

# ELLISTOWN & BATTLEFLAT PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2016 @ 7pm  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
ELLISTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHITEHILL ROAD, ELLISTOWN

## Present

Cllr Keith Merrie (CHAIRMAN), Cllr Matthew Pollard (VICE CHAIRMAN),  
Cllr George Norley, Cllr James Pollard, Ruth Willett-Marshall

## In Attendance

Karen Turrell - Clerk  
9 members of the public

## 1. Apologies for absence

None

## 2. Declaration of Interests: Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary

Cllr Merrie – Non-Pecuniary – Item 10, School Fund Application – Governor and child attends the school,

Cllr Willett-Marshall – Non-Pecuniary – Item 10, School Fund Application – Child attends the school.

## 3. Minutes from the meeting

The Council **AGREED** to accept as a true record the minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

## 4. County Council report

None in attendance

## 5. District Council Report

Cllr Merrie thanked Cllr Powell and the Scouts for organising the Remembrance Sunday event and Cllr Pollard for continuing to ensure the ground's maintenance is running smoothly. He also wished to thank Cllr Powell for his efforts in organising the Community Woodland group. A plaque would be installed at the woodland in memory of the late Cllr Penny Wakefield.

Cllr Merrie was pleased to inform the Meeting that the funding for which he applied when he visited Leicestershire Police in October had been approved. The amount of £28,000 has been granted to the Parish by the Police 106 fund to spend on crime prevention throughout Ellistown and Battleflat.

Cllr Merrie reported that the abandoned vehicle on Beveridge Lane has now been removed.

Cllr Merrie sent an email to Cllr's Nick Rushton and Richard Blunt of Leicestershire County Council regarding the traffic issues which the village is experiencing. He has also contacted Amazon about the "HGV's right turn only" sign at their exit not being in place. He has been advised that this will be in place very soon.

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

## 6. Police Report

None in attendance

Meeting adjourned to allow for public questions

## 7. Public Recess

Maureen Parry of Ellistown Fundraising group reported that the Santa Special is coming along well and posters are being distributed. Both Maureen and Cllr Willett-Marshall have been making enquiries at several locations for next year's Santa Special Christmas meals to enable them to take Parishioners out rather than organise and cook the meals themselves. They have both had some positive feedback and will report back at a later date when the planning for 2017 is underway.

Amalia Kuchlin of The Grange reported that her Father was the person involved in the serious collision which happened the week previous near to her property. He has numerous serious injuries but is recovering slowly in hospital. She has concerns with the speed of traffic and HGV usage on the roads throughout the village on a daily basis. Offered support to the Parish Council for future groups/working parties on traffic issues. Cllr Merrie asked Ms Kuchlin to leave her contact details with the Clerk so that she could be informed when any sub-groups are started.

Andrew Potts of Ellistown Farm agreed with Ms Kuchlin that there were issues and too many crashes that weren't reported. The walls of both his and his neighbour's front gardens had been hit.

Cllr Merrie advised that this matter is on the Agenda for discussion later in the Meeting and is a priority for the Parish Council to try to resolve. He has been in touch previously with the County and District Councils with very little success in gaining their support for funding some type of traffic management due to there being no recorded incidents. However, now that there is a recorded incident he is hopeful that the issue can be revisited and hopefully a resolution put in place.

Cllr Merrie said that a Community Speedwatch needs to take place, HGV signs need to be farther out of the village as they are too close at present and the sub-group would have to look at whether speed cameras are a viable option.

Jenny Betts of St Christopher's Road said she felt it was dangerous to pull out of the junction on to Whitehill Road because of speeding traffic and cars parked at the side of the road near to the junction. She also said it isn't safe to cross, especially for disabled people. Tina O'Keefe agreed that because of parked cars it was difficult getting out of junction. Cllr Pollard had seen Leicestershire County Council out and about but it was on a Sunday and they couldn't see any issues with traffic or parking at the time. Cllr Merrie agreed and said this would all be on the Agenda for the traffic management sub-committee.

The Police would be invited to join the sub-committee also.

Mr Aldridge raised the issue of dog fouling and people throwing bags in to and over the hedges in front of the Wesleyan Reform Church on Whitehill Road. Cllr Merrie had asked for CCTV in the village but the Police rejected to fund through their 106 monies.

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

Mr Brennan enquired about the kissing gates and Cllr Merrie informed everyone that there was a longer lead time on the gates than expected and the contractor who will be supplying and installing is currently in contact with a different manufacturer which hopefully means that they should be ready for installation in the next few weeks.

Meeting reconvened

### **8. Skate Park/Community Building**

Cllr Powell is keen for the village to have a managed skate park facility which is self-funding. He wants the Parish Council to look at doing a feasibility study on this. Cllr Powell said he wasn't sure what sites would be most suitable as St Christopher's Park may not be best for residents due to the noise a skate park would generate, on South Street it may be vulnerable to vandalism and if Rushby Road was to be considered then trees which have recently been planted would need relocating, however this would be the most appropriate location as Cllr Pollard suggested that the trees do not have preservation orders on them. Cllr Merrie thought that it would be a good idea for the Clerk and himself to approach Heather Parish Council, who themselves have just had a community building built, and visit them to discuss how best to approach the matter.

### **9. Traffic Issues**

Cllr Merrie is currently doing some groundwork on this item and is in the process of looking at starting a Traffic Management sub-committee/working party to enable the Parish Council to approach and try to resolve the numerous road and traffic issues that Ellistown and Battleflat are experiencing.

Cllr Willett-Marshall suggested that this could be included in the next Parish newsletter so that it informs residents of what the Parish Council is trying to do to help and enables them to become involved with future discussions.

Cllr Merrie would like to invite Parishioners, the Police, County and District Planning, Highways and Speedwatch to attend the meetings of, and become involved with, the working party. He would also like to contact Andrew Bridgen, MP and leaders of the District and County Councils to inform them of the Parish Councils intentions.

### **10. Community Fund Application**

Ellistown Primary School had submitted an application form to the Parish Council for financial help with the installation of sound and lighting equipment in the school hall. All Councillors have seen the application which was provided electronically. Cllr Pollard proposed and Cllr Willett-Marshall seconded that the Community Fund would support this project and provide the school with £3110.60 (including VAT), which is in addition to the sum of £1500 received from Amazon by the school.

**All Agreed**

### **11. Funding for Trips**

Concerns had been raised by Cllr Willett-Marshall regarding liability of the Parish Council if trips were organised to take residents out using funds provided by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Parish Council's insurance company for further advice. The Clerk would also make contact with companies who could be approached to provide transport for these days out to obtain quotes.

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

## 12. Meeting Dates – 2017

Cllr Merrie requested that Meetings to be held in 2017 could coincide with his District Council meetings and also that the Parish Council considers the number of meetings that need to be held throughout the year. It was agreed that once Cllr Merrie had the dates for his District meetings this matter could be put on the following Agenda for dates to be agreed upon.

## 13. Planning (received after Agenda finalised)

### a. Application Reference: 16/01231/FUL

**Proposal:** Erection of a first floor side extension

**Location:** 5 Elton Way, Ellistown

**No Issues**

### b. Application Reference: 16/00880/VCU

**Proposal:** Variation of condition 2 and 7 of planning permission 15/00824/FUL to allow for alterations to the car parking arrangements.

**Location:** New Ellistown, Whitehill Road, Ellistown, Coalville

**No Issues**

## 14. Clerk's Report (see attached)

The Clerk's report was received by the Council.

## 15. Finance

a. It was agreed by all Member's that the invoices from the previous month could be paid.

b. It was agreed by all Member's that the Clerk and Chairman would meet to discuss the setting of the budget for the following year and the Clerk would present this at the next Meeting.

c. It was agreed by all Member's that they would like the bank account moving from the Co-operative as there is uncertainty regarding the bank's future plus the nearest branch is located over 10 miles away from the Clerk. The Clerk has been doing some research and suggested that the Natwest is possibly going to be the best bank to move to. However, the Clerk said she would gather more information to present to the Parish Council so that a definite decision could be agreed upon.

## 16. Consultations

- Good Design for NWL – Supplementary Planning Document

**No Comment**

- Playing Pitch Strategy – Parish Town Council Survey – Cllr Merrie completed online due to the deadline being prior to the Meeting

## 17. Boundary Changes

The Member's discussed ways in which they could inform Parishioners of the proposed changes to the boundaries in relation to elections and District Council control. It is proposed that Ellistown and Battleflat become part of Hinckley and Bosworth District. It was agreed by all Members that a link to the article could be put on the website and in the Parish newsletter, along with leaflet drops to houses in the Parish.

Chairman's Signature:

Date:

### 18. Grounds Maintenance

Cllr Pollard reported that there were no issues and was very pleased with how good the War Memorial looked for the Remembrance Sunday service. Cllr Pollard suggested that it would be a good idea to have a suitable bin near to the War Memorial that was in keeping with the location. Cllr Pollard was meeting with Brian Mee to test the Christmas lights. It was agreed by all Members that the Clerk would do research for improved Christmas lights in 2017.

### 19. Date, time and venue of next meeting

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – 7.00pm at Ellistown Primary School, Whitehill Road, Ellistown, LE67 1EN

The Meeting closed

## Confidential

### 20. Personnel Matters

- **All agreed** that the Clerk's Contract/Terms of Employment need not be seen by all Councillors other than the Chairman. A copy would be signed by the Clerk and the Chairman and kept on file.
- **All agreed** that Jake Atkinson would be asked to undertake and paid for by the Council a role appraisal to advise the Council on the recommended pay scale for this particular position. Due to holiday this will be done in the New Year.
- **All agreed** that an appraisal of the Clerk would take place on a 6 monthly basis with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- **All agreed** that due to the Clerk requiring time off in the New Year for a hip replacement it would be most practical for her to begin the CiLCA training when the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of courses at LRALC commence in June 2017.

Chairman's Signature:

Date: