

**NYTHE, ELDENE & LIDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 6.30pm in Liden Library**

**Present**

Cllr K Parry (Chair)  
Cllr D Bell (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Z Hawson  
Cllr G Stubbs

**Officers**

Paul Davis (Interim Parish Council Clerk)

**Public**

Six

**Apologies**

Cllr G Cruse - apologies  
Cllr A Hunt – apologies  
Cllr O Ibitoye - apologies  
Cllr B Solomon – apologies  
Cllr Cockbill – absent

**1. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**

None

**2. Minutes of the previous meetings**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the parish council meetings held on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 be approved as true records. It was noted that the minutes of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 should not state that that it was an AGM

**3. Public Questions, Comments or Representations**

June Kennedy reported that the house opposite to where she lived was being used as a drugs den. She also raised a concern that the parents seem to have disappeared leaving children on their own. Cllr Parry responded that although this specifically was not a parish council issue, work was ongoing with Liden and Eldene regarding the ongoing drug issues.

A lady from Eastmere reported that one household in her street had up to 10 vans which are being used for Amazon deliveries. In response Cllr Parry response Cllr Parry reported that they have no powers to deal with parking issues, however if any of the vans were causing an obstruction then the issue could be reported to the police by ringing 101.

#### **4. Schedule of Payments**

It was RESOLVED that the schedule of payments be approved.

#### **5. Certificate of Lawful Development**

Planning applications were noted.

#### **6. Grant Application Group**

A letter from Val Barker regarding her recent request for a grant application was discussed. Councillors voted on the proposal and all four councillors voted against the proposal. Cllr Parry confirmed that he would write to Mrs Barker to inform her of the outcome.

#### **7. The Crumpled Horn Toilets**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Solomon had proposed using the closed public toilets behind the Crumpled Horn for storage for the Parish Council. Councillors discussed the proposal and as the toilets were in a poor state of repair, the parish have no tools to store and no costs were provided in relation to renovation, councillors **unanimously rejected the proposal.**

#### **8. Nythe Community Centre**

Sue Vowles, Chair of the Nythe Community Centre, reported that the Community Centre could potentially close at the end of the year due to concerns over the lack of committee members and key positions being vacant. It was noted that the centre does have regular users that want to make bookings. The Community Centre also has £15k in their budget. Mrs Vowles reported that the Community Centre does make a reasonable income and is able to pay all bills. It was noted that two or three groups may fold if the Centre closed. Cllr Parry advised that if the centre did close the building would revert back to Swindon Borough Council rather than the Parish. Cllr Parry advised that he would like the Parish Council to help out with recruitment activities. Mrs Vowles reported that local recruitment activities had been carried out and user groups had been asked if they could provide support. Further recruitment activities are planned. It was suggested that the Centre might wish to speak with Swindon 105.5. Following a request from Cllr Parry, Mrs Vowles agreed to provide the Parish Council with a spreadsheet of running costs.

In terms of staffing, the Centre requires approximately 4 to 5 hours a week of admin, 2 hours cleaning and probably another 2 hours caretaking. The workload can vary week on week, however, depending on bookings. If adding secretary/treasury responsibilities, it would approximately be staffing hours of 10 to 12 hours a week. Mrs Vowles confirmed that the Centre makes enough money to pay a member of staff. It was noted that all clubs have a key to open and close the building. A Caretaker is only required for parties.

Cllr Bell reported that he had asked Chris Roberts to contact the Centre directly to discuss the possibility of providing management of a booking system.

**9. Recruitment of permanent Parish Council Clerk**

Councillors unanimously agreed to place an advert for the permanent parish council clerk position in the Swindon Advertiser.

**10. Parish Council Website**

Councillors unanimously agreed to allocate £500 to the provision of a new website. Cllr Hawson commented that Word Press could potentially be used. Cllr Hawson will work with the Interim Parish Council Clerk to implement the new website.

**11. Date of next meeting**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm