

## EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 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
----------------	--------------

Guest attendee:

Mr S Sprawson

### 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 12 December 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 informed the PC that the firm who supplied the Christmas lights have now gone out of business from June of last year. The Clerk will look at an alternative firm to replace the strings of the Christmas lights and the cost involved.

The clerk has asked for advice from the SPCA on whether it is acceptable to use Precept money for buying a commemorative coin for all the primary school children attending Mary Howard School. SPCA will look into this and get back to the clerk shortly.

Clerk

Information was passed to Mr I Van Akardie (Harlaston Clerk) of the name of the Planning Consultant that EPC recently used. This was to assist Harlaston PC in their objection of the wind farms being erected in Harlaston.

The Clerk recently handed Cllr Dhillon all the financial documents relating to the last eight months so that he could assess whether the finances are in order and if not what needs to be done to get them up to date. Cllr Dhillon did inspect the cash book and other records and reported that they need to be collated into either the cash book or a spreadsheet.

Cllr Stonehouse agreed to take the books so that she could put them in order, so that the information is in one format and is then ready for the annual Audit.

**Cllr Stonehouse**

### **Santander Investment**

The Clerk has investigated the queries the PC had about the investment into Santander. All monies up to £85,000 are guaranteed. This can be provided in writing from the bank.

The SPCA will inform the Clerk shortly as to whether any further security can be offered.

The Clerk received all forms to be completed by all Councillors including Mr Sprawson. Lichfield District Council request that these forms be completed as soon as possible. The Clerk handed out the forms to all Councillors.

The Clerk confirmed that all Councillors would receive a copy of the Register of Electors for 2012. The document would either be scanned or copied. **Clerk**

### **7 Correspondence**

Received from Lichfield District Council (LDC):

Forward plan for the first quarter of 2012.

Precept Breakdown.

Funding confirmation from Cllr Ellis for village sign.

Personal interest forms for Cllrs to complete.

Full Register of Electors.

Confirmation of Renewal from Information Commissioners Office (ICO)

Confirmation of change of register entry from ICO.

Acknowledgment from NatWest informing change of contact name should be made to local branch.

Letters from 2,4,6,8 and 10 Rowley Close residents.

Email from Rob Nunn about Smart Water project.

Email from Cllr Matthew Ellis about the bridge repairs between Edingale and Harlaston.

### **8 Rowley Close hedge**

The final replies from residents were received by the Clerk on 31 December 2011.

It was reported that one of the Councillors had noted that the hedge has now been cut by one of the residents (Mr Wilson, 8 Rowley Close)

The PC agreed, therefore, that a letter will be sent to Mr Wilson, confirming that it is assumed that the residents agree to the original Terms and Conditions that the PC stipulated in the letter sent to all residents in October 2011.

**Clerk**

## **9 Councillors' Business**

Cllr Startin had been asked to convey to the PC, Mr Pilgrim's thanks for the monetary contribution for the flower tubs that he had renovated on behalf of Edingale.

Cllr Dhillon reported that the Village Hall Committee was planning to hold an open evening in an attempt to encourage more people on to the Committee. After 31 March 2012, there will be just two people on the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Wesley has been approached by Mr V Green who has applied for an extension but has been refused by LDC. The extension is to enable family members to live in the house so that Mr Green's wife is able to be nursed at home. Cllr Wesley has been asked by Mr Green if he is able to help him with the appeal in the hope that the planning may be passed.

It was agreed by the PC that this is acceptable and that by citing fairness and consistency of decision making in planning approvals locally, Cllr Wesley is able to assist Mr Green with the appeal.

Cllr Mason reported her concern for the condition of the wall behind the village pump (adjacent to the mini roundabout) the land is owned by local residents and it was suggested that agreement should be sought from the owners, so that the PC could look into carrying out some cosmetic repairs to the wall. **Clerk**

The hedge and trees have been pruned on the Croxall Road from Blakeways Close junction to the public house by Highways. All the branches and cuttings remain on the pavement. It was agreed that under the Lengthmans agreement, Les Watkins would be approached to tidy up the cuttings. **Clerk**

Cllr Stonehouse reported that Mr P Timmis had spoken to her about local concern for the Wind Farm revised application. It was agreed that EPC would support any local group action in opposing the application. The Clerk will speak to the Harlaston Clerk to inform them of EPC's support.

Also, the Clerk should enquire with the planning consultants EPC recently used as to whether they have the expertise to successfully oppose the Wind Farm application. **Clerk**

Cllr Stonehouse attended a meeting with two contractors and two representatives of LDC concerning repair work necessary to the bridge between Edingale and Harlaston. The meeting was disappointing in terms of the outcome and Cllr Stonehouse informed Cllr Ellis of this. Following the intervention of Cllr Ellis, the bridge has now been repaired and will remain safe for the next two years.

Cllr Stonehouse read out the email sent from Cllr Ellis stating that he is keen that such works can be carried out in the future by local contractors and would like to discuss this further at a later date.

It was brought to the attention of the PC that the April PC meeting will need to be re-arranged or cancelled as it falls on Easter Monday. It was agreed that the meeting would be brought forward by one week and held on Monday 2 April 2012.

The Clerk will type a list for the notice board of the dates of all the meetings for 2012. **Clerk**

## **10 Co-opting a Councillor**

Mr S Sprawson informed the PC that he was keen to be co-opted as a Councillor and completed the paperwork necessary. He was welcomed onto the PC.

## **11 Investment into Santander Bank**

The Clerk is finalising the final queries before going ahead with the application of the investment bond with the Birmingham branch of Santander. It was agreed that the Clerk will email the Councillors with any findings to obtain their agreement to progress the matter further.

Clerk

### **12 Smart Water**

A meeting time and date has been arranged for Tuesday 24 January 2012 at the Village Hall, for all residents to attend, commencing at 7.30pm.

Rob Nunn will bring to the meeting Smart Water to sell, so residents need to be aware of this beforehand. Rob Nunn will be asked to prepare a letter so that the Councillors can deliver it to all residents before the meeting.

Cllr Stonehouse is willing to collect the letters from Lichfield and will display one on the Noticeboard.

Cllr Stonehouse

### **13 Precept for 2012**

It was agreed that the Precept for 2012 will not be increased in view of the fact that Staffordshire County Council have stipulated that they are not increasing Council Tax for this year.

The Chairman asked Councillors to consider the donations given to the Church and Village Hall. These figures may have to be reduced. This will be added as the first item on the Agenda for the next meeting and will be discussed at greater length then.

### **14 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

### **15 Financial Report**

The finances are to be reviewed by Cllr Stonehouse ready to present to the PC in the February meeting.

Cllr Stonehouse

### **16 The path at Rowley Close**

This hedge over hanging the path has now been cut under the Lengthman's agreement.

### **17 Planning Applications**

None

### **18 Any Other Business**

None

### **19 Date and venue of next meeting**

Monday 6th January 2012, 7.30pm at the Village Hall

### **20 Meeting Closure**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.