

Rawlett School, results of consultation on expansion

Royal Mail, still trying to resolve the Post Office provision

17. To receive a financial report

The bank reconciliation was given.

Resolved: Approved

18. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

Payments to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; £332.50;
Elford Village Hall, room hire £17.50;
RW Harcombe, maintenance, £90.00;
A. Robey, handyman work, £60.00;
Solus Coaches, hire, £900;
Lichfield District Council, playground inspection £62.40
Prontaprint, printing £36.00
Tim Gilbert, Christmas tree £140.00

Resolved: Approved

19. Date of next meeting: Monday 14th January 2019.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm