



## Minutes

### Meeting of the Parish Council

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall**

Present: Councillors Turley (Chair), Biden, Delderfield, Gilbert, Hilderley and Payne

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllr Warburton and District and County Cllr White, Flood Warden Mr Hill, 7 other members of the public

#### **Open Forum**

The Secretary of the Cricket Club asked about their request for a grant from the CIL funds; this would be discussed later under agenda item 106/22.

A resident of Tamworth Road asked whether anything could be done about the speed of traffic along the road, it was dangerous to exit their drive due to drivers ignoring the 40mph limit. This would be discussed later under item 108/22.

Comments were made on the planning application at Model Farm, Peggs Lane. Concerns were expressed about possible noise, lighting and increased traffic. The Parish Council would submit comments after discussion under item 103/22.

A resident suggested that the Parish Council should contact Superfast Staffordshire to request their help in achieving better broadband and mobile phone coverage.. Several residents had attended to hear more about drainage from the Elan Homes site. Mr Hill said that he would not pursue his plan for a more direct route for the outfall to the river as the legal processes were taking too long. He believed that the Planning Permission had said that all storm water should be taken to the river, so the blind ditch between the development and the properties on The Beck should not be used unless water could be removed from it. He had circulated a report about this and felt that there was a possible risk of flash flooding during storms unless a drain with a pump was constructed. Meetings had been held between the developers, Staffordshire County Council's flooding officer and Lichfield District Council's Planning Enforcement Officer to discuss the options; the County Council would need to approve the developer's plans. Mr Hill was thanked for all his work to resolve these matters. The residents said that Elan Homes had offered to replace their fences adjoining the site with a high fence. They were anxious for any solution to prevent gardens flooding. Several residents then left the meeting.

Cllr Warburton had contacted the Chief Executive following the last meeting, and the Planning Enforcement Officer had been informed about the Parish Council's concerns.

Cllr White said that the Management Company issue could be a long term problem, as future occupiers may not be prepared to pay for maintenance of public areas. Regarding other matters; following the comment about speeding on Tamworth Road he suggested the Safer Roads Partnership should be asked to send the camera van to encourage drivers to observe the speed limit on the A513.

He explained that Chetwynd Bridge on the A513 near the Arboretum was deteriorating; it would possibly not remain open until a replacement was built. He was asked to intercede with the Rights of Way team regarding the lack of progress on pathway 8 and advised that evidence would be needed for legal action. Cllr White was thanked for attending and then left the meeting. Three members of the public remained to observe the meeting.

#### **99/22. To receive Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Wright had apologised for work reasons and his apology was accepted. It was noted that he had now moved away from Elford.

#### **100/22. To receive Declarations of Interest**

None received.

#### **101/22. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

#### **102/22. To receive the Clerk's Report**

**Defibrillator** – the software upgrade of the device at the Village Hall had been completed.

**CIL Strategic Fund** – an Expression of Interest in applying for the CIL fund for the Sportsfield pavilion project had been sent to Lichfield District Council.

**Brickhouse Lane** – Highways had sent an update; they had met a local landowner and they were taking legal advice on draining the lane onto the property; the meeting had been constructive. The potholes had been reported, they had been inspected and given a non-urgent works instruction.

**Village Hall accounts** – The Parish Council as Custodian Trustee had reported the figures to the Charity Commission.

**Maintenance** – Alan had replanted the tubs. Cllr Turley had checked the electricity to the playground, it had tripped and was now working, so the hedges could be cut.

**Audit** – the Auditor had noted an error on the website, subsequently the link to the Annual Governance and Audit Report had now been updated to comply with the Transparency code. They had recommended the use of a gov.uk email and for Cllrs to use these too for data protection and FOI reasons. The Asset Register should be updated to include the benches, agreement minuted, and added to the website.

ATT

**103/22. To consider any Planning matters:**

*Model Farm 22/01016/COUM Change of use from agriculture to holiday lodge including 25 holiday lodges and glamping pods and erection of reception / cafe / shop and storage with parking, EV charging/ cycle, equine provision, external play areas and associated landscaping, drainage and ecological enhancements.*

Councillors had no objection in principle but would pass on the concerns of neighbours regarding possible noise, light pollution and increased traffic.

**Resolved:** Approved

**104/22. To consider drainage matters relating to the Shrubbery development**

This had been discussed during Open Forum.

**105/22. To receive an update on CCTV enquiries**

Cllr Turley had received a quote for the installation of 2 sets of 2 cameras to be sited at the village entrances on the A513. Permission would need to be sought to locate these on two lampposts. This had been the most popular item for CIL spending on the survey. It was RESOLVED to invite the company to attend the next meeting to answer Cllrs questions about the proposed system.

**Resolved:** Approved

**106/22 To consider CIL application from Elford Cricket Club**

The Cricket Club needed to replace the sewage pipe from the pavilion, a quote of £1080 had been obtained for the work. This met the criteria for CIL spending as it was infrastructure, improvements to the facilities at the Sportsfield had scored highly in the survey, and the work was needed; Cllrs agreed unanimously to this.

**Resolved:** Approved

**107/22 To consider recommendations of the Playground Inspection Report**

Various points had been made in the report about deteriorating equipment, none was high risk at present but should continue to be monitored. Cllr Payne advised that a response on the HS2 application should be available by the next meeting and if successful the equipment would be replaced. If not, repairs would be scheduled.

**Resolved:** Approved



#### **108/22 To consider options for slowing traffic within the village**

The Clerk had circulated information on various traffic calming options. It was felt that these were neither affordable and appropriate for Elford; speed bumps and chicanes would create problems for farm traffic, indicator devices were often ignored, volunteers were unlikely to come forward for Community Speed Watch. It was agreed to contact the Safer Roads Partnership.

**Resolved:** Approved

#### **109/22 To consider Right of Way 8**

The Rights of Way team had been informed of the points raised at the last meeting but no response had been received. Cllr White's suggestion of recording incidents when the public had been unable to use the Right of Way would be useful.

#### **110/22 To consider suggestion of creating a warm place for residents**

Some residents had asked Cllr Turley whether the Village Hall could be used as a warm place during the winter, however it was booked on most days and currently needed to install a new heating system. It would be suggested that a more informal arrangement could be made between residents.

#### **111/22 To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Gilbert asked about the arrangements for the Christmas Tree, this would be the same as last year, he would obtain and put up the tree. Cllr Hilderley would remove it in January.

Cllr Gilbert had been approached about installing a defibrillator at the Beck for use by residents at that end of the village. As it would need an electrical supply it would need to be installed on a house, such arrangements would require consideration.

He had been asked by the developer for name suggestions for the road on the former Social Club site. This would be added to the next agenda.

Cllr Delderfield and Cllr Turley had attended the official opening of the Forest School at the Howard Primary School and congratulated all responsible for such an excellent facility, which was an asset to the village.

Cllr Payne thanked Cllr Delderfield for displaying poppies around the village to commemorate Remembrance Day.

He also said that Electric Avenue would be held again this year, and asked that residents be encouraged to display Christmas lights at home too.

Cllr Turley said that the taxi service had few users and was not expected to run after the New Year.

Cllr Warburton gave an update on matters relating to Lichfield District Council, including plans for the former Debenhams site to become a cinema. He volunteered to take the issue of fly tipping and police inaction previously raised by Cllr Hilderley further and asked for details.



**112/22. To receive Correspondence**

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association bulletins, subs information for budget, salary award information

Lichfield District Council, consultation on changes to Right of Way 7 at Seven Acres, this would be on the next agenda but objections were unlikely.

**113/22. To receive a Financial Report**

See appendix 1.

**Resolved:** Approved

**114/22. To consider authorising Schedule of Accounts for payment**

Staff costs; salary, PAYE, pension and reimbursement £647.91;

A. Robey, handyman work, £89.69;

Village Hall, Post Office room hire £53.50;

Bennetts, taxi hire £134.40;

R. Harcombe, maintenance £145;

A. Cox, Avenue mowing £80.

Cllr Payne would authorise the payments.

**Resolved:** Approved

**115/22. Date of Next Meeting:**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.



Appendix 1 -  
Financial Report November 22

	04/11/2022	Totals
	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>11,516.92</b>
BAL B/F	<b>14,224.90</b>	
	DEPOSIT(playground)	7,999.53
	95 DAY NOTICE (CIL)	29,358.28
RECEIPTS	47268.49	earmarked for CIL 29,358.28
		earmarked for playground
		7,999.53
PAYMENTS	12618.66	earmarked for seniors taxi
		572.06
TOTAL	<b>48,874.73</b>	<b>48,874.73</b>

- (a) Playground electricity – energy discount on the Scottish Power account, latest bill £56.80 credit.
- (b) CIL funding paid in October. £12,991.21 from Land at the Shrubbery development and £3361.62 from Sports and Social Club. Total 16,352.83. Now total sum is 29,358.28, although payments approved none paid yet, awaiting completion of works.
- (c) Seniors taxi. £268 remaining – enough to pay invoices until end of January. Price per return trip has risen to £28.
- (d) Budget – draft being prepared for December meeting. Increased costs – salary award, inflation.
- (e) Audit – 14th November, report will be sent.
- (f) Salary award – RESOLVED that the Parish Council has approved the adoption of the award, pay increase to be backdated to April 2022.