



## **Minutes**

### **Meeting of the Parish Council**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**7 pm at Elford Village Hall**

**Present: Councillors Turley (Chair), Gilbert, Hilderley, Payne, Toon, Wright**

**In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), 4 members of the public**

#### **Open Forum**

The residents asked whether Elford could enter the competition this year to foster pride in Elford. The whole village would need to be involved with the Parish Council coordinating, involving organisations such as the school and keeping residents informed. This was an agenda item and would be discussed later in the meeting.

The Chair of the Village Hall explained the events being planned for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day on bank holiday, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. A Street Party would be held at The Crown and Village Hall. A Sunday service including a special commemoration would follow. The Chair thanked him for organising these events.

A Scarecrow Festival was to be held at Elford's twin village of Awoingt in France on the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> June. Elford residents were invited to travel to join in.

#### **1. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Biden had apologised as he was away, District Cllrs Leytham and Warburton had apologised due to another meeting in Lichfield.

#### **2. To receive Declarations of Interest**

None received.

#### **3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 9/12/19**

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

#### **4. To receive the Clerk's Report**

Sportsfield Underleases - The draft underleases should be available shortly, improved plans had been prepared and sent.

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The Avenue – Lichfield District Council had been asked to sweep the road before the Christmas services, but as it was unadopted it could not be done free of charge; the church had been informed and had made their own arrangements.

Security advice – Costas had been asked to hold an information session for residents.

Saplings – 30 small trees would be ordered from the Woodland Trust's scheme for community groups to plant a copse at the far corner of the Sportsfield.

Pavement condition – this had been reported to Highways. Bromford had contacted a resident about the parked car but the parking space was too far away for the family.

Christmas tree – the lights had been taken down and stored at the Village Hall. The tree had been removed by Cllr Hilderley.

Church Road junction – Highways had responded that improved signage would not help and the hedge needed to be cut back, Cllr Gilbert offered to contact the new householder.

Canoe access – The Clerk would meet a representative at The Shrubbery picnic area to find out what was planned.

Code of Conduct training – the Clerk had attended the Parish Forum meeting and gave an update to Cllrs.

**Resolved: Approved**

**5. To consider Planning applications**

- (a) 19/01764/COU Burton Road, change of use from former commercial garage/transport depot to 4 office units and workshop; no objection.
- (b) 19/00662/REMM Land at The Shrubbery, amended plans; a response would be sent to reiterate concerns about flooding of neighbouring properties.
- (c) Lichfield Local Plan Review; consultation. Comments would be submitted.

**Resolved: Approved**

**6. To consider any maintenance required**

As the notice board locks were broken and the doors no longer closed properly quotes would be obtained for a new notice board. Repair or replacement was needed as soon as possible.

A playground working party would be organised in Spring materials had already been obtained and volunteers would be notified when a new date was confirmed.

**Resolved: Approved**

**7. To consider Best Kept Village entry**

It was RESOLVED that Elford would enter the competition in February when the forms and information were available. The Parish Council would then inform residents of how they could take part and help Elford to look its best.

**Resolved: Approved**

PJT



**8. To consider approving an advertising hoarding on the cricket club pavilion**

The Cricket Club had sought the Parish Council's consent for this and it was agreed.

**Resolved:** Approved

**9. To consider meeting dates for 2020**

It was agreed to postpone the March meeting by a week to the 16<sup>th</sup> and to rearrange the date of the April meeting which was due on Easter Monday. The May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting would be followed by the Annual Parish Assembly. The Clerk would confirm the dates with the Village Hall.

**Resolved:** Approved

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

Cllr Gilbert reported a car abandoned in the picnic area; the police were aware.

Cllr Toon said that cars parking near the Church were churning up the ground as it was so wet; Cllr Gilbert would mention it to the church and consider solutions.

**11. To receive correspondence**

SPCA bulletins details of Local Cllr training course. Cllrs Wright and Turley to attend. Lichfield District Council news releases; gateway site improvement works; Lichfield City Centre masterplan consultation; Christmas bin collections and recycling information; details of prosecution for felling trees with preservation orders; preparing businesses for Brexit.

**12. To receive a financial report**

The bank reconciliation had been given. There was currently £5837 in the current account including £1914 earmarked for the taxis and £8,642 in the deposit account for the playground.

The Clerk would apply this month to Lichfield District Council for the precept of £15,000 as agreed at the last meeting.

**Resolved:** Approved

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

Payments to: M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £457.91; HMRC £77.60  
A. Robey, handyman work and materials £52.50;  
Elford Village Hall, room hire £17.50;  
Bennetts Taxis, taxi hire, December £259.20;  
Scottish Power, playground electricity £26.48;  
Tim Gilbert, reimbursement for Christmas tree £80.

**Resolved:** Approved

**14. Date of next meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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