

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting at Elford Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Wain (Chair), Gilbert, Newport, Standerwick

In Attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), two members of the public.

Notice and quorum: Due notice of the meeting had been given and a quorum of Councillors was present. The Chair declared the meeting open.

1. Open forum (Public Participation)

The planning application for a lagoon to hold liquid manure at Home Farm was discussed. There was concern about access, the smell, and health and safety precautions, and comments would be sent to the District Council asking for conditions to regulate these if approved. There was discussion as to whether it was preferable to have a lagoon with regular deliveries, or whether it was preferable to continue with the system used at present with frequent deliveries over a two week period, around twice a year, which residents would be informed about. Details of the application would be put on the website so that residents could find out more information and send their comments to the Planning Department.

The draw for a mobile phone donated for a competition to encourage residents to send in their email addresses was won by Mr A Ward.

2. To receive apologies

Cllrs Batchelor and Taylor had apologised. The apologies were accepted.

3. To receive Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation

Cllr Gilbert for item 8.

**4. To co-opt a member onto the Parish Council to fill the casual vacancy
To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

It was agreed to co-opt Richard Smith as a Parish Councillor and his Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

Resolved: Approved

5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 9/6/14

Resolved: Approved

To receive information on matters arising from the meeting of :

1.1 World War One Commemoration

A positive meeting had been held and ideas for the commemoration on October 5th were being developed.

1.2 Noise at Elford Quarry

Environmental Health had put a noise meter in a nearby home. The motorbike noise had not been heard recently; this would be monitored.

6. To receive the Clerk's report

The Shrubbery Birmingham City Council were planning to do a full survey of the trees and some would be felled or trimmed. Travellers had left the picnic area tidy.

Florascape had kindly donated a planter.

Tub theft A planter had been stolen from underneath the Elford sign at the end of the Beck.

Sportsfield Leases Copies had been sent to the football and cricket clubs and originals would be stored by the solicitor.

Avoingt visit An invitation had been sent in French and English to the Mayor.

Defibrillator Confirmation had been received that Elford had been awarded a defibrillator by the British Heart Foundation. Installation would be arranged when delivery details were available, and First Aid Training would be organised for volunteers.

Volunteer There was a possibility of a student on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme wishing to help with tasks in the village, and he would be encouraged to get in touch.

7. To receive the Clerk's report on planning issues.

No information was yet available on the application for a lagoon to store liquid manure at Home Farm. When this was posted on the Planning website Councillors and the public would be informed via the Parish Council website. It was agreed to discuss the Parish Council's concerns with the planner dealing with the application.

Action: Clerk

Resolved: Approved

8. To consider improvements at the Sportsfield

Goal posts had been ordered and would be delivered shortly to Cllr Standerwick's address. Two quotes had been received and a further quote for the car park renovations was required; the Clerk would make enquiries about this. Action: Clerk

Resolved: Approved

9. To consider repairs to playground equipment

The repairs had been ordered; the Playground Land Management Committee would meet briefly before the next Parish Council meeting to approve the expenditure.

The Playground Action Group would be reminded to send inspection reports to the Clerk for the Parish Council's records. Action: Clerk

Resolved: Approved

10. To consider canoe trail proposal

This proposal had been made by the Central Rivers Initiative. As the Parish Council did not control any land fronting the river they would not be involved in this scheme.

Resolved: Approved

11. To consider village maintenance

Derek would meet Cllr Gilbert to tidy the rough ground on The Shrubbery.

Cllr Gilbert advised that repairs to the footpath from Church Road to the school

were too expensive to progress.

The Neighbourhood Highways Team would clear vegetation from the road signs and widen the path on the main road.

A resident had enquired whether the brambles could be cut back to ground level along the River from the entrance to the village and along The Shrubbery to improve views; this suggestion had been passed to Birmingham City Council the landowners.

Action: Clerk

Resolved: Approved

12. To consider any matters for the website

Details regarding the phone prize winner, the First World War service, and the Scarecrow event were to be added. The website would be put on the agenda for the September meeting. Action: Clerk

13. To receive questions from Councillors

Cllr Gilbert enquired about a gate which had been installed in The Square, leading to the diversion of a right of way. Advice would be sought from Planning.

Action: Clerk

14. To receive the financial report.

(a) The bank statements and reconciliation were noted.

(b) The figures for spending against budget in the first quarter were discussed.

(c) Councillors Standerwick, Newport and Smith would be added to the list of Co-op Bank signatories and Cllrs Cockayne and Matthews removed.

Resolved: Approved

15. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment.

Payments listed to: M. Jones, salary and expenses; Elford Village Hall, room rental & post office £117; D. Beaumont, handyman work £100; R. Harcombe Grounds maintenance £125; Viking Payments, stationery £21.19 and office supplies £76.78; Lichfield District Council, annual fee for bin emptying £698.88; Florascape, bedding plants £150; Mark Harrod Ltd, goal posts £ 1519.20; BT Payphones, kiosk sponsorship, £360; British Heart Foundation, defibrillator £400.
£4,000 would be transferred from the deposit to current account.

Resolved: Approved

16. To receive correspondence.

SPCA updates

Lichfield District Council - Meeting of Community Safety Partnership 1st August at for community groups to encourage them to make bids to the Police and Crime Commissioner's 'People Power' fund; Parish Forum information; Lights Out Initiative to commemorate World War One.

Office of Police and Crime Commissioner, 'People Power' fund

Resolved: Noted

17. Date of next meeting.

, , Elford Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.