

EDINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6th October 2014
at 7.30pm at Edingale Village Hall.

Members present:

Cllr N Mason M.B.E. (Chair)

Cllr M Cliffe

Cllr H Dhillon

Cllr J Lacey

Cllr J Startin

In Attendance: Mrs M Jones, Clerk to the Parish Council; 2 members of the public.

1. **To receive Apologies**
Cllr Wesley and Cllr Van Arkadie had apologised; the apologies were accepted.
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 1st September.**
The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
4. **To adjourn the meeting, to hold the Public Session, and to reconvene the meeting**
Cllr Mason welcomed the members of the public who had attended. Mr Pilgrim reported that the water leak in Church Lane had been repaired and that he had cleared up the area; hopefully this was the end of this problem. Mr Wells reported back on refurbishments needed at the Village Hall. Positive comments had been received from the Best Kept Village Judges. The Clerk was asked to find out whether the District Council could provide improved signage about dog fouling. The County Council would be contacted about the timing of the speed signs by the school and about the sign by the Parish Council notice board which did not appear to work.
5. **To receive the Clerk's Report**
Leak by the Church - The water authority had confirmed that the leak was from a water main which had finally been repaired.
Street signage - The District Council had been contacted about the estate agents' signs attached to various street signs; they had agreed to request the agents to remove them to prevent damage to the signs. Cllrs confirmed that the signs had been removed.

Mobile phone signal -Chris Pincher MP had been asked how the government planned to improve phone reception in Edingale, he had written to the department concerned and would send their response in due course.

Broadband - the County Council had confirmed that faster broadband would be installed by the end of the year; Councillors confirmed that it was now installed and that residents should contact their service providers regarding connection.

Bushes at Rowley Close - these had been cut back by the contractor to clear the pavement and pillar as requested.

Road Signage - A resident had reported to Highways that the signs by the school should also be flashing when the older pupils were using the roads, and also that the Speed Indicator Device near the Parish Council notice board had never worked. The Clerk would discuss these issues with Highways.

Footbridge on the path to Harlaston - Staffordshire County Council had confirmed that the work to replace the bridge would begin by the end of October.

6. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins

Community Council AGM and Annual Report

Sir Robert Peel Hospital - closure of day case theatre consultation

Staffordshire County Council - ice busters scheme and youth services

7. To receive Councillor's Reports

Cllr Dhillon reported on some queries regarding a fence and trees near his property from a resident; the Clerk would reply to these.

Cllr Lacey enquired about recent changes in legislation affecting meetings.

Cllr Startin enquired about overhanging trees in a neighbouring parish which affected farm traffic; the Clerk would follow this up with Highways.

Cllr Mason reported on the funeral of Arthur Rowley, and praised his contribution to village life; he served as a Parish Councillor for over 50 years.

She also asked for improvements to bus services to facilities such as local surgeries for elderly residents , which would be raised with the appropriate agencies. *Action:Clerk*

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

Cllr Arnold had been unable to attend.

9. To consider any planning matters.

No applications had been received.

10. To consider a request for a donation from the Playgroup

Councillors discussed the request and it was agreed that this provided a valuable facility for families in the village.

RESOLVED to initially donate the costs of rental of the Village Hall for a term to the Let's Play group.

11. To consider the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Councillors discussed the successful event of last year and felt that an increased contribution towards the party would be appropriate. It was proposed by Cllr Dhillon, seconded by Cllr Lacey and RESOLVED to contribute £500.

12. To consider improvements at the Village Hall

As no quotes had yet been produced for the Council's consideration, it was not possible to consider a donation for any improvements. This would be considered at a future meeting.

13. To consider further investment of sums held on deposit with the Cooperative Bank.

RESOLVED to invest the funds held by the Cooperative Bank for a further 12 months.

14. To receive the Financial Report

- (a) Bank reconciliation - this was noted.
- (b) An invoice dating from 2012 had been received from the County Council for grounds maintenance, having previously been sent to the wrong address; queries had been answered; the service had been provided and not previously paid for; RESOLVED that payment would be approved.
- (c) The Audited Annual Return had been received from the external auditors. They commented on the high level of reserves which were held, from the proceeds of a land sale. Councillors agreed that as the Parish Council had kept the precept at the same level for some years it continued to deal with public money prudently.

RESOLVED to approve the Financial Report.

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

Approved payments to Mrs M Jones, salary and expenses;
L. Watkins, village and playing field mowing and maintenance £420
Staffordshire County Council, playing field maintenance 2011, £1035.60

16. Date of next meeting. Monday 3rd November 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Signed Chair