

ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

held on

Wednesday September 18th 2019 in Elsworth School at 7:30pm

PRESENT

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Chairman | Peter Deer |
| Councillors | Rob Askham (RA) Alison Brolls (AB) Victoria McNeil (VM) David Pope (DP) Margaret Stevenson (MSt) |
| In attendance | Mrs E Sim (ES) Parish Clerk |
| District Councillor | Mark Howell (MH) |
| County Councillor | Mandy Smith (MS) |
| Parishioners | 2 |

1. Apologies for absence

James Witherow

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council AGM held on 17th July 2019.

The minutes were approved as a true record ^(Prop DP, 2nd MS) and signed by the Chairman.

4. Update on action points from July 17th Parish Council meeting

4.1. Community shop car park and bus shelter rethatching projects completed.

The car park might need top dressing with gravel at a later date, should there be settlement. The woodwork on the bus shelter would be re-stained in the coming week. PD advised that he would write an article on these projects (and also the flower bed under the village sign) for inclusion in the *Elsworth Times*.

4.2. Age UK Warden Scheme. Noted that a further meeting which would also involve Age UK had still to be take place and Cllr Smith agreed to pursue arrangements for this. PD reported that he and Rev Di Castiglione had agreed to meet to discuss possible SFF support for the scheme after the meeting with Age UK had taken place.

4.3. Village web site. DP had circulated an update to all Councillors, which is appended to these minutes. In the update the question was raised about the cost benefit of improving the existing web site. Agreed that ES contact other Parish Clerks to seek contact details for web designers and pass these on to DP and that further consideration be given to the costs of development at the next meeting.

4.4. Flower bed under the village sign. Noted that the cost of upkeep was small and agreed that it should be incorporated into the general village maintenance budget. PD reminded councillors that generally decisions on expenditure should be made at PC meetings and not by email.

4.5. Play area. Agreed that:

(i) Maintenance of the play area (taking account of the recommendations made in the safety inspection) should be addressed as soon as possible.

(ii) Substantial improvement of the play area would have significant cost implications and would require detailed consideration.

Further to the discussion at the last meeting RA was considering action to deal with the maintenance issues. With regard to the improvement of the play area he had agreed to meet representatives of play equipment companies on site, to discuss

ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

proposals and costings for upgrading the equipment. ES would forward information she had about such companies to him.

4.6. RA reported on the recent Sports Club Committee meeting.

PD proposed to move to agenda Item 9. Agreed.

9. Elsworth Pre School. To consider and if thought fit grant a request for funding from the Preschool

A letter from Elsworth Pre-school requesting funding had been circulated to all Councillors. It was agreed that the Parish Council required more information in order to consider any funding request. A meeting (ES to liaise with the Preschool) would be convened for this purpose.

5. Highways matters

5.1. To receive oral feedback on matters discussed with Cllr Smith and Highways Officer about alternative uses for the £7.5k including possible A14 funding for the purchase of an MVAS.

A14 funding has been approved for two MVAS for the village. Cllr Smith would chase re timescales. White lines and dragons' teeth are to be installed to mark new 40mph zones on the roads entering the village. New white lines will be marked out on the junction of the crossroads, Boxworth Road/Smith Street, Brook Street and Paddock Row. Drains on Boxworth Road and Brockley Road are to be cleared out. Cllr Howell agreed to request the DC to sweep roads to remove excessive straw deposited by harvest vehicles. Work has begun on resurfacing the footpath on Brockley Road.

5.2. Broad End. Noted that it had not yet been possible to arrange a second meeting (this time to include an officer from County Highways) to discuss the traffic problems in Broad End during school drop off and pick up times.

6. To receive oral/written reports from

6.1. C. Cllr. Mandy Smith. Cllr Smith had nothing further to report.

6.2. District Cllrs Howell and Wright. Cllr Howell reported that

- Organisational and operational changes at the DC Planning Department have had a marked adverse effect on the department's ability to deal with planning applications.
- -The new Cambridge Ice Arena is open. The DC contributed a substantial amount of funding to this project.
- The DC was working on fly tipping with a new policy that holds owners who pay individuals to take items away for disposal, responsible if the items are illegally disposed of.
- A scam involving residents in receipt of Universal Credit is circulating. Beneficiaries are being told they can receive this benefit more quickly if they pay a small fee.

6.3. The Fardell's Lane Committee. A report from the Chairman of the Committee had been circulated.

6.4 The Elsworth Community Flood Group. No report had been received. The Clerk reported that it had been agreed that a letter be sent to all residents who would be directly affected by a flood, asking for volunteers to join the Community Flood Group. Councillors agreed to help deliver the letters. Groundworks were offering funding for a national project (a nationwide community resilience programme that equips communities across the country with the knowledge and tools to effectively and

ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

confidently prepare for, respond to and recover from, flooding and other severe weather emergencies).The County Council had put forward Elsworth for inclusion in this scheme.

7. Clerks update

The update had been circulated and a copy is attached to these minutes. VM agreed to read the “Cambridge Housing Trajectory” and advise councillors if comments were required.

8. Report of Monthly accounts

The following payments were agreed (prop PD Sec DP)

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| GA Stevenson | Additional plants for village sign flower bed | 51.99 |
| Victoire press | Elsworth Village show schedule | 182.00 |
| Victoire press | Elsworth Show Entry Forms | 42.00 |
| Neil Kenny | Verge Cut (5) | 390.00 |
| Pendrill Publications | Elsworth times August edition Contribution | 75.00 |
| Helmsway Build | 1st instalment Car park resurfacing | 4,000.00 |
| Davison & co Gt Barford | Peppercorn rent for play area 2019 | 0.05 |
| Helmsway Build | 2nd instalment Car park resurfacing | 3,455.00 |

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|------------------------|--|----------|
| Thomas Harris | Delivery Elsworth times August edition | 30.00 |
| Guava Design | Renewal of elsworthvillage.com domain name (2 years) | 30.00 |
| Tony Dolton Thatcher | 1st instalment for Bus shelter re- thatching | 1,632.00 |
| Helmsway Build | 3rd instalment for Car Park Resurfacing | 3,455.00 |
| Tony Dolton Thatcher | 2nd instalment for Bus shelter rethatching | 816.00 |
| Helmsway Build | 4th instalment for Car Park resurfacing | 4,655.00 |
| Tony Dolton Thatcher | 3rd instalment for bus shelter rethatching | 272.00 |
| Guava Design | Purchase of domain name elsworthvillage.uk (2 years) | 25.00 |
| Paul Solon | Reimbursement for black plastic bin bags for litter pick | 34.80 |
| Neil Kenny | Verge Cut (6) | 390.00 |
| Neil Kenny | General village maintenance | 347.25 |
| Czech Made Scaffolding | Scaffolding for rethatching bus shelter | 420.00 |

9. Elsworth Preschool request for funding

Dealt with. (See Minute 5).

10. Broadband facilities in the village. To receive an oral update from David Pope

DP reported in detail on a meeting in August regarding the current and future plans for broadband coverage in the area. *County Broadband*, a company interested in supplying broadband connections, were possibly seeking Parish Councils to be gateways to the villages. This item will be brought back to future PC meetings for updates.

ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

11. The Elsworth Times Newsletter.

Gaynor Clements and Paul Solon had advised that they would not be continuing as editors after the October edition. An advert seeking a new editor would be published in the next edition of the *Elsworth Times*. Agreed to consider to give further consideration to this matter at the next meeting. **Planning applications received by the Parish Council**

12.1. S/0644/19/PA. Brown's Farm Barn, Boxworth Road, Elsworth. *Correct decision notice issued by SCDC.*

12.2. S/0795/19/FL and S/0796/19/LB Thornton. 45 Brook Street CB23 4HX. *Application withdrawn.*

12.3. S/2016/19/FL. James Witherow. Rectory Farm Brook Street CB23 4HX. *Application Granted by SCDC*

12.4. S/1949/19/FL Alan Hutchinson. 14 Church Lane Elsworth CB23 4HU
Demolition of detached single storey dwelling and detached garage. Construction of two split level dwellings and associated landscaping. Ecology report received.
PC Recommendation: No recommendation

12. Dates of future meetings in 2020

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| January 15 th | Parish Council Meeting |
| March 18 th | Parish Council Meeting |
| April 22 nd | Annual Parish Meeting |
| May 20 th | Annual Parish Council Meeting |
| July 15 th | Parish Council Meeting |
| September 16 th | Parish Council Meeting |
| November 18 th | Parish Council Meeting |

Date of next Parish Council Meeting November 20th 2019

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:10

Signed(Chairman). Date.....