

**ELFORD JUBILEE MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting – Sunday 18 October 2009**

**At 7.30pm**

**At the Social Club, Elford**

MINUTE	ACTION
<p><b>Present:</b>  Chairman – Mr R. Cowley (RC)  Mr David Watton (DW)  Mr Steve Pountney (SP)  Mr Tim Gilbert (TG)  Mr Dave Brayer (DB)  Mr R. Cornell (RC)  Mr W. McCarvery (WM)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b>  Mr Paul Edmunds – Treasurer (PE)  Mrs Frances Pountney – Secretary (FP) (SP taking minutes)  Mr N. Prinsep (DP)</p> <p><b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record with the exception of item – Signage – Minute should have read: <u>All of the signs had been installed</u> rather than most of the signs etc.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The meeting was held to discuss matters specifically relating to the Chairman’s report to the committee meeting held on 27 September 2009. This report details concerns expressed by Elford Parish Council over the method of running the Playground Committee.</p> <p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p><b>1. <u>Chairman’s Report</u> –</b></p> <p>a) A copy of the above-mentioned Chairman’s report had been emailed to the Chairman of the Parish Council Roger Billingham (RB). This had prompted an email dated 6 October 2009 from RB to RC, which was copied to numerous members of the Playground Committee.</p> <p>b) As a result of the above-mentioned email DC and DW attended a meeting with RB earlier on the 18 October 2009 at his house to discuss possible alternative methods of running the Playground Committee, which would be acceptable to the Parish Council. These were as follows:</p> <p>i) <b><u>Friends of Elford Memorial Playground</u></b></p> <p>This was a suggestion made by DW and would follow a similar format to the ‘Friends of Howard School’. DW had prepared a draft “Terms of Reference” for this group, which were circulated at the meeting and are attached to these minutes.</p>	<p align="right"><b>FP to scan and circulate w/c 07.12.09</b></p>

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<p>ii) <b><u>Formation of a new “Club” with a lease from the Parish Council</u></b></p> <p>This was a suggestion made by RB in his email to RC dated 06/10/09 and would be on a similar basis to Elford Cricket Club. It is understood that the lease would be on a “peppercorn” basis and should the “Club” fold the Parish Council would take over control of the playground.</p> <p>ii) <b><u>Two or more members of the EMPGC to either stand for election or be co-opted as Parish Councillors</u></b></p> <p>This was a suggestion made by RC and SP, however the feasibility would need to be discussed with the Chairman of the Parish Council (RB)</p> <p>A heated discussion took place relating to the three options mentioned above and concerns were raised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Possible loss of autonomy over the monies raised by EMPGC, which currently stands at over £14,000.</li><li>• The possibility that individuals may become legally responsible for financial or health and safety matters relating to the running of the Playground. Rather than these matters being the ultimate responsibility of the Parish Council.</li><li>• That members of the Playground Committee had not been given the opportunity to speak to the Parish Council auditor prior to a very damning report being produced relating to the activities of the Playground Committee.</li></ul> <p>2. <b><u>Treasurers’ Report</u></b> – A post meeting notice (21/10/09 attached) regarding the treasurers report from DW, quote: I spoke to PE re anomalies in his cash book report: ‘ He was unable to produce a true cash book update due to the continued retention of the cheque book by the Parish Clerk.’ Therefore, the report tabled will be withdrawn to enable PE to re issue the report once he has all the information at hand.</p> <p>3. <b><u>Combined Insurance for Village Groups</u></b> – meeting at the Social Club on 28/09/09 – no interest shown from other Groups in the Village. Meeting terminated by RB.</p> <p>4. Any Other Business</p> <p><b>Date of Next Meeting – <u>Provisional date</u> -10<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm – Venue tba but probably the Sports and Social Club</b></p>	<p>RC/SP</p> <p>PE</p>
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