



**Draft Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016  
7 pm at Elford Village Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors Standerwick, (Acting Chair), Collins, Jones, and Turley

**In Attendance:** Mrs Jones (Clerk)

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

**Open Forum**

No members of the public had attended.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllrs Wain, Gilbert and Smith had apologised due to work commitments.

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

None

**3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 13/6/16**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**Resolved:** Approved

**4. To receive the Clerk's report**

Notice boards – Someone had set fire to the base of the notice board in the bus shelter.

There was some charring to the backing fabric but it was still usable.

The key to the notice board at the Village Hall was no longer working, enquiries would be made to find another key so that a copy could be made and the contents tidied.

Blocked Drain at Elford Mill – this had been reported to Highways again. The Clerk would keep reminding them to take action as it was the County Council's responsibility.

Speeding along A513 - residents had asked if signage could be improved, quotes for a

'welcome to Elford, please drive carefully' sign would be requested for the next meeting.

Website - a Scarecrow Festival page would be added soon.

Pensions Regulator – the Declaration of Compliance had been completed.

Village Hall – the annual submission to the Charity Commission had been made.

Best Kept Village - an invitation had been received to the presentation evening on

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August at Eccleshall Community Centre and a councillor would attend.

**5. To receive the Clerk's report on planning issues**

Application: 16/00656/FUL The Arches, Church Road;  
Installation of underground LPG Tank in rear garden with internal boiler and flue

**Resolved:** No objection.

**6. To consider the Neighbourhood Plan**

Feedback was given on the recent quantitative group meeting, who had discussed housing requirements identified by residents in the questionnaire; a further meeting was planned for 19<sup>th</sup> July. No date was yet known for the qualitative group. A Declaration of Interests for the steering group members had been prepared and would be sent out. *Action: Clerk*

It was agreed that communication between the two task groups was important. The next steering group meeting date was suggested for 21<sup>st</sup> September.

**7. To consider playground maintenance**

The exterior fencing work had been completed. Quotes for patching the matting were being obtained, and Lichfield District Council's Playground manager would be asked for recommendations. *Action: Clerk*

The two small trees and the internal fencing would be removed when this was arranged. The next rota for inspections was being prepared; new volunteers would be welcome.

**Resolved:** Approved

**8. To consider village maintenance**

A resident had reported that brambles were again overgrown between The Shrubbery and the river, Rob Harcombe would be asked to remove them. The subsidence at the picnic area had been reported to Birmingham; they would be asked if any action had been taken. It was suggested that residents should be asked for suggestions about maintenance that was needed in the village, and ideally a local person could take over regular cleaning of areas such as the playground.

**Resolved:** Approved

**9. To consider kiosk maintenance**

It was agreed that the Clerk would order paint and Cllr Jones would contact a local person to paint the kiosk. The hedge on the verge would be removed in due course after the nearby residents had been consulted. Local people would be encouraged to take ownership and help to keep an eye on the kiosk.

**Resolved:** Approved

**10. To consider replacement of H M Queen's Diamond Jubilee Tree**

The tree had died and the fence around it had been damaged by machinery. It was agreed that it had not been a suitable place to plant it and it would not be replaced.

**Resolved:** Approved

**11. To consider crocus planting**

5000 'purple for polio' crocus corms had been ordered from the Tamworth Anker Rotary group. The School would be asked if they wished to be involved in planting these. Ideal sites would be the triangles at the entrances to the village and along The Avenue. Local residents would also be asked by email and on Facebook to join in on a planting day.

**12. To receive questions and reports from Councillors**

None

**13. To receive correspondence**

SPCA bulletins

LDC Parish Forum, 14<sup>th</sup> July, Cllr Collins would attend

Invitation to Chair to Armistice Day service, Cllr Wain would attend

Request from member of the public to clear overgrown brambles at the Shrubbery Community Council, Best Kept Village invitation

**14. To receive a financial report.**

Bank reconciliation – this was noted.

Performance against budget – in line with expectations

**Resolved:** Approved

**15. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment.**

Payments to: M. Jones, total salary and expenses £394.35;

D. Beaumont, handyman work June and July £110.00;

Elford Village Hall, room hire and post office £134.50;

Lichfield District Council, annual bin emptying £946.20;

Andrew White Fencing, playground fencing £3499.20;

Florascape Ltd, plants and compost £150;

The Rotary Club of Tamworth Anker, crocus bulbs £85

RW Harcombe, maintenance £125.00;

**Resolved:** Approved

**16. Date of next meeting:** Monday 12th September, 7 pm

Sportsfield Committee Meeting at 6.30

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.