

# EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2nd December, 2013  
at 7.30pm at Edingale Village Hall.

Members present:

Cllr C Wesley, Chairman

Cllr Mrs N Mason M.B.E.

Cllr Mrs M Cliffe

Cllr H Dhillon

Cllr J Startin

Cllr S Sprason

Cllr I Van Arkadie

In Attendance: Mrs M Jones, Clerk to the Parish Council; 4 members of the public and representatives of the Black Horse Action Group.

1. **To receive Apologies**

None received.

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 4<sup>th</sup> November.**

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. **To adjourn the meeting, to hold the Public Session (maximum 15 minutes) and to reconvene the meeting.**

Members of the Black Horse Action Group had attended to report on their meeting held earlier. A member had met the owner and the main points of the discussion were given; the owner stood by the valuation of £500,000, he did not wish for an independent valuation to be done and he was no longer offering the pub for lease. He was appealing against the nomination of the Black Horse as an Asset of Community Value. The Chair said that the Parish Council had been informed of a hearing and he would attend to speak on behalf of the community; this was likely to be in January. It was agreed that the Chair would discuss the key issues with representatives of the group prior to the hearing. The group's main focus now was to ensure that this appeal was rejected as the nomination was a major consideration in the refusal of planning permission for change of use.

The War Memorial at the church was also discussed; this was in need of refurbishment; grant funding could be available as next year marks the centenary of the start of the First World War. This would be considered on the next agenda.

## **5. To receive the Clerk's Report**

**Affordable housing** - It had been confirmed that 2 sites were under consideration, and further information would be available in the New Year.

**Registration of Village Hall Land** - No further information had been received, and the solicitor would be contacted again.

**Playground equipment** - The Village Hall Committee had asked more firms to quote, but none had done so. As the repairs were needed quickly for safety reasons they had been ordered from the original company.

**Woodland Trust saplings** - These had been planted by Les.

**Drains** - Les had cleared those reported at the last meeting.

## **6. To receive correspondence**

Staffordshire County Council- regarding the footbridge

The National Forest - Forest Scene publication

Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership consultation

SPCA updates and AGM details

Lichfield District Council - Next meeting of Parish Forum 16<sup>th</sup> January

NHS - information for the website about staying healthy this winter

## **7. To receive Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Mason suggested that the reflectors on the Harlaston Road needed replacement. She asked that the amount donated by the Parish Council for the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch should be increased, as a large number had booked for the event. This was discussed, however the amount could not be changed at short notice.

Cllr Cliffe had brought in a picture which it was agreed should form part of the Parish Council's archives.

Cllr Dhillon said that there was no further report on the Village Hall.

Cllr Van Arkadie mentioned the War Memorial and the saplings.

Cllr Sprason reported drains and verges on Croxall Road which needed clearing. The web site would need discussion on the next agenda.

Cllr Startin asked when the hedges and willow trees along Croxall Road needed to be trimmed. He noted that local roads had been patched.

Cllr Wesley had been informed that trees had been cut down at the new housing development in Pessall Lane. As this breached the planning conditions enforcement would be notified and asked to inspect the site.

*Action:Clerk*

8. **To receive District and County Councillor's comments.**  
None received
9. **To consider any planning applications.**
- (a) No applications had been received this month.
  - (b) The Parish Council had been notified of, but had no need to attend, a Planning Inspector's meeting regarding the Willington C Gas pipeline.
10. **To consider any update regarding the Black Horse.**  
This had been reported on during the public session.
11. **To consider planting of commemorative trees and ordering of plaques.**  
It was suggested that the Best Kept Village tree be planted at Blakeways Close and the Jubilee Oak tree on the meadow at Rowley Close, and this could be agreed at a future meeting. The Arboretum would be contacted for advice regarding plaques. *Action:Clerk*
12. **To consider enquiry regarding reporting of Council meetings.**  
RESOLVED not to amend the standing orders to allow filming photographing and recording of Council meetings.  
The Parish Council stressed that its meetings were open to the public.
13. **To consider grass cutting for 2014.**  
RESOLVED to obtain quotes for cutting grass in the village and at the Village Hall, to ensure value for money as this formed a large part of the Council's expenditure. *Action:Clerk*
14. **To consider the draft budget for 2014-15.**  
RESOLVED to approve the draft budget and to request £11,330 precept from the District Council as in previous years.
15. **To consider opening an account with Unity Trust Bank.**  
RESOLVED to continue to bank with the Cooperative Bank.  
Despite recent media concerns about the bank, there had been no problems with the Parish Council's accounts, and funds were guaranteed.
16. **To receive the Financial Report**
- (a) The bank reconciliation was noted.
  - (b) Performance against budget was explained.
  - (c) Reform of Cheque Payments law was expected shortly.
17. **To approve the payment of cheques on the cheque payment schedule.**  
Approved payments to Mrs M Jones, salary and expenses; Mr L. Watkins, grass mowing; Mr A. Smith, Village Hall mowing; Edingale Village Hall, donation for Christmas meal for Senior Citizens.
18. **Date of next meeting.**

Monday 6th January at 7.30 p.m. The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed Chair .....

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