



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

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

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), Lichfield Cllr Leytham, over 20 residents

Open Forum

Cllr Turley welcomed everyone to the meeting. The residents had attended to raise concerns after flooding from the development site had affected properties on The Beck and Eddies Lane. Cllr Turley explained the background to the development which had been opposed by the Parish Council on the grounds of flooding, traffic and lack of conformity with the Neighbourhood Plan. He referred to contact between the Parish Council and the developers, Elan Homes, over the past year and thanked Mr Hill and the Clerk for their work.

Following the recent flooding Elan Homes had been reminded of their legal responsibility not to flood neighbouring properties and had been sent video and photo evidence. Lichfield Planning Department's Enforcement Officer had been asked to visit the site, he had done so and confirmed that he recognised the issues and would visit again this week to discuss outstanding matters with the developers. Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire Highways had been made aware of the situation. Mr Hill had contacted Cllr Alan White of Lichfield District and Staffordshire County Councils, he had informed the Managing Director of Elan Homes. They had agreed to resolve matters pending the approval of the drainage scheme by putting in temporary measures to pump away the excess rainwater.

Cllr Leytham explained planning considerations and would contact the planners again. Contributions to the discussion were made by many of the residents present, particularly those whose properties were flooded. One resident had taken legal advice and he offered to make local media organisations aware as this would put pressure on Elan Homes to resolve matters. The Parish Council was asked if it would take legal advice, however this would be unaffordable. A follow up meeting was requested; this would report on progress.

Cllr Turley concluded by confirming that he would contact Cllr White and Elan Homes' Regional Manager the next day to arrange a meeting to discuss pumping water from the site, he would also contact the Enforcement Officer regarding a site meeting so that the concerns of villagers could be explained to him.

130. To receive Apologies for absence

Cllrs Payne and Toon had apologised for family reasons and illness respectively and the apologies were accepted.

131. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

132. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 13th December 2021

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

133. To receive the Clerk's Report

Following correspondence from a resident, pavement cleaning by Lichfield District Council and gully cleaning by Staffordshire County Council at The Shrubbery had been requested. The organiser of the taxi service had been advised that the Parish Council would shortly no longer fund this and the users would need to arrange the transport between themselves. The Clerk had contacted Scottish Power to set up a direct debit, change tariff and install a smart meter with for the playground electricity, this had not been possible as it was not a standard home account.

Resolved: Approved

143. To consider any Planning matters:

(a) Applications:

12 Croft Close, 21/02076/FUH 2 storey side and single storey rear extension
Church Gate Cottage, Church Road, 21/02122/FUH new replacement porch

There were no objections to these applications

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

A comment had been made on the planning website regarding the Parish Council's shelter; the Planner would be contacted to explain that this was no longer required as there was no bus service, it would shortly be put into storage until required as a seat in the village.

The S106 Agreement for the site was currently being prepared by Lichfield's legal team. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consent as landlord. The Cricket Club would also need to sign its consent to the works under the underlease. They would be informed that the Parish Council wished for them to do so to avoid further delays to the development of the site; fine details of the project could be subsequently negotiated with the developers.

Resolved: Approved

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

This had been discussed during Open Forum.

145. To consider Playground refurbishment

The plans and quote were still outstanding from the third company. A name for the refurbished playground was required, possibly to reflect the Queen's Platinum Jubilee; villagers would be asked for suggestions. Local children would be encouraged to propose ideas for the playground. It was agreed to ask the funding consultant to attend the next meeting.

Resolved: Approved

146. To consider Information meeting and Newsletter

Cllr Turley offered to work on ideas for this meeting for consideration at February's meeting. It was agreed to send the newsletter to be printed and then Councillors would distribute it.

147. To consider the Sportsfield

The Underleases had now been completed.

The Football Club had met representatives of the Cricket Clubs and notes had been circulated. They would meet on site and a Sportsfield Committee meeting would also be arranged.

Resolved: Approved

148. To consider proposal to divert Public Footpath 7

The Parish Council had been consulted on a proposed diversion of Right of Way 7 across the former field off The Shrubbery which was now being developed. It would respond to the consultation by confirming that the Parish Council had no objection to this minor change.

Resolved: Approved

149. To consider options for Coffee Shop proceeds

The Coffee Shop organiser had asked for suggestions for spending the proceeds and had felt that these should benefit older residents. It was agreed to suggest an outing or coach tour. Cllr Turley would discuss this with her.

Resolved: Approved

150. To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllr Biden reported that on New Year's Eve there had been an act of vandalism on The Beck, when battery packs on several seasonal lights had been cut off.

Cllr Turley reported on a recent attempted break in at Croft Close.

Cllr Turley also asked that Staffordshire County Council should be contacted regarding the lack of progress on re-opening Right of Way 8. Cllr Biden confirmed that recently a group of walkers had been unable to use the path because of the gates across it.

151. To receive Correspondence

SPCA bulletins and training information

Cllr Leytham on Staffordshire County Council's grants for small businesses

Christmas greetings from Chair, Leader and Chief Executive of Lichfield District Council

152. To receive a financial report

See appendix 1

Resolved: Approved

153. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £450.10; Quilter, pension £14.60
HMRC £74.40;

Alan Robey, handyman work £87.50;

Village Hall, Post Office and Parish Council meeting room hire £53.50;

Bennetts, taxi hire £115.20;

Scottish Power, playground electricity £31.78;

Lichfield District Council, litter and dog waste bin emptying £1076.40;

Adcocks, solicitors fee for underleases £360.

Clr Turley would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

154. Date of next meeting: Monday 14th February, 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

PTT