

EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th January, 2013
at 7.30pm at Edingale Village Hall.

Members present:

Cllr Mrs N Mason MBE

Cllr Mrs M Cliffe

Cllr H Dhillon

Cllr S Sprason

Cllr J Startin

Cllr I Van Arkadie

In Attendance:

Mrs M Jones, Clerk to the Parish Council

One member of the public

Lucy Robinson of Lichfield District Council Housing Strategy Department

Miles King, Midlands Rural Housing, Jason Clarke, Waterloo Housing

1. To receive Apologies. Councillor Wesley had apologised due to illness. His apology was accepted. Councillor Dhillon acted as Chairman.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest and to consider written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation.
None received.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd December
The minutes were approved and signed by the acting Chairman.

4. To adjourn the meeting, to hold the Public Session and to reconvene the meeting

Lucy Robinson explained how a Housing Needs Survey would show the type of housing required in the village and whether the needs of younger and older people could be met in the village to avoid them having to move elsewhere. Miles King explained that the survey could be carried out by Midlands Rural Housing as an independent body at no cost to the Parish Council. If the survey identified a need for properties to rent or to buy under shared ownership schemes the Parish Council could advise on potential sites. Jason Clarke said that as social housing landlords Waterloo Housing could assist with finding available land to develop as rural exception sites. Legal agreements would keep these properties for local people in perpetuity. Schemes such as this kept villages sustainable by providing what local people required. After discussion and questions it was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss this further and make a decision on whether to go ahead with a survey at the next meeting.

A resident attended to enquire about the Black Horse. Enforcement would be contacted again about whether change of use had taken place; local residents and the Parish Council hoped it could still be reopened as a pub and village amenity.

5. Clerk's Report

(a) The Black Horse - Planning enforcement had been contacted but no response had been received and this would be chased up. *Action:Clerk*

(b) Refurbishment of the Village Hall - A letter had been sent to the committee, but they had not had a meeting yet due to the Christmas break.

(c) Broadband - BT had been contacted about upgrading the Harlaston exchange but had no plans to do this in the near future. They advised residents to register an interest at BT.com. Staffordshire County Council had got in touch and were currently working hard to improve access to broadband services.

(d) Website - there had been problems with keeping information up to date due to recent illness.

6. Correspondence

Lichfield District Council - precept forms

Staffordshire Parish Council Association - no increase in fees, change of Chief Executive.

Staffordshire County Council - broadband

Christmas cards from Chairman of Lichfield District Council and Adcocks solicitors, email greetings from Sue Arnold, Matthew Ellis and Mike Wilcox

Information Commissioner renewal information

Chairman of Lichfield District Council Charity Night invitation

Best Kept Village information

7.Councillor's Business.

Cllr Mason reported on the Senior Citizen's Christmas meal on December 14th, which had been a great success, thanks would be sent to Clare and Carol who had organised it so well. *Action:Clerk*

She also asked a query about a footpath on the main road which would be referred to Highways. A burst water pipe also needed reporting. *Action:Clerk*

Cllr Van Arkadie had contacted the National Forest regarding tree planting to help with drainage, they would only help with large scale planting, so this idea would be kept in reserve for now.

Cllr Sprason asked that thanks and good wishes for his recovery be sent to the website manager. Cllr Sprason had asked the administrator to update the site. He asked about buses, the Clerk had heard that a survey of users of the buses was being planned. He also commented that the drains were still not clear, and asked that this be chased up again. *Action:Clerk*

Cllr Startin had heard that the Stay and Play group may move out of the village, Councillors felt that the group's resources should be kept in Edingale.

Cllr Dhillon enquired whether, as the village had been recently cut off by flooding on surrounding roads, and as funds could be available for communities affected by flooding, enquiries could be made of the MP and County Councillor about this. *Action:Clerk*

8.To receive District and County Councillor's comments.

None received.

9.To consider any planning applications.

None received.

10.To consider a rural housing survey.

Deferred to the next meeting.

11.To consider developing a Parish Plan.

Resolved to contact the Local Plans Development Officer for advice on this.

Action:Clerk

12.To consider progress on mobile toilet firm.

It was thought that there was no evidence of work still being done from this site and an appeal had not been made. RESOLVED to monitor this during the year.

13.To consider quotes received.

A quote had been received for the work to lay the hedge; one further quote would be obtained as soon as possible. RESOLVED that the sender of the cheaper quote would be instructed to lay the hedge before March.

14.To consider donations to be made.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that donations of the same amount as last year be made to the Church and Village Hall to support these. Cheques would be authorised at the next meeting and sent in February.

15.To receive the Financial Report.

NatWest had finally sorted out the mandate but there was a delay in transferring the capital sum to the bond with the Buckinghamshire Building Society until this had been done. A further letter to authorise this was signed.

It was agreed to investigate investing the remaining capital sum for 6 months.

The bank reconciliation was noted.

The VAT reclaim sum had been received.

The form requesting the precept from the District Council would be submitted during January.

16.To approve the payment of cheques on the cheque payment schedule.

RESOLVED to approve payments to the following:

Mrs M Jones, Salary and expenses; HMRC PAYE;

RCD Electrical, further set of Christmas Lights; EON, Highway Lighting;

Information Commissioner, Notification fee

17. Date of next meeting

Monday 4th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15.