

ELSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council
held in Elston Village Hall
Tuesday June 18 2019, at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllrs. Bertie Pinchera (Chairman), Peter Clark, Mathew Dyer,
Michael Key, Jim Archer, Rev Liz Murray, Andy Biddlecombe (A)

Also present Clerk: Mike Elliott, Newark and Sherwood Councillor - Ivor Walker and fifteen residents.

- 1] **APOLOGIES** Coun. Andy Biddlecombe (work)
- 2] **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** were approved as presented after it was agreed to change the word 'under' to 'until' in regard to the Southwell Diocese actions concerning the village war memorial as recorded on line one of agenda item 17.
- 3] **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** There were none. Coun. Murray said advice she had received advice from Newark and Sherwood District Council in regard to taking part and voting on item 4 on the agenda.
- 4] **WAR MEMORIAL** To review all documentation and statements received in advance and to discuss and resolve the Parish Council's position on the War Memorials situated in Elston All Saints Church
The chairman presented a report outlining what he thought were the options for the council in regard to voting or otherwise on the item concerning changing two spelling errors on the WW1 War Memorial sited in the porch of the parish church. He said the council had to make a decision as to whether they had the power to act to take action if they felt they wanted to override the church council decision to refuse permission for the go ahead to be permitted.
There was comment in regard to the contents of the minutes for the meeting on January 10 which had indicated no vote had been taken although they said the council supported the actions by those seeking to have the changes made. The clerk said the minutes had been approved at the following meeting. He pointed out that the discussion on the subject had taken place in the public section of the agenda and therefore no decision could be taken.
Opposing views were put forward by members on the overall matter.
Coun. Peter Clark spoke strongly for making changes to the existing memorial while Coun. Liz Murray backed the stance of the Parochial Church Council in opposing the changes being made.
Coun. Murray put forward the view that the council agree that the memorial was within the church ownership and Coun. Jim Archer seconded this, The motion was approved on a vote of 2 – 0 with four abstentions.
After further discussions involving actions that could be considered Coun. Clark proposed that the parish council apply to Southwell Diocese for a faculty to give approval for the known errors to the memorials in the parish church for both WW1 and WW2 to be amended. On a vote the figures were 3-3 and the chairman used his casting vote to defeat the proposal with a 4-3 vote.
Coun. Clark suggested the wording for the proposed side plaque advising of the known error be raised as an item on the agenda at the next meeting but it was eventually agreed that general discussions be put to Coun. Murray on behalf of the church council.
Coun Archer moved thanks to Coun. Clark for his input into the discussions, to the chairman for his handling of the meeting and to the clerk for his input into the circulation of the information that had been received which had shown four correspondents being in favour of making the changes and 25 being opposed.
- 5] There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.