



Draft Minutes

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

Present: Councillors Payne (Acting Chair), Collins, Oakley, Turley and Wright

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllr Leytham, 3 members of the public

Open Forum

A member of the public asked whether the hedging to fill in the gap along the edge of Church Road which had been discussed at a previous meeting would be planted soon. Cllr Turley offered to contact a local hedging person to arrange this.

The use of the Sportsfield was also discussed. The Sportsfield Committee had noted that the Football Club had reduced the number of matches and varied the timings. However some residents were still concerned about the amount of traffic from outside the village driving to matches along Church Road and Brickhouse Lane, creating problems for those who lived there and in the Elford Park barns. The meeting later would discuss amending the Leases, which could set out conditions for use of the Sportsfield.

The Clerk informed the resident whose neighbouring property was adjacent to the playground that the Parish Council was seeking advice on trimming dead branches from the large oak tree to reduce the mess in the playground. Cllr Leytham offered to contact the Arboricultural Officer on this as the tree had a TPO.

A householder living near the Church Road and The Beck junction attended to discuss the hedge referred to at the last Open Forum, when it had been commented that it was difficult to see oncoming traffic. He was willing to change the profile of the hedge but was reluctant to lower it as it provided privacy. He suggested that measures to improve highway safety at this junction were required. County Highways had said they would not install mirrors, but they would be asked to repaint the road markings and be asked about installing better signage for the junction.

The Shrubbery sign in the hedge had been previously damaged, Lichfield Council would be asked to replace this. The tarmac on the pavement in front of the hedge was breaking up due to the moss and this would be reported to Highways.

A resident asked whether the Parish Council had any plans to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day. There had been a joint village event at the Church in 2014. Cllr Wright offered to ask for suggestions and about similar events planned by Tamworth Civic Society. This would be on the next agenda.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Jones and Gilbert had apologised; the apologies were accepted

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

None

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 15/1/18

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

4. To receive the Clerk's report

Future meeting dates – Monday April 16th, Monday May 14th, to be followed by the Parish Assembly at 8pm

The Shrubbery – flooding had been reported

Footpath repairs – Cllrs Jones and Oakley would identify problems

Fitness equipment – the location of the equipment would be agreed with the representative of Playdale prior to paying a deposit. Cllrs felt it would be appropriate to amend the Sportsfield Leases before ordering.

Leases for The Shrubbery and The Avenue – Birmingham City Council had apologised for the lack of progress caused by staff problems, hopefully this would proceed soon.

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

18/00034/FUL, 18/00035/LBC Avenue House; Retention of single storey extension incorporating brick link and rooflights in roof-slope. RESOLVED no objection.

18/00148/FUL Paget House; Single and two storey side and rear extensions, garage conversion to form kitchen, living room, garden room, dining room, cinema room, swimming pool, sitting room, gym, double garage, study, bedrooms and en-suites. RESOLVED no objection.

17/01379/OUTM, Land off The Beck; amended plans. RESOLVED to comment that these did not address many of the residents' concerns and the objections remained.

Conservation Area – the extension had been rescinded and further consultation would be required before adoption.

Neighbourhood Plan – Lichfield had received the amended version and would report to consultees on screening.

Resolved: Approved

6. To consider maintenance

Alan Robey had taken on the handyman role and begun clearing the shed and tidying the playground. It was agreed to purchase a hosepipe for jet washing. There was a loose electrical socket, Cllr Gilbert had offered to ensure this was not live.

Further to the quote from Vic from Beacon Street Garage for playground repairs it was agreed to ask him to do these.

Rob Harcombe's contract for maintenance in 2018 would be renewed.

Quotes had been requested for the Avenue to be cut monthly, and would be discussed at the next meeting, along with any tree surgery quotes. *Action: Clerk*

Resolved: Approved

7. To consider quote for CCTV at Church Road/The Beck junction

Cllr Wright and Cllr Collins would obtain a detailed breakdown for the next meeting.

Action: Cllrs Wright and Collins

8. To receive an update on the bus service

The County Council would be tendering for a reduced service on the 82 route.

The options would be discussed at the next joint meeting of local Councillors.

9. To consider the Sportsfield Leases

Cllr Collins expressed concerns about the amount of football traffic and said these should be addressed on behalf of residents. As two of the Councillors on the Sportsfield Committee were not present this item was deferred to the next meeting.

10. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Wright expressed concern that dogs were let off leads on the alleyways and were not properly under control; the Clerk would ask advice from Lichfield's dog warden.

Cllr Collins reported that spreading had been taking place again since 1st February, but there had been no odour complaints.

11. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

LDC Invitation to Chair to Curry Lunch, Parish Forum meeting

Staffordshire Police, online surgery 21st February 7pm

12. To receive a financial report

(a) The bank reconciliation was given, there was currently over £11,000 in the current and savings accounts, and over £10,000 in the playground accounts.

Payments were in line with expectations.

(b) Transfers from deposit to current account had been made to cover payments.

(c) Insurance was due for renewal in March.

Resolved: Approved

13. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

Payments to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; £229.20;

Elford Village Hall, room hire and post office £127.50;

Tamworth Waste Disposal, skip hire £210.00;

Society of Local Council Clerks, membership £55

Resolved: Approved

14. Date of next meeting: Monday 12th March 2018, 7pm

The meeting closed at 21.05