



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 13th December 2021 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), one resident, Lichfield Cllrs Leytham and Warburton

Open Forum

Cllr Turley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Football Club organiser explained the difficulties of ensuring that the pitches were mowed, and his preference for purchasing and storing the club's own equipment for this. He explained that various sources of grant funding were available which would benefit both the Football and Cricket Clubs. It was agreed that both clubs should work together and that a meeting should take place involving their representatives and any interested Councillors as soon as possible. Ideally this should take the form of an informal working group and regulations covering agenda and minutes would not apply. It was agreed that he would contact everyone to arrange a suitable date and location for a meeting.

114. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Biden had apologised for work reasons and his apology was accepted.

115. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

116. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 8th November 2021

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

117. To receive the Clerk's Report

Footpaths reported – Highways inspected and would take no further action

Potholes in The Beck – Highways raised a non-urgent works instruction

Playground matting - repairs done by Alan

Traffic – concerns raised regarding Church Road and request for improved signage sent to Staffordshire County Cllr White

Christmas tree - purchased by Cllr Gilbert and lights hung by Cllr Payne – both thanked

Resolved: Approved

118.To consider any planning matters:

(a) Applications:

The Arches, Church Road 21/01527/LBC and 21/01526/FUH; single storey extension and garage conversion to form kitchen, day room, study and bedroom with ensuite.

No objection.

25 Croft Close, 21/01912/FUH; replacement of existing conservatory with single storey extension and new first floor side extension. No objection.

Webbs Farmhouse, Eddies Lane 21/01948/FUH; rear extension to existing residential property. No objection.

(b) 19/01707/FUL Elford Social Club update:

Further plans and a Construction Management Plan had been uploaded onto Lichfield's website. Some of the hedge at the site had been cut back and the former bus shelter would shortly be stored at Elford Lowe Farm.

Resolved: Approved

119. To receive an update on development of land at The Shrubbery

Work had begun on access to the site from The Shrubbery. No response had been received to previous emails to Elan Homes. A resident had contacted them to express concern about the drainage ditch behind the properties on The Beck. Cllr Toon also mentioned the height of the footings. Cllr Turley had contacted Lichfield's head of Development Control who had passed on the concerns to the Enforcement Team, and this would be chased up.

120. To consider Playground Refurbishment and contract for funding applications

Cllr Payne would circulate plans shortly from the third company who had offered to quote. The funding consultant had provided a contract for work to be done and would make initial enquiries of funding officers. The Parish Council would need to contribute 10% towards the grants which could be provided partly from the playground account and partly from some of the CIL payments. Villagers would be consulted via a public meeting (subject to Covid) and a survey which the Clerk would prepare to be delivered with the newsletter in January.

Resolved: Approved

121.To consider the Sportsfield

The Solicitor had obtained consent to the Underleases to the Cricket and Football Clubs from Birmingham City Council and was expecting to complete these shortly.

Birmingham City Council had also been contacted regarding approval for the Section 106 works to install disabled facilities at the Cricket Pavilion, as a condition of development of the Social Club site and had indicated they would be able to consent to these works. The Parish Council would then contact the Cricket Club to consent.

Resolved: Approved

122.To consider purchase and location of a bench

This item was deferred until information had been received on whether a contribution from the District Councillor fund had been confirmed.

123.To consider draft newsletter

This would be finalised and circulated to Cllrs for approval.

124. To consider the draft Budget for financial year 2022-23

Following discussion of the draft figures it was agreed that due to increases in costs including the Clerk's salary, contractor and handyman payments, full audit cost and solicitor's fees, plus a need to increase the level of reserves, the precept sum requested should be raised to £17,500. This was expected to increase the average Band D property payment by £1.23.

Resolved: Approved

125.To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllrs Leytham and Warburton reported on Lichfield District Council matters, including a delay to the dual recycling scheme and review of parish boundaries.

Cllr Payne congratulated all who had organised the recent Illuminated Elford event.

126.To receive Correspondence

SPCA bulletins and AGM info

LDC news items for website, Local Plan 2040, Business grants

Healthwatch Staffordshire bulletins

PCSO Costas Karpi, Community Speed Watch information

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust information

127.To receive a financial report

See appendix 1

Resolved: Approved

128.To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £483.08; Quilter, pension £14.60
HMRC £74.20;

Alan Robey, handyman work £87.50;

Village Hall, Post Office and Parish Council meeting room hire £77.50;

Bennetts, taxi hire £115.20;

A.Cox, mowing £70.00;

T. Gilbert, Christmas tree £100.

Cllr Wright would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

129. Date of next meeting: Monday 10th January, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm



Appendix 1 - Financial Report

(a) Bank reconciliation

		22/11/2021		Totals
BAL B/F	13,579.08		CURRENT	10,139.96
			DEPOSIT(playground)	8,084.86
			95 DAY NOTICE (taxi)	661.46
RECEIPTS	16439.89			
			earmarked for playground	
			9,263.20	
PAYMENTS	11132.69		earmarked for taxi	
			1,043.85	
TOTAL	18,886.28			18,886.28

(b) Expenditure against budget

<u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget sum</u>	<u>To date</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Staff costs	5722.00	4173	1549
Admin	2435	1741	694
eg room hire, taxi, solicitor, subs			
Maintenance	5685	4255	1430
eg mowing, handyman, electricity			
S137	0		
Unplanned	0	130	
	13842	10298	3544

(c) Interim Audit has taken place with no issues of concern.