



## Minutes

### Meeting of the Parish Council

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall**

Present: Councillors Payne (Chair), Biden, Gilbert, Toon and Wright

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

#### **Open Forum**

Two residents had attended to enquire about matters relating to the development of land off The Shrubbery. Initial construction of the access had begun, although discussions were still ongoing about the route of the drainage outfall.

The question was raised regarding arrangements to stop flooding of nearby properties in Eddies Lane and The Beck during construction; adequate drainage needed to be put in place as soon as possible to prevent flooding from the site, as had occurred during archaeological works last winter. As heavy rain was inevitable over the winter this matter was urgent. The Parish Council would contact the developers to obtain answers to these concerns.

Further to the query at the last meeting regarding responsibility for the SUDS pond at the site the developers had confirmed this would be contracted to a management company. The resident raising this issue asked that the Parish Council contact them again to request that personal responsibility to contribute to the maintenance should be made clear to purchasers of the properties and a covenant included in the deeds of properties on the development. The question of CIL payments to be paid by the developers was also mentioned. The Parish Council had now received confirmation from the District Council of the sums that would be due and when the instalments would be paid. There would be consultation with residents and suggestions invited in the coming months for the spending of these sums on village infrastructure.

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

Cllr Turley had apologised as he was away and Cllr Payne agreed to Chair the meeting.

Cllr Hilderley had also apologised for work reasons. The apologies were accepted.

District Cllrs Leytham and Warburton had apologised as they were attending a Lichfield District Council meeting.

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

None received.

**85. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

**86. To receive the Clerk's Report**

Post box – following further correspondence and a phone conversation with Royal Mail the contractors had recently installed a post box at the corner of Croft Close. It was not yet in operation, but it was hoped to be available for use shortly.

Sportsfield – the signed Leases had now been forwarded to the solicitor for consent from Birmingham City Council to be obtained. The cricket roller on which a youth had previously been injured had been moved to behind the pavilion, and Cllr Biden would enquire again about plans for the removal of the older roller. A concern had been raised about gaps in the hedge next to Brickhouse Lane and the Cricket Club had offered to deal with this, although it was not felt that there was a risk to public safety.

Poppies – the resident who had suggested this idea had obtained the poppies and wished to fund this as a contribution to the village.

Village Hall accounts – the Clerk would put the information on the Charity Commission website as this was the Parish Council's annual responsibility as Custodian Trustee.

Traffic – there had recently been complaints about construction traffic and maize movements and information had been posted on the Facebook pages. A resident had also asked that parents waiting for the coach for school pupils should not leave their engines running and this request had been posted.

Wasps nest – residents had been advised to stay away from a nest by a pathway.

Bush overhanging at the Social Club – the Parish Council handyman had cut this back.

Anti-social behaviour – PCSO Costas Karpi was dealing with this matter.

**Resolved: Approved**

**87. To consider any planning matters:**

**(a) New Applications:**

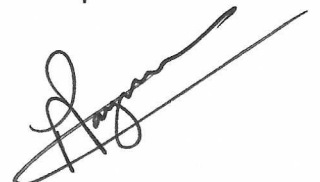
- (i) 21/01525/FUL Application to vary approved plans and specification of permission 18/00435/FUL; The Woodlands The Shrubbery. No objection.
- (ii) 21/01656/FUH Erection of single storey front porch extension and changes to front elevation exterior finish; Meadowcroft, The Square. No objection.
- (iii) 21/00431/FUH Demolition of existing lean-to conservatory and small outbuilding, construction of single storey conservatory/extension at rear and creation of a new pedestrian access in existing garden wall; Amended Plans; 1The Square. Resolved to object to the proposal to create an access through the garden wall due to its effect on the fabric and structure of an old wall, a feature of the conservation area.
- (iv) 21/01681/LBC Works to listed building to refurbish windows; The Mill House Tamworth Road. No objection.

**(b) Update on the Social Club:**

The Planner had advised that the scheme was still under consideration whilst highway concerns were being addressed by the developer.

- (c) CIL Payments; Information received from the Planning Department confirmed the CIL payments which would be paid in instalments and could be spent on infrastructure, such as the playground. The Parish Council should report publicly on the spending of the monies, which must be spent within 5 years of receipt.

**Resolved: Approved**





**88. To receive an update on development of land at The Shrubbery**

It was noted that spoil was now being removed from the site and taken to Elford Lowe Farm. Construction of the access onto the Shrubbery had begun. Other relevant matters had been discussed during Open Forum.

**89. To consider Scoping Report for Playground Funding**

The Scoping Report on sources of funding was positive and indicated the likelihood of success when applying to various organisations for grants to refurbish the playground. It was agreed that the best outcome would be obtained by commissioning Mike Deegan Consulting to develop and submit the grant bids on its behalf, following the receipt of references. Further quotes for the refurbishment would be obtained and public consultation would be organised on these plans in due course.

**Resolved:** Approved

**90. To consider Playground maintenance and outcomes of Annual Inspection**

Alan had been asked to use the repair kit on trip hazards on the damaged surfacing and would do so during a dry spell. He would also be asked to deal with minor repairs raised in the Inspection Report. The Report had referred to several long-term issues such as rotten timbers, which indicated the age of the equipment and the need for its replacement.

**Resolved:** Approved

**91. To consider an event to mark HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

It was agreed that an event or street parties would take place over the bank holiday weekend next June, but on a smaller scale than that proposed at Open Forum at the last meeting. This would remain on the agenda for further consideration.

**92. To consider Forward Planning**

Some of the suggestions put forward at the last meeting would be considered for next year's budget and could also be addressed during the consultation on spending CIL payments. This would remain on the agenda.

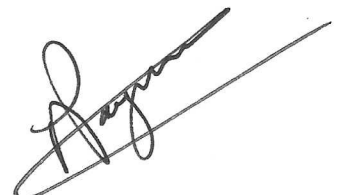
**93. To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Toon said that the potholes at the end of Croft Close should be repaired, the Clerk would report these to Highways. He mentioned a hedge growing over the footway which Cllr Gilbert would discuss with the householder. The footways in the village were in a poor state.

Cllr Gilbert said that two young people had asked to do voluntary work as part of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, it was agreed that the Parish Council would support this.

**94. To receive Correspondence**

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association bulletins and training information  
Lichfield District Council news items, CCTV in taxis consultation  
Cllr Leytham, Staffordshire mental health survey



**95. To receive a financial report**

Bank reconciliation; current account £12,196 Deposit, £8,083 (Playground account),  
95 Day Notice £1,044 (Taxi account).  
The figures for spending against budget had been circulated to Cllrs.  
A VAT reclaim had been received.

**Resolved:** Approved

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

M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £457; HMRC £74.20;  
Alan Robey, handyman work £73.71;  
R. Harcombe, maintenance £145;  
A. Cox, Avenue mowing £140;  
Village Hall, post office and Council meeting room hire £53.50;  
Bennetts, taxi hire £115.20;  
Online playgrounds, repair kit £115;  
Mike Deegan Consulting, scoping report £275.  
Cllr Wright would authorise the payments.

**Resolved:** Approved

**97. Date of next meeting:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm, Elford Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Wright', written over a horizontal line.