



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 13th February 2023 at 7 pm at Elford Village Hall

Present: Councillors Turley (Chair), Biden, Delderfield, Gilbert, Hilderley, Payne and Robertson

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllr Warburton, 5 members of the public

Open Forum

A member of the public said that the conduct of workmen at the Elan Homes site to the rear of homes in Burton Road was inappropriate close to family homes. The explicit music and bad language should not be audible close to young children and she had contacted the company twice to complain. Work was also taking place at weekends. Cllr Warburton would obtain advice from Lichfield District Council on a possible breach of the construction management plan.

Another resident said that the dog waste bin at the Walled Gardens was inadequate for the number of visitors. It was frequently overflowing and unhygienic and she asked whether it could be emptied more often or a bigger bin installed there. Cllr Robertson said it would also be useful to have a dog waste bin close to the new housing on The Beck. The District Council would be contacted regarding costs.

A resident asked about plans for the playground. He was told that grant funding applications had been unsuccessful. The Parish Council would discuss later in the meeting how to prioritise refurbishing the equipment to ensure it was safe for children for the year ahead. The school also planned to install play equipment and would be asked about their proposals.

The Flood Warden, Mr Hill, and another resident with expertise in drainage matters, updated the meeting on recent correspondence with Lichfield Planning Department's Enforcement Officer, particularly in relation to the site drainage and the belief that certain planning conditions had not been met. The Parish Council would write to the Enforcement Officer to express these concerns. Mr Hill was thanked for the time he had taken to research these matters. Cllr Warburton asked to be kept informed.

1/23 To receive Apologies for Absence

District Cllr Leytham had been unable to attend due to ill health.

2/23 To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

3/23 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th December 2022

The draft Minutes were approved and signed.

4/23 To receive the Clerk's Report

Tree at The Avenue – a tree officer from Birmingham City Council had arranged for a sapling to be planted to replace a tree previously felled.

Road naming – the name Elizabeth Grove would be consulted on by Lichfield Council.

Right of Way 6 – the Diversion Order had been confirmed.

Elections – Parish Council elections would take place on May 4th; nomination papers completed by prospective Cllrs should be registered at Lichfield in early April.

Sportsfield Project –no progress. Cllr Turley would contact the organiser.

Best Kept Village Community Competition – Cllrs agreed that due to building work Elford would not enter again this year.

Bollards and parking on verge on Burton Road – there had been correspondence and a call on this and the matter had been referred to Staffordshire Highways.

5/23 To consider any Planning matters:

No new applications – Lichfield Planning still considering application at Model Farm.

6/23 To consider response to Enforcement Officer's Report

Further to the long discussion earlier on the matter the Parish Council would write to the Enforcement Officer.

Resolved: Approved

7/23 To consider action to resolve Right of Way 8 issues

Staffordshire's Rights of Way team had still not acted on the Parish Council's request that Right of Way 8 should be accessible. Cllr Turley would contact Cllr White. If the matter was not resolved through other avenues a formal complaint would be sent.

Resolved: Approved

8/23 To consider invitation to visit Awoingt

The Chair had been invited to a visit in May but was unable to attend and unfortunately, no other Cllrs were available to represent the Parish Council.

9/23 To consider event to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles 111

Cllr Turley would talk to those interested in joining a group to organise this. Cllr Biden advised that the Cricket Club would be unavailable on May 6th. The Parish Council would support the event; £500 had been budgeted as a contribution.

Cllr Robertson suggested planting a tree to commemorate the occasion; Cllr Delderfield would discuss this with the Walled Garden Trustees.

Resolved: Approved

10/23 To consider updating the website

A resident had offered to provide a new accessible and secure website and Cllrs discussed with him the features required. The Clerk would liaise with him to organise this project and he was thanked for his work on this so far.

Resolved: Approved

11/23 To consider playground maintenance

Cllr Payne reported that grant applications had been unsuccessful so far and he would continue to look into other options. A medium-term plan was needed for maintenance. The handyman would be asked to spray weeds and jet wash the surface and attend to any hazards so that the playground was safe for children to use. Cllr Payne would look into the priorities and report back to the next meeting.

Resolved: Approved

12/23 To consider renewal of the Parish Council's insurance

The documents covered the Parish Council's requirements and the annual renewal was agreed. Payment of the premium would be done at the March Meeting.

Resolved: Approved

13/23 To receive Questions and Reports from Councillors

Cllr Biden said that the Cricket Club had enquired about the S106 payment; there had been no information on this yet from Lichfield District Council.

He was unable to continue as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Delderfield would replace him in this role.

Cllr Gilbert raised the matter of a damaged car left on The Beck. As no offence was committed it was not a matter for the Parish Council to deal with.

Cllr Robertson was now Chair of the Howard School Governors. The school was trying to attract more pupils and she asked whether improved signage to show the

school's location could be placed near the Church Road/The Square junction. The Parish Council would need to liaise with Highways on a replacement sign. Cllr Turley had said that the road sweeper was required around the village and the Clerk would chase up the District Council about this. Cllr Turley had been asked by the Village Hall Chair about further CIL funding but the suggested items were not infrastructure. He had chased up the CCTV company for more information but had no reply. Cllr Biden suggested liaising with the Cricket Club who were also considering CCTV. Cllr Warburton said that Lichfield District Council would not be increasing the Council Tax for the coming year. He described work that was being done on the Birmingham Road site behind the scenes and various changes at the District Council.

14/23 To receive Correspondence

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association bulletins
AGM information and training
Local Government Boundary Commission – consultation
Lichfield Police contact information
CPRE news roundup for Parish Councils
Resident regarding progress on CCTV and regretting lack of a bus shelter for school pupils. The Clerk had replied on these matters.

15/23 To receive a Financial Report

See appendix 1.

Resolved: Approved

16/23 To consider authorising Schedule of Accounts for payment

Staff costs; salary, PAYE, pension; £570.39 ; A. Robey, handyman work, £65.60; Village Hall, Post Office room hire £60; SLCC Clerk membership half share £88.50 Barry Wright, website fee £125, B. Harcombe, taxi, £120. Cllr Payne would authorise the payments.

Resolved: Approved

17/23 Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting would take place on March 13th. The Clerk would be absent for health reasons and Cllr Payne offered to take the Minutes. As the April meeting would be due on Easter Monday it would be held on 17th April. The date in May for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Parish Assembly would be confirmed later.

The meeting closed at 21.30 pm

PS

Appendix 1 –
Financial Report February 2023

(a) Bank reconciliation

		03/02/2023	Totals
			8,031.84
BAL B/F	14,224.90	CURRENT	
		DEPOSIT(playground)	7,999.53
		95 DAY NOTICE (taxi)	22,358.28
RECEIPTS	47488.14	earmarked for CIL	29,358.28
		earmarked for playground	7,999.53
PAYMENTS	23323.39	earmarked for seniors taxi	572.06
TOTAL	38,389.65		38,389.65

(b) CIL payment of £7000 for school gates made.

(c) Performance against budget:

<u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget sum</u>	<u>To date</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Staff costs	6927.00	6363	564
Admin	3390	3084	306
eg room hire, taxi, solicitor, subs			
Maintenance	6595	4742	1853
eg mowing, handyman, electricity			
S137	0.00	8597	
Unplanned	0	0	
	13842	22785	-8943

(d) Receipts HMRC VAT reclaim 219.65

(e) Precept request for £19,000 sent to Lichfield District Council

(f) Taxi - outstanding amount of £120 to be spent