

2018/14

## ELMLEY CASTLE, BRICKLEHAMPTON & NETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from a meeting of Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton and Netherton Parish Council, held in the village hall on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm

### OPEN FORUM:

- The Queens Public House is at risk, with one resident in attendance advising that despite trade increasing, the pub is losing money year after year. One of the main factors is the competition from the cricket club, and help/support is requested from the parish council. To be discussed under the agenda item later in the meeting.
- NHB – one member of the public asked about the previously approved NHB application for funding of the extension at the village hall. Cllr Speed advised that the storage solution had been resolved by using the space previously used by the shop/post office. Thereby the allocated funds had been 'returned' and were now available for future applications. Available funds - £12,992 for significant, community capital projects

**1. PRESENT:** Chairman M Axtell-Powell                      Cllr D Thompson                      Cllr E Stephens  
Vice Chairman K Mackison                      Cllr G Hickey                      Cllr J Douglas  
Cllr S Speed                      Cllr D Thompson  
Clerk L Yapp                      4 members of the public

**2. APOLOGIES** were received from Cllrs J Strong, K Lewis and G Mackison

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None declared

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from previous meetings since 3<sup>rd</sup> May were approved and signed

**6. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS** – nothing to report

**7. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT** – nothing to report

### 8. REPORTS:

- Lengthsman – a request was made for the LM to remove as much overgrowth from the walls of the stream as possible, paying particular attention to the brickwork to avoid damage. Also to be mindful that it was a watercourse and that chemical intervention was best avoided
- Youth Bus – Cllr Speed advised that revised summer dates are awaited. *We have since been advised that the YB was undergoing 'improvements' and for the time being is 'off the road'. It is hoped that this would soon be completed in time for the summer*

### 9. PLANNING:

- 18/00958 – Spinney Cottage, Bricklehampton – rear and side elevation, re-roof of garage – there were no objections to this application, proposal made to support by Cllr Mackison, seconded Cllr Axtell-Powell, all in favour.
- 18/01103 Nosterns Well – amendments to show proposed new location – there were no objections to this application, however, the question was raised as to whether there should be a planning application for change of use from agricultural to equestrian use. The clerk would add this to the comments to WDC. Proposed Cllr Hickey, seconded Cllr Mackison – all in favour

**10. FINANCE:****a) Payments** made since the last meeting/to be paid:

687	Tree Works	1881.00
688	Lengthsman	165.00
689	Lengthsman Exp.	61.66
690	Cheque cancelled	
691	Came & Co Insurance	341.53
692	Internal Audit	120.00
SO	Clerks Salary	530.40
SO	Clerks Expenses	15.00
694	Grass Cutting	295.00
695	Lengthsman	165.00
696	Grass Cutting at Church 201718 & 201718	1500.00
SO	Clerks Salary	530.40
SO	Clerks Expenses	15.00
697	HAGS-SMP (P/ground)	959.40
698	Worcs CALC	8.50

b) Clerks Hourly Rate – NALC has reviewed salary pay scales which would raise the clerks hourly rate from £11.05 to £11.275 per hour. This would have an impact of £129.60 per annum. Proposal made to pass this recommendation to the clerk made by Cllr Axtell-Powell, seconded Cllr Speed – all in favour

## c) Account balances:

Current Account	£6,213.17
Deposit Account	£28,308.19
Tree Fund	£2661.18

**10. TREES/PLAYING FIELD**

- Playground – repairs to the see-saw had been carried out. It was agreed that a quantity of bark be ordered, 10 bags costing approximately £450. This was agreed by all.

**11. BENCH ON PLAYING FIELD** – a request had been received from a resident for a bench to be placed on the playing field in memory of their father. There were no objections from the parish council but asked that any future maintenance should be carried out by the family. It was further agreed that a record be kept of benches in and around the parishes

**12. QUEENS PUBLIC HOUSE** – following brief discussion in the *Open Forum* regarding the future of The Queens – the parish council were very sympathetic and were keen to help where possible. The clerk advised that she hadn't received the request from WDC, asking the parish council to support a request for Business Rate Relief (which would have a favourable impact on the pubs annual business rate bill). The general feeling amongst Cllrs was that they all saw the pub as a valuable community asset and would not want to see it close but questioned that any financial contribution would not resolve the on-going issues in the long-term. In the first instance the following was agreed:

- To establish the licencing agreement held by the Cricket Club
- CALC – to take advice as the 'business' is privately owned - is the parish council able to make a donation/contribution to the 'Company' at all - maybe towards the cost of maintenance, gardening services, new equipment, or a cash contribution.
- *Since the meeting, it was suggested that a meeting with 'shareholders' would probably be the best starting point, once we had received feedback from CALC as to what we can or can't do to help*

**13. CRICKET CLUB**

- Grass Cutting – the Cricket Club had agreed to mow the football pitch area as well as the cricket pitch. SmartCut would cut the entrance to the playing field and the surrounding edges
- Scoreboard – a request has been received for a score board (with 6 x 4 shed) – in principal there were no objections but it was agreed that the CC should check with WDC as to whether or not planning approval was required. The clerk would write to the CC advising this

**14. BUS SERVICE** - the clerk advised of the possible loss of the village Hopper due to cut in subsidy and lack of users. It was agreed that a note be placed in the LINK advising residents of this.

**15. GDPR** – A draft Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notice had been circulated to Cllrs for approval. One Cllr questioned the wording of one sentence in the Data Privacy Notice, which he felt was unclear, however the rest of the parish council didn't share the same view. Cllr Axtell-Powell proposed the two documents be formally adopted, seconded by Cllr Hickey, with 6 Cllrs in favour and one against. These would go on the website as a legal requirement and on the village hall notice board

**18. CORRESPONDENCE** – emails had been circulated to Cllrs

**19. OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

- Notice Board – Bricklehampton – Cllr Douglas asked if it would be possible for a notice board to be placed near to Poplars Farm/B4084. It was agreed that Cllr Douglas should speak to residents for their views on this in the first instance

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Next meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September – the clerk reminded Cllrs that the Police & Crime Commissioner would be in attendance. It was suggested that this should be placed in the LINK