

EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 4th December 2017
at 7.30 pm at Edingale Village Hall.

Members present:
Cllr Wesley (Chair)
Cllr Cliffe
Cllr Dhillon
Cllr Lacey
Cllr Mason
Cllr Startin

Mrs M Jones, Clerk, and 5 members of the public.

1. To receive apologies
Cllr Van Arkadie had apologised as he had another appointment. His apology was accepted.
2. To receive any Declarations of Interest
There were no pecuniary interests to declare.
3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 6th November 2017
The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. To adjourn the meeting, hold the public session, and reconvene the meeting

An update was given by the Chair of the Village Hall Committee. A successful community day had been held in November, when 60 volunteers from a local company had painted the play equipment and toilets. The Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch had been a wonderful event, with excellent food and a happy community atmosphere; thanks were due to all the organisers.

A grant had been received from the Lottery for outdoor fitness equipment, and a grant had been made by County Cllr Alan White for kitchen equipment, however the application for a grant from Lafarge had been unsuccessful. It was hoped to have a youth club; a company was available to organise this but funding was needed.

The Annual Report on the play park equipment had identified minor repairs costing between £200 and £500.

There was currently concern about the drainage which had collapsed so that flooding had damaged the foundations, it was hoped to claim on the insurance but this was potentially a serious problem. The next event was the Christmas Bazaar followed by the Christmas Jumper Party on the 9th December. A range of events were being planned for 2018.



The Neighbourhood Coach for Bromford Housing reported on the concern of their residents about the threat to their independence if the bus service closed down, which would seriously affect them and create social isolation. It was important for everyone to keep using the service to show that it was needed. She would continue to inform Cllr White of these considerations. A resident commented on dog waste on footpaths around the village and on the land off Rowley Close. The dog warden would be contacted about these concerns, and if anyone saw dog owners not clearing the waste they should contact Environmental Health with the times and other details.

5. To receive the Clerk's Report

General Data Protection Regulations: The Clerk had attended a briefing on changes which would become law next May in the Data Protection Act 2018. The Information Commissioner would impose large fines on organisations failing to protect personal data, which included names, addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, bank details or images. Examples of good practice had been shared. Organisations should appoint an independent Data Protection Officer; it had not yet been confirmed whether this would apply to Parish Councils, the County Council could offer this service. Audit changes: New external auditors had been appointed. The Council would still complete an Annual Return, which would be checked by the internal auditor and would only need to be submitted if there were areas of concern. Information would continue to be published to comply with the Transparency Code.

Information Commission registration: this was due in January.

Maintenance issues: these had been reported, the drain at Croxall had been cleared and the right of way sign in Rowley Close repaired.

6. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

C Pincher MP, contact details for the notice board, and thanking the Parish Council for their contribution to the local community.

Police & Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis, traffic signs initiative

Lichfield District Council Play inspection report

Lichfield District Council invitation to Chair's Carol Service

Staffordshire Police, information on Automatic Number Plate Recognition, children's toy appeal

A resident regarding the dog waste bin at Croxall Lakes, it was agreed to contact Lichfield District Council about this.

7. To receive Councillor's Reports

Cllr Cliffe said that she had heard that the dog waste bin at Raddle Lane had not been emptied for two weeks. This would also be reported to Lichfield.

Cllr Dhillon complimented everyone on the Christmas Meal. He also expressed concern about loose dogs being exercised locally near small children. The dog warden would be asked about owners' obligations.

Cllr Wesley reported on vandalism to the new lights installed on the island which had been pulled down and wiring snipped before the switch on date.

Residents had been asked to keep an eye on the area, as public money was wasted when new lights had to be purchased.

8. To consider any planning applications

17/01552/FUL - Meadow View, Pessall Lane, application for single storey extension and raising of garage height. RESOLVED no objection.

9. To consider the future of the bus service

Cllr Mason reported on a joint meeting of local councillors with Cllr White. They had been told of the high cost of the service, and had discussed options for public transport in the Mease Valley. Cllr Mason had looked at the cost options for Paris Councils to take over the subsidies, which would involve a large rise in precepts, although there would be very little time to arrange this. Cllr Lacey said that the route should include journeys to the Aboretum and Alrewas. It had recently been announced that Central Buses would take over the route from January, and it was agreed to write to the company to ask about their plans for the service. RESOLVED.

to put on the next agenda.

10. To consider the Village Hall play area

A draft agreement between the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee had been prepared by Cllr Mason, to set out formally how the maintenance would be funded. Cllr Dhillon said that some of the Committee had questioned the need for such a document. Various amendments would be made and this would be considered at the next meeting.

11. To consider a request for additional litter and dog waste bins at the Village Hall

It was proposed by Cllr Mason and seconded by Cllr Dhillon to establish a need for extra bins before incurring extra costs for supplying and emptying these. RESOLVED not to proceed at present.

12. To consider road safety and traffic calming

The Safer Roads Partnership had been unable to loan a speed camera, as these had to be purchased and training given. They had asked the County Council to check speeds near the school and this would be chased up. A quote had been obtained for a flashing school sign, but this would not proceed until the need was established.

The Police & Crime Commissioner had asked for expressions of interest in a scheme for local councils in Staffordshire to negotiate discounts by bulk buying speed signs, RESOLVED to respond to this.

13. To consider Rights of Way consultation

RESOLVED not to respond.

14. To consider updating the website

The website needed modernising, and a case could be made for a grant for this to ensure the Council was complying with the Transparency Code. Information would be requested from a local person with expertise, this would be discussed at the next meeting.

15. To consider policy for Senior Citizen's Lunch

Cllr Wesley explained a query that had been received regarding allowing a small number of people from outside the Parish Council boundary but within the parochial boundary to attend the lunch.



The Clerk had advised that Parish Council donations could be used to benefit some or all residents (LGA 1972 S137).

RESOLVED that an annual donation of £500 to the Village Hall Committee to organise the event was appropriate.

16. To receive the Financial Report

Current account - the bank reconciliation was given. The sums reclaimed for payment of VAT had now been received and part of this would be transferred to the capital fund. The Cooperative Bank mandate had been changed to remove former signatories.

17. To approve the payments on the payment schedule

Mrs M Jones, salary and expenses, £309.06;

Mr L Watkins, maintenance, £230.75;

Staffordshire Parish Councils Association, training fee £20.00

Information Commissioner, annual fee £35

RESOLVED to approve the payments

18. Date of next meeting;

Monday 8th January 2018

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

