



## Minutes

### Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm at Elford Village Hall

Present: Councillors Payne (Chairman), Herrman, Oakley, Robertson and Turley.

In attendance: Mrs Fitzpatrick (Clerk), District Cllr Rushton, twelve members of the public.

#### Open Forum

Seven Acres – A villager asked for feedback from the recent meeting with the Lichfield District Council. Cllr's Oakley and Turley were in attendance. LDC propose to reopen the Enforcement Case and ensure Elan Homes are compliant with the planning conditions. A villager asked that a representative of Seven Acres be invited to any further meetings. Cllr Payne agreed to this. The site has not yet been handed over by Elan Homes, this may take place by Christmas 2023. The highways are yet to be adopted by Staffordshire County Council. The drainage and outfall is not yet adopted by Severn Trent. Cllr Payne commented positively on Seven Acres having their own WhatsApp group and that the PC are keen to do all they can to iron out any issues. A villager asked about a timescale for hearing back from Lichfield District Council, Cllr Oakley will contact LDC for update. **Action: Cllr Oakley.**

CIL survey – The results of the village survey will be attached to the minutes and are to be discussed during the Parish Council meeting (113/23). A villager advised that the Burton Road residents did not receive a copy of the survey.

Cllr Payne advised that the PC had reached out to the Safer Roads Partnership. This has meant that a speed camera van will be visiting more frequently. There is evidence that soft traffic calming measures eg. gates could slow traffic down by 5/10%.

The Elford – Awoingt Association wanted to say a big thank you for the use of the playground on Bastille Day and to extend an invitation to the twinned village visit which is planned for 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

A representative from the Football Club spoke about the portable floodlights for which they could obtain a grant from the FA. If any other groups wanted to use the lights they would be welcome. They are also looking to renovate the pavilion. Cllr Payne advised this would be discussed later in the meeting (116/23)

The representative from the Football club also spoke about a grant from the FA matching funding on a 3:1 basis up to £100k. This could be beneficial when combined with CIL for larger projects. He is due to have a meeting with the FA next week.

A representative from the Cricket Club spoke about getting a better water supply to the square and mentioned the collapsed drain which needs sorting. He also asked about the S106 payment. Cllr Payne advised that the paperwork had been submitted in August and the PC is awaiting receipt of the payment. The representative from the Cricket Club also spoke about using the S106 money for a bigger project rather than what is had originally been earmarked for. He also advised about a £10k grant for which the club would have to spend and which the ECB would reimburse. Cllr Payne advised that the Cricket Club grant applications were due to be discussed later in the meeting (115/23)

**102/23 To receive Apologies for Absence**

District Cllr Holland and Cllr Delderfield had apologised.

**103/23 To receive Declarations of Interests**

No Declarations of Interests were made.

**104/23 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

**105/23 To confirm the appointment of a new Clerk to the Parish Council – Sarah Fitzpatrick's was confirmed as the new Clerk to the Parish Council.**

❖ District Cllr Rushton – left the meeting at 7.55pm

**106/23 To receive the Clerk's Report**

New bus service – this has been well received since it started on the 4<sup>th</sup> September. Please continue to support it. Clerk to obtain clarity on bus stop location in the village. **Action: Clerk**

The dog waste bin has now been replaced/repositioned near the Walled Garden. Village Hall accounts, the annual report has yet to be submitted due to a website glitch.

Carpark repairs have now been completed, thanks to Cllr Payne, Oakley and team.



Public Footpath 6 diversion order now approved by Lichfield District Council. Stile to be reinstated, hopefully by the developer.

**107/23 To consider any Planning matters: None to consider.**

**108/23 To receive an update on the Shrubbery development – Please refer to Open Forum (see above).**

**109/23 To consider Playground maintenance –** The inspection is due in September. Cllr Payne advised the playground is looking much better since it had been jetwashed. The quotes for the BBQ area are slow to be received. Cllr Oakley will speak to the Football Club about moving the fitness equipment closer to the pitches. Any relocation costs to be covered by donor. **Action: Cllr Oakley.** Cllr Herrmann is going to check the contact details on the sign at the playground to see if they need changing. **Action: Cllr HH**

**110/23 To consider the new website –** Cllr Payne advised that the web developer has made quite a lot of progress. He just needs the PC to provide an update and feedback as per the previous meeting. **Action: Cllr Payne.** All Cllr's agreed to provide photographs for the new website. **Action: All Cllr's.**

**111/23 To consider options regarding speeding traffic on Burton Road –** Please refer to Village survey (113/23). Cllr Oakley referred to the Open Forum where villagers discussed the speeding at The Shrubbery, Church Road and The Beck.

**112/23 To receive an update on Right of Way 8 –** No further action required by the PC.

**113/23 To consider responses to village CIL survey –** A copy of the results of the survey are attached to the minutes.

The most popular choice was the Sports Pavillion, although there weren't many votes separating the suggested options. In light of the potential to obtain funding from the FA on a 3:1 basis, makes this incredibly attractive. Cllr Payne recommended obtaining a more detailed plan from the football and cricket clubs as to what they'd like to do.

**Traffic Calming –** Cllr Payne discussed gates for the Burton Road and flashing signs, with two or three poles, which would enable the signs to be moved around, for the village. **Action: Cllr Payne to clarify the price of gates and posts.**

Cllr Herrmann noted a villager's comment on one of the surveys about having more benches around the pitches and advised that she would approach Trent Valley about a grant. **Action: Cllr Herrmann.**



**114/23 To consider a quote for village CCTV** – Cllr Turley proposed that due to the difficulty in obtaining quotes, the high cost and the results of the village survey (see above 113/23) showing that CCTV is no longer a high priority, that there be no further action.

**115/23 To consider Cricket Club grant applications** – £3k towards improved water supply – If there is an underlying problem, the root cause is currently unclear. Even so, Cllr Payne advised that as this it does not fulfil the predetermined CIL criteria and proposed not to support this application. However the amount of £3k could be put towards funding a bigger project (please refer to Open Forum).

**116/23 To consider Football club proposals regarding floodlights and pavilion project** – As discussed during the Open Forum (see above), the PC are supportive of the initiative, with no objections raised.

**117/23 To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors** –

Cllr Robertson – Has been approached about an apple tree near the entrance of the field. The apples are covering the floor near the playground and are seen as a trip hazard and encouraging wasps. Cllr Payne advised that this has been discussed before and it had been agreed not to do anything about it.

Cllr Robertson - The Village Hall website does not show the cost of hiring the rooms. Local groups are using other village halls as they are cheaper. Could the Village Hall consider a discount if the hall is being used for a village event? **Action: Cllr Roberson to raise via Cllr Delderfield.**

Cllr Payne – mentioned the village walkaround and Google docs on Cllr Herrmann's list of action points. **Action: Cllr Herrmann**

**118/23 To receive Correspondence**

None.

**119/23 To receive a Financial Report**

See appendix 1.

**Resolved: Approved**

**120/23 To consider authorising Schedule of Accounts for payment**

Staff costs; salary, PAYE, pension, £606.24;

A. Robey, handyman and sundries, £127.20;

Village Hall, Post Office room hire, £79.50;

A. Cox, Avenue mowing £80.00;

R.W. Harcombe, grounds maintenance, £180;

A. Payne, reimburse sundries for car park materials, £213.60;



Cllr Turley would authorise the payments.

**Resolved:** Approved

**Date of Next Meeting:** Next meeting 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 7pm

Meeting closed 9.15pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital letter 'A' followed by a few loops and a tail stroke.

Appendix 1

Financial Report July 2023

(a) Bank reconciliation –

|          |           | 26/06/2023               | Totals    |
|----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| BAL B/F  | 30,874.82 | CURRENT                  | 20,487.18 |
|          |           | DEPOSIT(playground)      | 8,035.49  |
|          |           | 95 DAY NOTICE (CIL)      | 43,470.45 |
| RECEIPTS | 45148.13  | earmarked for CIL        |           |
|          |           | 43,470.45                |           |
|          |           | earmarked for playground |           |
|          |           | 8,035.49                 |           |
| PAYMENTS | 4029.83   |                          |           |
| TOTAL    | 71,993.12 |                          | 71,993.12 |

(b) Bank forms, change of signatories, to be sent to Coop Bank.

(c) Audit 2023. Annual Governance and Audit Report sent to External Auditors and publicised according to regulations.

(d) Scottish Power account for playground electricity is currently in credit.

