

EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 9th January 2017
at 7.30 pm at Edingale Village Hall.

Members present:

Cllr C Wesley (Chair)

Cllr M Cliffe

Cllr N Mason

Cllr J Lacey

Cllr J Startin

Cllr I Van Arkadie

Mrs M Jones, Clerk, 3 members of the public.

Cllr Wesley declared the meeting open and welcomed everyone.

1. To receive apologies

Cllr Dhillon had apologised as he was away; the apology was accepted.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 5th December 2016

The Minutes were approved as a true record, and signed by the Chair.

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

The owner of the Black Horse pub had attended to keep the Parish Council up to date. Although the pub had reopened after being designated a Community asset, the kitchen could not pay, he had tried to run events, but it was not financially viable, and he couldn't finance the pub any more. He had looked at other options such as micro-breweries, small shops, having tenants, but without success; other local pubs were closing as there was not enough trade.

The District Council had advised giving the village the chance to rent the business, he was open to negotiation at a fair rent, and the books were available to be inspected. He intended to continue to live there. He was offering for the community to take the pub on. The Asset of Community Value listing would remain in force for over a year.

The Chair said that the Parish Council would contact those who were previously on the committee to see what interest there was in taking it on. It would then report back to the pub owner. The Chair thanked him for coming to inform the Council.

A member of the Village Hall Committee gave an update on his efforts to get quotes for refurbishments. The Committee would focus on gaining quotes for the specification for rewiring and lowering the ceiling by a single contractor. The lighting was a priority and the heating work would be done later.

5. To receive the Clerk's Report

Public Payphone - The Parish Council had informed the District Council that it objected to the removal of the kiosk as it could be difficult to make emergency calls because of the poor mobile signal in Edingale. The District Council had responded accordingly to BT's consultation.

Tree trimming - Highways had been asked if they could trim the trees on the island by the Black Horse, they had queried the location and this had been clarified to them.

Defibrillator - Western Power had said it could not be placed on their post; Mr Pilgrim had offered to install a post at the front of his property, he and Cllr Lacey would arrange the installation. A letter of thanks would be sent, with an offer to reimburse any costs.

Referendum principles for Parish Councils - The government had confirmed that it would not proceed with this proposal.

Mowing quotes - these had been requested from 3 contractors including Greenlands, for February meeting.

Parking and speeding issues - information had been recently provided by the Highways Community Liaison Manager and would be considered at the next meeting.

6. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

Staffordshire CC notice terminating Lengthmens's agreement

Forest Scene newsletter

New Lichfield Police Commander -Joanne Rea

Christmas Greetings from Chair of Lichfield District Council

7. To receive Councillor's Reports

Cllr Mason said that two local people had been recognised in the New Year Honours, Julie Bullace and Mary Tysoe, and suggested they be congratulated by the Parish Council. She commented that the potholes on Raddle Lane should be dealt with and asked whether the sand box at Blakeways Close could be replenished for use on icy pavements.

Cllr Cliffe reported that a post at the end of Pessall Lane had been bent as lorries couldn't get around the corner when cars were parked there. Cllr Startin suggested that Highways could change the splay at the junction; they would be asked to consider the suggestion.

Cllr Cliffe also commented on proposals to close local hospital units.

Cllr Wesley asked the Clerk when the Pensions Regulator's Declaration of Compliance should be completed. The staging date had not yet been reached and the Clerk would confirm the date to the Council.

8. **To consider any planning matters**
Application 16/01025/FUL at Brookhouse Farm had been approved.
There had been no new applications.
9. **To consider Village Hall funding**
The SPCA had provided legal advice which confirmed that providing the Village Hall refurbishment work was substantial and long term it would qualify as capital expenditure, so the Council had the power to fund it.
Quotes were pending and would be considered on the next agenda.
10. **To consider debt, benefit and consumer advice funding.**
Cllr White had advised that the County Council was unable to continue to fund the citizens' advice service and suggested a donation by Parish Councils and other bodies. RESOLVED not to contribute to this.
11. **To receive the Financial Report**
 - (a) The bank reconciliation was noted. There was currently £3,419 in the current account.
 - (b) The Capital fund was currently £109,892. The Cooperative Bank had advised that the fixed rate deposit account which would mature in October would not be available for renewal.
 - (c) The Audit Report 2015-16 had been received from the auditor, and sent to the Councillors for information.
 - (d) Legal advice had been received on reclaiming VAT 'A Council may purchase goods or services and donate them to a voluntary body but without receiving any reimbursement'.
12. **To approve the payments on the payment schedule.**
Mrs M Jones, salary, expenses, £231.88;
KFL Electrical Ltd, Christmas Lighting, £408
Toplis Associates, Audit fee, £110.70

RESOLVED to approve the payments
13. **Date of next meeting:**
Monday 6th February 2017

The meeting closed at 20.20 p.m.

