

ELDERSFIELD PARISH

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018, 7.30 pm, at Eldersfield Lawn School

Present:

Chairman:	Dr L Reynolds
Parish Councillors:	Mrs D Holt Mrs T Owen
In attendance:	County Councillor Tom Wells
Members of the Public:	4

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Assembly held on 2nd May 2018 were confirmed as being a true record of that meeting.

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council

The Chairman advised the meeting that Mr Tony Davies, who was Chairman of the Parish during the year just ended, had submitted the following report:

“Welcome to tonight’s meeting. This is my fourth year as Chairman and this is my report. I would like to start by thanking my fellow councillors and the parish clerk who keeps us on the straight and narrow for their support over the last 12 months. I would like to particularly thank Councillors Oliver Williams, Sally Rush, Catherine Powell-Chandler and John Keighley, all have decided to step down. Thank you for the time and effort that you have put into the Parish Council.

As usual, alterations and extensions to dwellings within the parish dominate our work. Eldersfield is still classified as a “below level 3” parish and therefore currently not deemed suitable for further development.

Since becoming Chairman it has always been my aim that the Council should be seen as being a proactive Council rather than a reactive one. I believe we are proactive. In the last 12 months we have:

- As promised installed a defibrillator within the parish. This is installed on the external wall of the school. Hopefully we will see it as an insurance policy and no-one within the parish will see it operational. A number of residents and teachers are being trained

in its correct operation. Access to the machine is via a code which is passed to the caller by the ambulance service.

- Had discussions with the new owners of “The Lawns”. It is now under new management and they outlined their proposals moving forward with occupation due sometime end of May/ beginning of June. It appeared very positive and we wish them well for this important service for vulnerable children.
- Held further discussions with representatives from Worcestershire County Council and a number of Broadband providers. Progress is extremely slow with little progress made within the parish. A small working group has now been set up to investigate alternative means of the provision of what is becoming a critical service to households and businesses.
- Agreed to sponsor the Musical Evening which this year will be held on the 15th June at Eldersfield Court. We do not have a parish hall and so as a Council we feel that sponsoring this evening will give a chance for parishioners old and new to reacquaint with one another.

As always, we are keen to improve the life of the community by assisting local groups with grants. Should you wish to apply for a grant then please contact the Parish Clerk to discuss your request further. The request will then be discussed at the next appropriate Council meeting.

Local elections recently took place. The Council should consist of 9 councillors. After the retirements, there are only 4 on the council resulting in no election. If anyone feels that they can help in making a difference then I urge you to contact the Parish Clerk who will advise you on the roles and responsibilities of a Councillor.

Finally, it is with regret that I too am announcing my decision to step down not only as Chairman but as a Councillor as well. This has not been an easy decision to make as I feel very passionate about the area in which I live. However, my work commitments mean that I will be spending quite a bit of time away from this lovely area. It also means that I cannot dedicate the time that I would like to in ensuring that the parish interests get heard and acted upon by a variety of Agencies and council departments.

I would like to personally thank the support I have received from my fellow councillors, the parish clerk for providing me with the necessary advice. Most of all I would like to thank the community for allowing me to act as your Chairman and supporting me when required.

Thank you

Tony Davies
Chairman.”

Members of the public received Mr Davies' report and expressed not only their warm approval of the report but also their grateful thanks for the work he had undertaken while a member of the Council.

4. Public Comment, Questions and Discussions

None.

There being no further business, the Assembly closed at 7.42 pm.

JLG
17.5.19