

# ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** A. Davies (Chairman), A.J. Etherington, Mrs D Holt,  
J. Keighley, Mrs C Powell-Chandler, Mrs Willder

**In Attendance:** District Councillor Bronwen Behan

**Members of the  
Public:** 3

## **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from: and from Mrs S Rush and O. Williams,

## **2. Members' interests**

None

## **3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting**

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were signed as such by the Chairman of the meeting.

## **4. Matters arising**

None

## **5. Reports from District and County Councillors**

Mrs Behan commented that the precept being considered by MHDC included a provision for an increase of 2% over the current year.

## **6. Report from the Police**

None.

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by one member of the public whose orchard had been attacked at night; on different nights a number of trees had been sawn through and killed. He had contacted the police who, he said, had responded by increasing their patrols in the area and taking other measures to attempt to catch the culprit. He was grateful to the police who had acted promptly and professionally.

## **7. Public Comment**

Concern was again expressed by the public about The Lawns, the home for children managed by Marlowe Child & Family Services Limited in Corse Lawn. That concern was exacerbated by ignorance of the future of the institution.

## **8. Car parking outside the school**

The Chairman informed the meeting that he had been invited to attend a meeting with relevant parties to discuss the problems caused by inconsiderate parking at the school. He would report back to the meeting.

He stated that his understanding was that the School maintained that its responsibility for pupils ended at the school gates. In the light of this, Councillors accepted that the management and regulation of car parking on public road was not one of their responsibilities.

## **9. The Lawns**

The Clerk reported that since the last meeting he had emailed Marlowe Child & Family Services Limited, the company responsible for The Lawns, some three or four times and had telephoned twice. He had not yet been able to contact the relevant manager.

## **10. Banking Arrangement**

The Clerk advised the meetings that the law had changed and that with the adoption by the Council of the revised Financial Regulations in 2014 there was now no legal objection to his being a signatory on the Council's bank account. Accordingly, Council issued instructions to the bank for it to accept him as an authorised delegate.

## **11. Planning**

### **SUMMARY OF PLANNING DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING**

- 15/01566/FUL**      Erection of replacement dwelling
- Annexe At, Ploughs End, Corse Lawn, Worcestershire, GL19 4LZ

#### *Council's Comments*

We have no objections.

*Appeal decision allowed*

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- 16/01157/HOU**      Demolish existing conservatory and replace with sunroom, addition of bay window/doors, porch and other alterations including demolition of existing chimneys.
- The Meadows, Corse Lawn, Worcestershire, GL19 4PE

#### *Council's Comments*

We have no objections.

*Approval (Full) Planning Householder*

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- 16/01183/PDU**      Proposed conversion of an agricultural building to a dwelling.
- Marsh Court, Bridgend, Eldersfield, Worcestershire, GL19 4PN

#### *Council's Comments*

We have no objections.

*Refusal Prior Approval Notification (PDU)*

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## SUMMARY OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS AWAITING DECISION

- 16/01296/FUL**      Excavation of lagoon to hold biofertiliser, safety fence and associated works
- Land At (Os 8015 3026), The Granary, Unit 6, The Hawthorns, Pillows Green, Staunton, Worcestershire, GL19 3NY

*Council's Comments*

We have no objections.

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- 16/01637/HOU**      Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen, dining room and utility room.
- Brindle Cottage, Lime Street, Eldersfield, Worcestershire, GL19 4NX

*Council's Comments*

We have no objections.

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- 16/01657/FUL**      Retrospective planning permission for variation of Planning Permission  
15/00284/FUL - condition 4 to allow the use of the building for offices,  
showroom and display area.
- Cromer Farm, Pendock, Worcestershire, GL19 3PG

*Council's Comments*

Under consideration

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- 16/01748/FUL**      Conversion of granary into ancillary residential unit - including single storey extensions
- Cromer Farm, Pendock, Worcestershire, GL19 3PG

*Council's Comments*

Under consideration

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- 16/01749/LBC**      Conversion of granary into ancillary residential unit - including single storey extensions
- Cromer Farm, Pendock, Worcestershire, GL19 3PG

*Council's Comments*

Under consideration

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## **12. Committed Funds**

The statement of Committed Funds circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

## **13. Flower Arranging**

A request from Mrs M Mitchell for a grant of £52.35 in respect of flower arranging classes in Autumn 2016 was noted and it was **RESOLVED** that a grant of £52.35 be paid to her.

## **14. Financial Estimates and Budget 2017-18**

Councillors noted the statement of expenditure for the half year and the forecast end year position circulated prior to the meeting. They recalled that the Auditor had criticised the Council for holding an excessively high level of cash. They recognised also that the money which they held in the Council's bank account was taken directly from the council tax paying public.

Whilst Council hoped that it would be possible to make charitable grants to the full extent permitted by law – some £3,383 p.a. – experience had shown that there was a dearth of meritorious, and qualifying, causes. It was further noted that, even if the entirety of the amount which the council was permitted to pay as grants were exceeded, the balance remaining at the end of the year would still be at an acceptable level.

Accordingly, it was **RESOLVED** that, subject to the budget providing for grants in the figure of £3,383, to be shown as one single figure (i.e. without apportionment to individuals or activities), the budget be accepted and that the precept for the year 2017-18 be nil. A copy of the adopted Budget is given in the Appendix A at page 767.

## **15. Authorisation of Disbursements**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following disbursements be made for goods and services received:

£ 128.58	J L Gabbott
£79.60	HMRC
£52.35	Mrs M Mitchell
£20.47	WCC, Hire of Hall 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
£236.00	Mr J Moore, Lengthsman services (balance owing to end December)

## **16. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted

- CALC updates

## **17. Future Meetings**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

## **18. Other business**

None.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

JLG  
19.1.17

## FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET

	2015-16	CURRENT YEAR 2016-17			2017-18
	Actual	Budget	Actual		Budget
			Yr to 30.9	Forecast	Adopted
<b>INCOME</b>					
Precept	4,000	4,000	2,000	4,000	-
VAT repayment		-			-
Hire of table, chairs, china	61	160	81	81	100
Grant from WCC	2,006	2,413	1,298	2,413	2,413
Grant from MHDC					
Miscellaneous	58		66	66	
<b>Transfer from reserves</b>	-	-			-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,125</b>	<b>6,573</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>6,560</b>	<b>2,513</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Clerk: salary, expenses	1,612	1,750	847	1,720	1,750
Insurance	244	250	252	252	270
CALC	267	250	293	293	300
Audit	48	50			50
Lengsthman	2,006	2,413	1,534	2,413	2,413
Grants		3,283	386	500	3,383
Grant: Church	650		2,000	2,000	
Grant: CLWG	60				
Grant: Flower Arranging				52	
WCC: School hall hire	56	100	62	125	125
Training	90	125		125	125
Contingency		200		200	200
Notice Board		750			
Election	26				
Other: Shed & Kiosk			450	740	
<b>Transfer to reserves</b>	-	-	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>9,171</b>	<b>5,824</b>	<b>8,420</b>	<b>8,616</b>
<b>Net movement:</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>- 2,598</b>	<b>- 2,379</b>	<b>- 1,860</b>	<b>- 6,103</b>

<b>CASH BALANCE B/F</b>	<b>12,095</b>	12,202	<b>13,161</b>	<b>13,161</b>	<b>11,301</b>
Add TOTAL INCOME	6,125	6,573	3,445	6,560	2,513
Less TOTAL EXPENDITURE	- 5,059	- 9,171	- 5,824	- 8,420	- 8,616
<b>CASH BALANCE C/F</b>	<b>13,161</b>	9,604	10,782	<b>11,301</b>	<b>5,198</b>