

# ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 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 S Rush, O. Williams,  
Mrs R. Willder

**In Attendance:** County Councillor Tom Wells

**Members of the  
Public:** -

## **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from: District Councillor Bronwen Behan

## **2. Members' interests**

None

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

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 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**

The Chairman expressed his pleasure and that of the whole Council that Mr Wells had recovered sufficiently after his accident to be able to attend the meeting, and he hoped that his recovery would continue apace.

Mr Wells reported that the Chief Executive of WCC had resigned. He noted that there were in fact many departures, of both officers and politicians, and he attributed this to the low morale which he identified within the Council. He believed that the constant challenge of doing more with fewer resources was not a policy which could be continued indefinitely. He cited the problem of health care: with people living longer and the proportion of active to retired people set to be lower, the pressures on social and medical services provided by the council, and others, will become enormous.

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

None.

The Chairman noted that newsletters had been received.

## **7. Public Comment**

None

## **8. The Lawns**

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the manager of Marlowe Child & Family Services Limited, the company responsible for The Lawns, who had indicated to him that it was the intention of the company to reopen the unit.

## **9. Planning**

No report was available (the Clerk having been on holiday).

## **10. Committed Funds**

No report was available (the Clerk having been on holiday).

## **11. St John the Baptist**

Council noted that a request for financial support to assist with maintenance of the churchyard had been received from the Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Eldersfield, and **RESOLVED** that a grant of £600 be made to the PCC.

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

The Chairman invited County Councillor Wells to make a statement.

Mr Wells informed the meeting that the school was the only one in Worcestershire of which the premises debouched on to a road of which the speed limit was 50 mph, and where there was no intervening pavement. The risks were large.

A project was being considered by WCC to reduce these risks. Mr Wells understood that WCC had agreed to place white bar ‘gates’ on both sides of the school to give traffic the impression of a reduced road width and thereby encourage it to slow down. Other measures – e.g. dragons’ teeth – were possible.

However, the highways engineers were actively considering the possibility of laying a grasscrete type structure on the western side of the road, and evening the eastern side. Discussions, which the chairman had attended, were in progress with the Reeves (who own the Regulated Pasture, often mistakenly referred to as a common) and with the PTFA.

Councillors welcomed the proposal. They recognised that costs would be incurred and indicated that they would welcome the opportunity for the Council to contribute.

## **15. Authorisation of Disbursements**

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

£ 106.36	J L Gabbott
£67.60	HMRC
£25.47	WCC, Hire of Hall (3rd April 2017)
£354.00	Mr J Moore, Lengthsman services (three months)

**16. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted

- CALC updates
- email, various

**14. Future Meetings**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would be the Annual Meeting and be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

**15. Other business**

None

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

JLG  
4.4.17