

# Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held at 7pm Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013

at Elford Village Hall, Church Road, Elford.

## Present:

Councillors Wain (Chair), Batchelor, Cockayne and Matthews.

## In attendance:

Mrs Jones (Clerk), 1 member of the public.

## Open forum (Public Participation).

A resident from The Shrubbery gave further details of his observations of sewage problems and asked the Parish Council to assist in finding a solution to this issue.

1. **To receive Apologies.** Councillors Billingham, Clohessy and Harcombe had apologised. RESOLVED to accept the apologies.
  
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011).** None received.
  
3. **To consider and, if appropriate, accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012.** RESOLVED to approve the Minutes.
  
4. **To receive information on matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting on 12th November.**
  - (a) **Speeding.** The Speed Indicator Device had not yet been installed. The School had expressed concerns about traffic in the Square and Councillors felt it was advisable that parents should park elsewhere and not attempt to drive where children walked.

(b) **Sportsfield.** The Chairman updated the meeting on progress with the Leases.

(c) **Notice board.** It was expected that this would be installed shortly. The Clerk would consult the Village Hall Committee about siting a fence to hide the bins.

(d) **Shop.** The fitting had been done and it was hoped to appoint a manager shortly.

(e) **Website.** The draft site was viewed, favourable comments and suggestions were made; another meeting would be arranged shortly.

(f) **Flood Plan.** This was available to view on the website, and recent updates had been received. Printing of copies for the agencies involved had been ordered.

(g) **Broadband.** Staffordshire County Council were working on improvements to rural services and the Parish Council would continue to monitor this.

**5. Clerk's Report on planning issues.** No new applications had been received. A further application for a garage at the Bungalow had been replied to since the last meeting, no objection had been made.

## **6. Clerk's Report.**

Flower tubs – one tub had been omitted and would be planted in due course.

Buses – the County Council had advised that passengers would be consulted before any changes to the service were introduced.

Highways enquiry – a query about paths was discussed but action was not required.

Housing Strategy Consultation – this had been received and a response should be sent to the District Council by February.

Best Kept Village - intention to enter should be sent by February 25<sup>th</sup>, this would be on the next agenda.

**7. To consider newsletter and emblem for Elford competition.**

Discussion took place as to the content required in the newsletter and details about the competition.

**8. To consider Home Farm.** The District Council had confirmed that there were no planning enforcement issues.

**9. To consider contract for maintenance.**

RESOLVED to renew the contract.

**10. To consider clearing of pavements.**

The District Council had been requested to clean the pavements, and a request would be made to Highways for the kerbsides to be cleaned.

*Clerk*

RESOLVED that an appeal be made for a village handy-person in the next newsletter.

**11. To consider and approve the budget and precept for 2013-14.**

The precept figure agreed at the last meeting would be sent to the District Council, careful budgeting had meant that the Parish Council could slightly reduce the amount requested for next year.

**12. Questions from Councillors.**

Councillor Matthews raised the subject of street lights which were not working, the Clerk would report these when details of the exact locations were received.

*Clerk*

Councillor Batchelor advised that a Parish Plan meeting would be held during the next week.

She also asked about the possibility of an outdoor gym/ trim trail being established in the village.

### **13. RFO's report**

The bank reconciliation was noted.

### **14. To consider authorising the schedule of accounts for payment. RESOLVED to agree the following payments:**

M Jones, salary and expenses; HMRC, PAYE;

Elford Village Hall, room hire and Post Office;

Grand Lawns, maintenance; The Information Commissioner, fee;

Lichfield District Council, playground inspection fee.

### **15. To receive correspondence**

Various Christmas greetings,

Best Kept Village information

SPCA updates, membership fees, change of Chief Executive

NHS 111 number awareness meetings.

### **16. Date of next meeting.**

February 11th 7 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.