

Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 8th November 2021 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), three members of the public, District Cllr Leytham

Open Forum

Cllr Turley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A resident of Eddies Lane thanked the Parish Council for the work that had been done since the last meeting on communicating with Elan Homes. An update was given; the developers expected to have the drainage pond and storm water outfall constructed by the end of the year. She confirmed that until development began there had been no flooding of the property in the 21 years she had lived there and wished to know whether the developers would take responsibility and what they would do to prevent flooding from the site. Discussion took place on the options; the Parish Council would continue to engage with the developers. Cllr Leytham suggested contacting the Planning Department for their view on this, Cllr Turley would do so.

A further matter of unsafe pavements was raised, as a resident had recently tripped and fallen on the footway in The Beck. Cllr Turley would identify unsafe areas so that they could be reported to Highways. This was an ongoing issue and the Parish Council would continue to request work on the pathways.

98. To receive apologies for absence

All Cllrs were present.

District Cllr Warburton had apologised as he had another meeting to attend.

99. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

100. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 11th October 2021

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

101. To receive the Clerk's Report

Potholes on The Beck/Croft Close junction had been reported to Staffordshire Highways, also blocked drains on The Shrubbery.

The Right of Way obstruction near Birdsley Farm had been reported to Staffordshire County Council and the Right of Way obstruction at The Green had been chased up.

The flower tubs had been planted by Alan.

The Remembrance Service at St Peters would be attended by Cllr Turley who would lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Gilbert would obtain the Christmas Tree in early December for display at the Village Hall.

Resolved: Approved

102.To consider any planning matters:

(a) Applications 21/00431/FUH | Demolition of an existing lean-to conservatory and small outbuilding, construction of a single storey conservatory/extension at rear and the creation of a new pedestrian access for occasional use in existing garden wall | Amended Plans | 1 The Square

The Planner had proposed that the access through the wall should be removed from the application by a condition of the Planning Approval, and the Parish Council agreed to this. The previous objection was therefore withdrawn.

21/01802/FUH | Erection of a detached double garage | 8 The Beck

The Parish Council felt that there was no impact on the conservation area and had no objection to this application.

21/01840/ABN | Erection of storage building | Beechcroft, Brickhouse Lane

The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

(b) 19/01707/FUL | Elford Social Club

Cllr Toon suggested that a further letter of complaint about the time this application was taking should be sent, however further documents had been uploaded on Lichfield District Council's Planning website which indicated that progress was now being made with the application. Agreement had been made between the developers and the Walled Garden Trustees on a site for the shelter. A Construction Management Plan was now published. Correspondence was taking place between the developer's agent, their solicitors, and the Clerk regarding the legal agreement for the work at the Cricket Pavilion.

Resolved: Approved

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

This had been covered at length during Open Forum.

104. To consider Playground Maintenance and Funding

Cllr Payne gave an update on further quotes for the replacement of the equipment and it was agreed that in due course quotes would also be obtained for the landscaping. A positive reference had been obtained for the grant funding expert and a meeting would be arranged with him to plan the next steps. Consultation with the community would be planned shortly.

Resolved: Approved



105.To consider the Sportsfield

The Solicitor handling the Leases was no longer working on this matter and the Clerk would contact the firm to find out if Birmingham City Council's consent had been applied for.

The Cricket Club had requested permission to apply for grant funding and purchase a ball stop netting system. This was agreed.

The Football Club had requested permission to use a mobile spotlight and generator for the youngest children's Soccer School and this was also agreed.

Resolved: Approved

106.To consider traffic

Following an incident when a large lorry had tried to turn round in Church Road in the early hours, damaging the verge and a sign, Highways had been contacted regarding the damage and road safety concerns. They had agreed to discuss these concerns at the next meeting of Cllr White's Divisional Highways Programme. Similar concerns raised in a letter from a resident requesting a weight limit would also be passed to Highways.

The Parish Council agreed that a No Through Road sign at the junction of Church Road with The Beck was required and would request this of Highways.

Resolved: Approved

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

This was deferred to be considered on a future agenda.

108.To consider Forward Planning

This item was deferred.

109.To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllr Hilderley asked whether organisations in Elford had received funding from the District Council to compensate for loss of income during the Coronavirus pandemic as had happened in other local areas; it was agreed that the Village Hall and Cricket Club had done so.

Cllr Leytham reported on information from Lichfield District Council. The new Chief Executive had an initiative called Building Better, involving communities more. Changes were due to car parks, dual stream recycling, business rates and the future of housing development. He was involved in the effective scrutiny of spending of Council tax.

Cllr Payne commented on the excellent display of poppies which had been placed around the village and the organiser would be thanked by the Parish Council.

Cllr Wright continued to work on a newsletter.

110.To receive Correspondence

SPCA bulletins

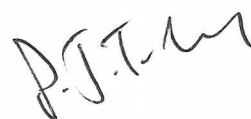
LDC news items for website

Sustainability Matters, survey on verges for wildlife

Police, Fire and Rescue and Crime Commissioner, survey

Resident on future maintenance of the drainage pond; Elan Homes had not yet replied.

20 is plenty correspondence



111.To receive a financial report

Bank reconciliation; current account £10,733 Deposit, £8,083 (Playground account), 95 Day Notice £1,044 (Taxi account).

The half year Internal Audit would take place in November. It was RESOLVED to confirm the appointment of Toplis Associates for the financial year.

The VAT reclaim to the end of September had been submitted and £254 claimed.

A transfer from the taxi account to current account would be made this month, with a further transfer due to cover September to November's payments. There would then be only enough in the taxi account for around 3 more months of payments. The Parish Council had agreed not to continue to fund this from the precept so alternative funding would be required if the service was to continue.

The 2022-2023 Draft Budget would be considered at the December meeting.

Cllr Wright had made adjustments to the website licences which would incur around £50 a year additional costs.

Resolved: Approved

112

83. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £450.30; HMRC £74.20;

Alan Robey, handyman work £115.60;

R. Harcombe, maintenance £145;

Village Hall, Post Office and Parish Council meeting room hire £65.50;

Bennetts, taxi hire £144;

Eon, Lighting maintenance £222.64

Cllr Turley would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

113

84. Date of next meeting: Monday 13th December, 7pm, Elford Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

