

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on
Thursday 8th November 2018 at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: A. Davies (Chairman) P. R. Chichester,
Mrs D Holt, Mrs T Owen, Dr L Reynolds
Mrs S Rush

In Attendance: District Councillor Bronwen Behan

**Members of the
Public:** -

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs J Keighley and O. Williams

2. Members' interests

None

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2018 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

District Councillor Bronwen Behan reported that

- the timetable for refuse collections over the Christmas and New Year period had been prepared and was being issued;
- there had been a spate of opportunistic burglaries within the Parish, mainly from outbuildings; she advised residents to take especial care to secure their possessions;
- the South Worcestershire Development Plan had called for the proposal of sites for consideration for potential development; two sites within the Parish (both in Corse Lawn) had been put forward;
- animal boarding kennels and other animal-related commercial activities were being brought under one licensing authority.

6. Police Report

Members noted the report received from the Police and circulated prior to the meeting.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Broadband

The Chairman reported that he had now sent emails informing respondents to the questionnaire of progress to date; these had gone to all who had provided him with their email address, a total of 98. Of these, 27 emails had bounced back but from the remainder – 71 – he had received 51 responses, all of which were positive.

He further reported that:

- he had asked Openreach for a breakdown of the costs in order that a view might be taken on how much, if any, of the work could be undertaken by local residents, thereby reducing the cost;
- Gigaclear had not yet been granted permission to lay fibre cable in Worcestershire, because of a ‘dispute’ with WCC;
- a company was installing a wireless service in Maisemore, although he understood that they were attracted in large measure by the business park;
- Worcestershire 5G Consortium were based in Malvern and were developing a next generation solution; he had offered Eldersfield as a rural test bed;
- it continued to be his aim to call a public meeting but the information currently available did not justify that step being taken at present.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

The advantages and disadvantages of producing a Plan, described at the last meeting, were summarised.

Within the county it is understood that there are seven Plans in place with two in preparation.

A Plan would make clear what it was about the Parish which Parishioners liked - and should therefore be protected and retained - and what they disliked - and which should therefore be improved or eliminated. Identifying this information would take time and effort; assistance from volunteers would be invaluable. It was also recognised that assistance from people with expertise in specialist areas would considerably enhance the value of the Plan. Parishioners who are interested to know more are invited – without commitment - to contact the Clerk.

10. Defibrillator

Councillors considered the proposals for the acquisition of a defibrillator before them but decided that without further information concerning the training which could be provided under one of the options it would be unsafe to proceed. The Clerk was instructed to seek further clarification of the offer.

11. Authorisation of Disbursements

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

£479.58	J L Gabbott (Clerk)
£236.00	Lengthsman (£118.00 Sep 2018; £118.00 Oct 2018)
£50.94	WCC (£25.47, meeting 9 Oct 18; £25.47, 8 Nov 18)
£44.94	TDG Group (provision of flags for Great War commemoration)

12. Correspondence

The receipt of a letter from the School expressing thanks for the Council's gift of flags for use by the School to commemorate the ending of the Great War was noted.

13. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Thursday 10th January 2019 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

14. Any other business

1. It was noted that £500 had been received from O'Connor Construction Company Limited of Cheltenham as a contribution for the purpose of defraying the cost of purchasing the defibrillator. Councillors expressed their great appreciation of this gift and instructed the Clerk to write to the company to convey their thanks.
2. The question of the traffic warning lights flashing outside the School during holidays was again mentioned. The Clerk undertook to write again to WCC.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.

JLG
12.11.18