



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 10th October 2022 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllrs Warburton and Leytham, 6 members of the public

Open Forum

A resident of Eddies Lane asked for an update on drainage matters at the 7 Acres site and specifically the risk of flooding on to Eddies Lane. Cllr Turley confirmed that the Parish Council had written to the director of Elan Homes after the last meeting but had no reply; it was intended to ask for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the drainage issues. In the meantime, a Staffordshire County Council flooding officer had made the contractors aware of what was required and was waiting for submission of new drainage plans, and the Parish Council had contacted Lichfield's Planning Enforcement Department regarding compliance with the Planning Conditions. The resident asked for the Parish Council to raise the issue of Eddies Lane with Elan Homes again and this was agreed. Cllr Warburton asked the Parish Council to provide information so that he could write a report identifying these problems for Lichfield District Council.

A prospective buyer of a property on the 7 Acres development asked about the site. Discussion took place regarding former flooding issues and the residents who were present suggested that buyers should ask the builders about the action they were taking on these matters.

A query was made about plans for CCTV. Cllr Turley said that very little progress had been possible, he had met 3 contractors, one of which had been introduced by Lichfield District Council and had provided useful advice but had not confirmed the costs. It was hoped to consult a further firm as monies had been set aside for this and he was keen to progress this matter.

A resident asked if the defibrillator at the Village Hall was now in working order, the Clerk explained that it was but would soon need to be returned to the manufacturer briefly for an upgrade; when this occurred residents would be informed via the website and Facebook of other available devices.

83/22. To receive Apologies for Absence

Cllr Delderfield had apologised and the apology was accepted.

84/22. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

85/22. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th September 2022

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

86/22. To receive the Clerk's Report

Car security advice had been added to the Parish Council website and Facebook page using information sent by a resident after an attempted car theft in Croft Close. A resident had sent a complaint about speeding vehicles in Church Road, this would be discussed on a future agenda when information on traffic calming measures was available.

No information was available on Brickhouse Lane, the Highways Officer had been asked for an update but had been out of office for some time.

The Clerk would require leave of absence for 3 weeks during 2023; any change to meeting dates to be confirmed.

87/22. To consider any Planning matters:

No new applications had been received.

88/22. To receive an update on issues relating to the housing developments

Seven Acres – as discussed during Open Forum there had been no response from Elan Homes to the letter sent after the last meeting and they would be contacted again, and also informed of the concerns about possible flooding recurring onto Eddies Lane. The Clerk would send details to Cllr Warburton so that he could raise these concerns with senior officers at Lichfield.

Cllr Gilbert reported that Right of Way 6 had been diverted to the left of the Social Club site. The path from Croft Close, Right of Way 5, was fenced off during the building work.

Good progress was being made with building on both developments.

89/22. To receive an update on Playground funding applications

Cllr Payne had attended a webinar on HS2 funding and had now submitted an application to HS2 for £75,000. He would be notified of the result within 8 weeks.

90/22. To receive an update on CCTV enquiries

As explained during Open Forum a response was still awaited, and another contractor would be contacted. Cllr Turley was thanked by the Cllrs for the effort he was putting into planning this.

91/22 To consider applying to Lichfield District Council for funding from the Strategic CIL funds for a sports and community facility and to receive an update on progress.

The resident who had offered to lead the project attended to explain the result of discussions with the clubs. The existing structure was very basic and it was realistic to do a limited upgrade of the facilities then concentrate on fund raising and applying for grants while developing a 10 year plan for a new building, which could cost as much as £500,000. It was agreed to survey residents to ask what the pavilion would need to attract them to use it; the Cricket Club Secretary would arrange this. Cllrs had been circulated details of the CIL strategic funding and although there was a short time frame it was agreed that the Clerk would prepare a bid for a share of this, in consultation with the project lead and Cllr Biden, and using information from the survey results.

Resolved: Approved

92/22 To consider works to Fisherwick Bridge

Following correspondence with a County Council bridge engineer, he had said that it was hoped that the bridge repair work would take place next summer after permissions had been granted. As the bridge would need to close to traffic for 6 weeks during repairs Cllrs discussed what would be the least disruptive time for such a closure and agreed that it would be preferable before harvest, possibly during the school summer holidays. The closure would also need to avoid times when the A38 was closed for HS2 works. The Stubby Leas Home would need to be informed of this closure. The Clerk would inform the engineers of these considerations.

Resolved: Approved

93/22 To consider any maintenance required

The Playground safety inspection report had not yet been received. Alan had identified some rotten posts which would be monitored for safety until information was received on grant funding to replace the playground equipment. Alan had said the electricity had not been working when he attempted to cut the hedge, Cllr Payne and Turley would investigate. Alan would be asked to plant the tubs with winter bedding plants.

Resolved: Approved

94/22. To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllr Biden would inform the Clerk about further obstruction on Right of Way 8 and this would then be reported to Staffordshire County Council. Cllr Hilderley said that the transporting of maize through the village to Home Farm had now finished. Cllr Turley offered to remove out of date posters from village lampposts.

Cllr Warburton said there had been few District Council meetings during the month due to the period of national mourning for HM Queen Elizabeth. He would pass on an enquiry about fly tipping mentioned by Cllr Hilderley at the last meeting, that although number plates had been identified neither the Police or District Council accepted responsibility to take action on the offence.

95/22. To receive Correspondence

SPCA bulletins

Community Foundation, grants up to £500, Lichfield Community Lottery

20 is plenty for Staffordshire group, Zoom session

Staffordshire County Council, road closure, Main Road Harlaston 24th October

Friends of Howard School PTA Forest School launch 2nd November, Cllr Turley and possibly Cllr Delderfield would attend.

96/22. To receive a Financial Report

See appendix 1.

Resolved: Approved

97/22. To consider authorising Schedule of Accounts for payment

Staff costs and reimbursement £669.26;

A. Robey, handyman work, £56.25;

Village Hall, Post Office room hire £65.50;

Bennetts, taxi hire £115.20;

R. Harcombe, maintenance £145;

A.Cox, Avenue mowing £80

Cllr Wright would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

98/22. Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 14th November, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Appendix 1 -
Financial Report October 22

(a) Bank reconciliation

		CURRENT	12,718.75
BAL B/F	14,224.90		
		DEPOSIT(playground)	7,990.39
		95 DAY NOTICE (taxi)	12,991.21
RECEIPTS	30892.28	earmarked for CIL 12,991.15	
		earmarked for playground	
			7,990.39
PAYMENTS	11416.83	earmarked for seniors taxi	
			572.06
TOTAL	33,700.35		33,700.35

(b) Taxi costs to increase to £14 per trip due to fuel costs. Sum remaining after October payments £344, approximately 3 months of funding from the Coffee Shop left. Passengers to be asked to make their own arrangements after this.

(c) Playground electricity – standing charge increased to 55p a day. Energy Bills Support Scheme applied to the account, credited £66 per month until March.

(d) Next budget – Cllrs to inform the Clerk of any suggested additional items of expenditure for the 2023/4 budget.

(e) Next CIL funding to be paid in October. £12,991.21 from Land at the Shrubbery development and £3361.62 from Sports and Social Club development.