

EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 12 December 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Members present:

Mrs J Stonehouse	Chairman
Mrs N Mason MBE	
Mr J Startin	
Mr H Dhillon	
Mrs M Cliffe	
Mr C Wesley	

In Attendance:

B. Delderfield	Parish Clerk
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1 Apologies received

All Councillors were present

2 Absence noted and approved

All Councillors were present

3 Approval of minutes of Parish Council held on 10 October 2011.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 November 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declaration of interests

No Councillor declared an interest

The Chairman adjourned the meeting

5 Public session

There being no members of the public present the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

6 Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed that a reminder letter had been prepared, ready to send to the residents of Rowley Close concerning the hedge cutting proposal. A letter had also been sent to Mr S Sprawson who has expressed his interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and is planning to attend the January 2012 meeting.

The Christmas lights have been put up in Edingale although there are some that need the strings replacing. The Clerk confirmed that she would arrange for new strings to be replaced in January but in the meantime would get a quotation for the cost of this.

7 Correspondence

- The National Forest has sent a letter to the Parish inviting people to an open day at Staunton Harold Hall on Thursday 15 December.
- Victim Support in Penkridge have sent a letter requesting funding.
- Lichfield District Council have sent a letter informing the Parish Council that they have carried out two spot checks on the premises on Pessall Lane in October and have found that no mobile toilets have been stored on the premises since the Notice was served. If there is any further issue they request that the Parish Council should get back in touch with Lichfield District Council.

8 Councillors' Business

Cllr Dhillon confirmed that he had contacted Mrs M Chamberlain to confirm he will be happy to go onto the Village Hall Committee. He will attend the next meeting in January 2012.

Cllr Startin confirmed he had spoken to Lichfield District Council concerning the snowplough and whether he was able to clear snow as and when necessary. It is still pending as Lichfield District Council needs to look into terms before he is able to agree. Cllr Startin has received an email from Mr K Pilgrim requesting funding for his part in preparing the flower tubs in the village. The total spent is £233. This was agreed by all present.

Cllr Mason enquired as to where the Rowan tree donated by the Arboretum should be planted in spring 2012. It was agreed that it should go on the corner of Blakeways Close adjacent to the other Rowan tree.

Cllr Mason also reported that the resident at 11 Woodyard Drive has now been taken into full time care and will not be moving back to Edingale.

Cllr Mason has also received information about the Queen's Diamond Jubilee from the Royal Mint about a commemorative coin being available for approx £3.50. Cllr Mason asked the Parish Council to consider whether they wish to purchase a coin for each child at the village school. (Approx 55 children)

It was agreed that the Clerk would check with the SPCA as to whether the Precept money can be spent in this way. **Clerk**

Cllr Stonehouse confirmed that at Staffordshire County Council's request she had arranged a meeting with their representative and the contractor who has quoted for the repairs necessary to mend the footbridge from Edingale to Harlaston. Cllr Stonehouse is merely facilitating the process and Edingale Parish Council is in no way responsible either financially or in the decision making process as to getting the bridge mended. This responsibility lies with Staffordshire County Council.

It was noted, however by a number of Councillors that people are still using the bridge despite the fact that it is closed off.

The Windfarm meeting took place on Saturday 10 December at Harlaston Village Hall. Cllrs Stonehouse and Cliffe attended the meeting. It seems that this application could well be passed. Mr Van Arkle (Clerk to Harlaston) asked for the information on the Planning Consultants that Edingale Parish Council recently used. It was agreed that the Clerk would pass this information on to Mr Van Akardie. **Clerk**

Cllr Stonehouse asked that Councilors consider reviewing the precept in preparation of the January 2012 meeting. It is important the Parish Council consider how much is spent and who monies are given to. The Clerk confirmed that this would be added to the January 2012 agenda. **Clerk**

It was agreed that all financial documents from the past few months would be passed to Cllr Dhillon given that three clerks have been involved in the Parish Council's finances during 2011. Cllr Dhillon will collate all information and record it in one format only. The Clerk will pass all information to Cllr Dhillon shortly. **Clerk**

The Clerk agreed to clarify with Lichfield District Council as to the information needed from Mr Sprawson when he is co-opted as a councillor in January 2012.

9 Investment into Santander Bank

The monies are ready to be invested in the above but Cllr Dhillon expressed his concern about investing into a European bank given the current concerns over the financial market.

It was agreed the Clerk would check with Santander as to what guarantee they can give in writing as to the safety of the funds. The Clerk will also check with the SPCA as to what security there would be in investing the funds in this way. **Clerk**

10 Smart Water

It was agreed that Rob Nunn would be approached to see if he would be willing to do an open meeting in the Village Hall to inform residents of the Smartwater initiative. **Clerk**

11 Schofield Lane hedge

The hedge is in need of cutting. The Chairman will speak to the owner to get authority for it to be cut. **Chairman**

12 Financial Report

It wasn't possible to report on the current bank statements and investments in view of new Clerk but this is likely to be rectified by the next meeting in January 2012. **Clerk**

13 Planning Applications

None

14 Any Other Business

It appears that the precept money for the Church and Village Hall wasn't paid in June/July of this year. It was agreed that the cheques would be drawn and paid to both immediately.

15 Date and venue of next meeting

Monday 9th January 2012, 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

16 Meeting Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.