



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 12th December 2022 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall

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

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

Open Forum

A member of the public reported an incident when a vehicle had checked out their property by parking a van close to the gates, and asked whether the village had a WhatsApp group to alert other residents quickly about such incidents. It was suggested that another option could be Staffordshire Smart Alert which had replaced Neighbourhood Watch.

She also asked whether there was any update about the Seven Acres development and flooding. A submission was still required from the developers which would need the approval of Staffordshire County Council and the Planning Department. The outfall pipework had now been connected to the river following the closure of the Shrubbery. The ditch behind properties on The Beck was now in a communal area achieved by the removal of a strip of garden from some of the new properties. Another resident expressed concerns about the long-term functioning of a Management Company for the development. The Parish Council would write to Elan Homes to ask various questions on this.

116/22. To receive Apologies for Absence

Cllr Payne had apologised for personal reasons. His apology was accepted.

District Cllr Warburton had also apologised due to ill health. County Cllr White had apologised.

Cllr Wright had resigned as he was no longer living in Elford and Cllr Turley proposed that he should be thanked for his years of service on Elford Parish Council.

117/22 To co-opt a Member of the Parish Council to fill a casual vacancy, to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and receive the Declaration of Interests.

It was RESOLVED to co-opt Helen Robertson as a Councillor; the Declarations were signed and she was welcomed as a new Councillor.

Resolved: Approved

118/22. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

119/22. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 14th November 2022

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

120/22. To receive the Clerk's Report

Sportsfield Project - Following the receipt of the Expression of Interest Form in the CIL Strategic Fund, feedback suggesting the need for further information including quotes and letters of support had been received from Lichfield's Local Plans team. This was the type of project that could be funded but it was likely to be oversubscribed this year and it may be better to wait. A working group would need to be formed to prepare a final detailed bid in due course.

Communications - A resident had suggested that Gigafast Staffordshire should be contacted regarding the slow broadband and poor mobile signal in Elford. They had confirmed that commercial firms would provide a solution in the long run but there were no immediate plans to rectify these problems.

Right of Way 8 - No further information had been received from Staffordshire County Council's Rights of Way team on the obstructed pathway at The Green. Cllr White would be contacted again to expedite matters with the legal team as he had offered to contact them about the lack of progress. The Ramblers Association had been asked for assistance and had made various helpful suggestions. PCSO Costas had asked the Parish Council about the background to this after he was contacted regarding anti-social behaviour connected to residents' use of the Right of Way.

121/22. To consider any Planning matters:

No new applications to date.

The application at Model Farm for holiday lodges was still under consideration and objections to the proposal had been received from several neighbouring property owners who would be impacted by visitors' use of their access.

Resolved: Approved



122/22. To consider drainage matters relating to the Shrubbery development

No further update beyond that given at Open Forum.

123/22. To receive an update on CCTV enquiries

Cllr Turley had received no response to the request for more details from the company who had quoted. He would investigate alternative providers and report back to a future meeting.

Resolved: Approved

124/22 To consider road name for development at the former social club

Lichfield District Council had not yet approached the Parish Council on this but the developer wished to have the matter resolved. It was agreed that it was the Parish Council's preferred option to mark the late Queen's 70th Jubilee year by naming the new road Elizabeth Grove.

Resolved: Approved

125/22 To consider consultation on diversion of Right of Way 6 and ROW 7.

Following consultation, it was agreed that the Parish Council had no objection to the slight diversion of Right of Way 7 at the Seven Acres development.

It was also agreed that the new route for Right of Way 6 was acceptable, as it would run to the left of the development at the former Social Club rather than its original route through the site of the Social Club building as shown on the Definitive Map.

Resolved: Approved

126/22 To approve the updated Asset Register

The new benches had been added to the Asset Register and the bus shelter plus notice board would be removed from it as they were to be relocated. The revised Asset Register would be sent to the Insurers and shown on the Parish Council website.

Resolved: Approved

127/22 To consider the draft budget for financial year 2023-24

Following discussion of the budget it was agreed that due to the increased cost of living and the need for an improved level of reserves the precept sum requested would be £19,000 for 2023-24.

Resolved: Approved

128/22 To consider the website

A resident had offered to work on a new up to date Parish Council website which would be fit for purpose as so many people accessed information on smartphones. Cllrs were asked to consider the features and type of information they preferred to make available on a new site. It was agreed to invite the resident to the next meeting.

129/22 To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllr Delderfield had contacted Elan Homes regarding an excessive number of punctures in residents car tyres along the Shrubbery. They had been asked to take care when taking sharp objects between the site and their parking area. Cllr Leytham reported on various planned developments by Lichfield District Council including a new Leisure Centre at Eastern Avenue and a new cinema. He also described the difficulties of staff retention at the Planning Department.

130/22. To receive Correspondence

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association bulletins
Birmingham City Council, tree work, asked to avoid Electric Avenue times
Resident - tree in the river at Fisherwick Bridge -reported to the Environment Agency
Resident regarding non emptied dog bin – reported to Lichfield District Council
CPRE invitation to Parish Councils to join
Highways – job raised for potholes in Brickhouse Lane, no timescale yet
HS2 – rejection of the Parish Council’s application for playground funding
Staffordshire County Council - Chetwynd Bridge weight limit reduced to 7.5 tonnes.

131/22. To receive a Financial Report

See appendix 1.

Resolved: Approved

132/22. To consider authorising Schedule of Accounts for payment

Staff costs; salary, PAYE, pension; £886.23 ; A. Robey, handyman work, £81.25;
Village Hall, Post Office room hire £77.50; Bennetts, taxi hire £67.20;
Birmingham CC, annual Sportsfield rent £5; Tim Gilbert, Christmas tree, £150;
Eon, highway lighting maintenance, £316.61; R. Harcombe, maintenance £100;
Friends of St Peter’s, donation £25.00
Cllr Payne would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

133/22. Date of Next Meeting:

There would be no meeting in January so the next meeting would take place on February 13th. The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Appendix 1 -
Financial Report December 22

(a) Bank reconciliation

		29/11/2022	CURRENT	Totals
BAL B/F	14,224.90			10,366.42
			DEPOSIT(playground)	7,999.53
			95 DAY NOTICE (taxi)	29,358.28
RECEIPTS	47268.49		earmarked for CIL	29,358.28
			earmarked for playground	7,999.53
PAYMENTS	13769.16		earmarked for seniors taxi	572.06
TOTAL	47,724.23			47,724.23

(b) Performance against budget:

<u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget sum</u>	<u>To date</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Staff costs	6927.00	4899	2028
Admin	3390	3195	195
eg room hire, taxi, solicitor, subs			
Maintenance	6595	3864	2731
eg mowing, handyman, electricity			
S137	0.00	1348	
Unplanned	0	0	
	13842	13306	536

(c) To approve donation to Friends of St Peter's for Electric Avenue event.

(d) To approve removal of Cllr Wright as a bank signatory, forms for signatories to sign.

PTT