

ELLISTOWN AND BATTLEFLAT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Extraordinary meeting on Monday 8 August 2016 at Ellistown Primary School - 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Merrie (Chair), Cllr Pollard (Vice Chair), Cllr Norley, Cllr Powell

In Attendance: H Dalton Clerk to the Council (arrival 7:20 pm due to inescapable road congestion because of an accident.)
3 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Willett-Marshall.

No apologies received from Cllr Morrell.

2. Declaration of Interests: Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary

None.

3. Minutes from the meeting

The Council AGREED to accept as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2016.

4. Public Participation

Mr M Brennan provided an update on his meeting with Wal Groves regarding flooding at Mountpark. A discussion followed between Mr M Brennan and Cllr Merrie. Water had receded, probably due to drier weather conditions. Mr M Brennan will continue to monitor, including taking photographs, on a daily basis and will include Cllr Merrie into any emails. Cllr Merrie advised they have the photographs as evidence as to what the conditions are really like. He will walk the route with Wal Groves on 18 August 2016; he required a technical drawing to show what Wal has actually done, and what he still intends to do.

Ms J Betts requested to be kept in the loop regarding path and gate access for the park at St Christopher's Road. She would also like to be updated when the Parish Council knows what is going to be implemented for gates and wheelchair/scooter access to the Mountpark woodland. Cllr Merrie advised he would like to get her involved prior to any implementation/building work. Currently, he has one quote and is expecting another. A third supplier had been contacted but had declined to quote as they were too busy. The chosen supplier(s) will have to conform to the technical drawings and specification of Leicestershire County Council highway disability/accessibility gate specification. He will set up a meeting for him, Cllr Pollard and the manger from Mountpark and ask Mountpark to pay for disability access around the village.

Cllr Pollard raised the issue of dog fouling in the jitty opposite the Post Office. Individuals were picking up bags of dog excrement and throwing them into the hedge. He had also visited St Christopher's Park and observed dogs running around on the park which could be a hazard to children. Cllr Merrie advised, builders have been asked to supply quotes to add an accessible gate to the far side of St Christopher's Park (adjacent to the N47 footpath) to enclose the park, and also repair the fence. Additionally, to remove the existing narrow path and add a compact gravel path from the new accessible gate across the park, via the play area and stepping stones, to the rocks by the large gate on St Christopher's Road. By totally enclosing the play park the Parish Council could then add 'No Dogs Allowed' notices to the fenced park which should, hopefully, eliminate dog fouling. It would not be possible to get a disability kissing-gate on the St Christopher's Road entrance, however, it would be wide enough for people in

wheelchairs to get through. There might be different types of gate at either side of the park as they varied greatly in cost, but all the relevant information would be gathered before the Parish Council decided what option(s) to go forward with.

5. Planning

The Council considered the following planning applications:

- a. Application Reference: Battleflat Farm N50, N51 and N52 Extinguishments and Creation Order

Proposal: Footpath Extinguishment and Creation Order

Location: Grid Reference: SK 443800 311300

The Council raised no objection as it felt it would have no impact.

- b. Application Reference: 16/00675/ADC

Proposal: Display of illuminated fascia and totem signs

Location: Amazon Site, Beveridge Lane, Coalville, Ellistown.

The Council objected on the grounds of visual intrusion and light pollution. The Clerk was requested to notify North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) Planning Officer of their objection.

Cllr Merrie also provided the following update: NWLDC have advised Mountpark to withdraw planning for illuminated fascia signs facing towards Ellistown, it would not give permission for them to be illuminated.

6. Finance

Five invoices and corresponding cheques were presented and signed by councillors. The completion of Signatories forms and Change of Authorised Account Persons forms are to be carried forward to the next meeting.

7. Projects

Cllr Merrie provided an update on the Neighbourhood Plan which now requires additional funding to amend the current report and complete the plan, and is a direct result of NWLDC's proposed Local Plan. The only way for Ellistown to get any future traffic management improvements such as calming measures was to make changes to the Neighbourhood Plan. There was funding available from Locality to which Parish Councils can apply to complete their Neighbourhood Plan. The Council AGREED the Clerk should process an application for additional funding from Locality for YourLocale Ltd to complete the Neighbourhood Plan

8. Consider changing the existing Parish Council email provider

The Clerk explained Yahoo is no longer fit for purpose and does not meet the council's current business needs. In the interests of business continuity she recommended using Exchange Server which is fully compatible with Microsoft Office, backs up all emails, contacts, etc. Should the Parish Council laptop break or be stolen all information would be retrievable; nothing would be lost. The cost for this service was £180 per year plus a one-off set-up charge of £70, which included migrating existing information over to the new supplier. Cllr Powell queried the ongoing cost to the council and suggested using Gmail as that was free. It was AGREED Cllr Powell and the Clerk should meet to look at Gmail and discuss options.

9. Future Agenda Items

- Completion of Signatories forms and Change of Authorised Account Persons forms. Clerk to provide.
- Change of email provider. Clerk to provide update.
- Update on grounds maintenance: flowerbeds and parks. Cllr Pollard to provide.
- s137 Funding for Ellistown Remembrance Sunday Event. Cllr Powell to present.

- Update from YourLocale Ltd regarding Neighbourhood Plan.
- Code of Conduct Review. Cllr Merrie to present.

10. Date, time and venue of next meeting.

Wednesday 14th September 2016 - 7:00pm at Ellistown Primary School.

The meeting closed at 7:40 pm.

Chairman:

Date: