

# **Minutes**

# **Meeting of the Parish Council**

# **Monday 8th February 2021 at 7 pm online**

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

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllrs Warburton and Leytham, Flood Warden Mr Hill, 3 members of the public

The meeting was held remotely as permitted under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

 **Open Forum**

Two residents had attended to update the Parish Council on flooding along Eddies Lane from the field, where archaeological work had caused run off due to movement of soil. Several properties had used sandbags to attempt to keep muddy water out of their properties.

They had been advised that the situation could last for 6 months which was unacceptable.

The Flood Warden had been involved in discussions with the landowner, whose responsibility this was, and was waiting for confirmation of how they would solve this. In the long run the solution was to pump water from the site to the river. He would discuss short term solutions with the developers such as digging a deeper sump or using a gully sucker and felt that an amicable solution with them would be more effective than a legal approach. These solutions would also help drainage onto 20 The Beck. There could also be an option to involve Severn Trent, as the water was entering their foul drainage system. He offered to keep the residents informed about any information received, and the Chair offered the Parish Council’s help if possible.

1. **To receive apologies for absence**

None

1. **To receive Declarations of Interest**

None

1. **To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 11th January 2021**

The Minutes were approved and would be signed at the next face to face meeting.

1. **To consider recent flooding event and Implications for Eddies Lane and The Shrubbery development**

This had been covered during Open Forum.

The Flood Warden would attend the next meeting to evaluate the Flood Plan and make proposals for any improvements required.

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

**19/01707/FUL Elford Social Club; to consider amended plans and to consider recommendation for funding towards an alternative community facility to compensate for the loss of the Club, as in policy LS2 of the Neighbourhood Plan**

Amended plans were considered, these were well designed and would be supported. Comments would be sent to the Planning Officer on the re-siting of the shelter and diversion of the Right of Way.

An update was given on a meeting between the Chair, the Clerk and the agent for the developer at the Cricket Pavilion to look at the facilities with a representative of the Cricket Club. It had been recommended at the meeting of the Sportsfield Committee on 27th January that any S.106 funding agreed if the planning application was approved could provide disabled access and renovated toilet facilities for community use of the pavilion. This would cost £10,000.

Improvements such as new changing rooms could cost a further £20,000 which could be achieved by funding from CIL payments and future grants from sporting bodies.

Following a discussion between Cllrs it was proposed by Cllr Hidderley and seconded by Cllr Toon and RESOLVED unanimously to accept a developer contribution of £10,000 towards renovation work to improve the community facility at the Cricket Pavilion to compensate for the loss of a named facility in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council would contact the Planning Officer to confirm its support of the development and willingness to accept the financial offer of £10,000.



1. **To receive the Clerk’s Report**

**Church Road traffic**; posters asking drivers to slow down had been displayed, and bin stickers displaying speed limits had been requested from the Safer Roads Partnership.

**Brickhouse Lane traffic**; Highways had confirmed tasks had been raised for pothole repairs, roadside grips needed frequent clearing, flood water had been diverted to a nearby pond; however recent repairs had already degraded and the Parish Council would continue to press for a longer term solution.

**Dog fouling**; Environmental Health continued to monitor this, cards giving their contact details had been delivered to many households by the Chair.

**Phone kiosk**: a local resident had offered to arrange shelving and signage and to promote the use of the kiosk for a book swap facility.

**Sportsfield Committee meeting**; held on 27th January. Agreement had been reached on improvements required at the pavilion if funding was available..

**Sportsfield Leases**; further plans had been requested, the Leases should be ready for the Clubs to sign shortly.

**Playground maintenance**; a power washer had been purchased to clean the surfacing, to be done by Alan when the weather permitted. The junior climber had been damaged, Cllr Gilbert would make it safe, repairs would be arranged.

**Tree saplings**; it had been hoped to involve the school but this was currently closed. Cllrs Payne and Turley would arrange planting shortly.

**Resolved:** Approved

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

Cllrs Toon and Hidderley stressed the importance of focussing on solving the flooding and drainage issues raised earlier.

Cllr Biden reported that recent work by Open Reach in Croft Close had left the road in a bad state. He would ask the householder concerned to request them to rectify it.

Cllr Payne gave details about recent correspondence from a resident regarding a Bromford client; Bromford would be informed and asked to deal with the matter.

Cllr Warburton reported back on District Council matters, including the new Local Plan, and encouraged the promotion of their email newsletter.

1. **To receive correspondence** SPCA bulletins including advice on resuming face to face meetings

LDC news items for website, Lottery launch, Consultation on dog control Staffordshire Police survey

Transforming the Trent Valley

Resident regarding flooded road on The Shrubbery

Resident regarding children playing near Social Club car park

1. **To receive a financial report** The current account stood at £4482, playground deposit at £9400, taxi deposit at £1,750. Transfers would be made shortly to repay expenditure from the savings accounts.

 **Resolved**: Approved

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

The Clerk had circulated the invoices.

Payments: M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses £448.20; HMRC £100.20; Alan Robey, handyman work £65; Elford Village Hall, Post Office rental £48; SPCA, planning training £30; Society of Local Council Clerks, half share membership fee £65; Cllr Gilbert, reimburse cost of power washer and hose £137; Information Commissioner’s Office, data protection renewal £35. Cllr Payne would authorise.

 **Resolved**: Approved

 **11. Date of next meeting:**

8th March 2021 online at 7pm The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.