

MINUTES of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th July 2016 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present:

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr R Strand, Cllr M Beadle, and Cllr T Mansfield.

In Attendance:

DCllr Neil Atkin, CCllr Rob Davison, 3 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.07.16. Apologies

Cllrs C Hurt (work commitments), S Spenser (holiday), P Loakes (unwell) and DCllrs Peter Watson and Hilary Coyle.

02.07.16. Variation of Order of Business

None.

03.07.16 Declaration of Members Interests

04.07.16 District and County Councillor Reports

District Councillor Neil Atkin

1. The Local Plan Part 1 has been officially adopted and Part 2 is undergoing public consultation at local venues. The 5-year housing supply plan is in place for 3 years after which it will be reviewed. DCllr Atkin welcomed any member wishing to attend the next planning meeting at district council.
2. A Flood Liaison meeting was held last week and another is due in the autumn. Recent extreme weather has caused problems, especially in Melbourne and district council cannot supply sand bags to all residents affected. Villages require a local storage facility for bags in such events. SDDC can provide flood prevention barriers that fit across doors and gates which residents may apply for. The minutes of the meeting will be available soon.
3. DCllr Atkin is dissatisfied with the quality and extent of grass cutting in the area, which has been raised at district recently. Those verges outside of 30mph areas are cut twice per year while road junctions have been given priority. If this council is critical of the service he urged the clerk to contact the grounds maintenance team at district.
4. DCllr Atkin is a keen supporter of the armed services and is involved in the SSAFA charity (Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Families Association).
5. DCllr Atkin conveyed a list of recent appointments at SDDC on committees including finance, environment, housing, planning, licensing, standards, heritage/grants and local plan. It is reviewing its waste collection services in light of discouraging fly-tipping; 2 offenders have recently been prosecuted and council wishes to maintain vigilance on such offences.
6. The next Area Forum and Safer Neighbourhood Meeting is at Shardlow village hall on Thursday 14th July (6.15pm).

County Councillor Rob Davison

1. CCllr Davison is unhappy with Digital Derbyshire's progress and referred to the reply from Robert Rowan at DD to Cllr Strand which alluded to the use of a voucher scheme; this is designed to help residents with the cost of installing an alternative provider. Cabinet member Dean Collins is aware and CCllr Davison will chase up on any further details. He thought 'Big Blue Rocket' could prove to be a viable different broadband provider (see minute 08.07.16 below).
2. He was unaware of the recent flood liaison meeting as mentioned above (possibly through poor communication) and so did not attend. However, DCllr Atkin assured that 3 county councillors were present.
3. He expressed reservations about a forthcoming meeting on 27th July over devolution in the Chesterfield area, which may become absorbed into the Sheffield City region; Bolsover faces the same fate. His concern is that county councils may be diluted through such decisions.
4. CCllr Davison has already generously offered to help fund a 'welcome to Boulton Moor' sign from his member allowance to the value of £1200 which can also fund new rural signs. That said this contribution has yet to be sanctioned at DCC. He is keen to see a parish council ensign (and DCllr Atkin is equally keen to see a SDDC logo) on these signs. He feels it most important that residents in BM are aware they live in Elvaston parish hence this wording

should be included. Council agreed to match-fund Cllr Davison's offer of £1200 although should the cost of the project exceed £2400 council will pay the remainder. The chairman thanked the county councillor for his report and appreciated his offer to part-fund signage.

A resident asked of progress on the car parking issues at the summer fete and around the golden gates; Cllr Davison will enquire and revert.

5.07.16 Public participation

A resident raised his concern over the fracking for shale gas proposals being mooted recently and circulated a list of 25 questions to attendees highlighting the issues. Cllr Davison knows of the community's feelings over this and its controversial nature and can only reiterate his comments from the last meeting that the UK must contemplate it because of increased diverse energy needs. The resident also drew council's attention to the road sign at Thulston traffic roundabout which is almost totally obscured by trees; clerk to inform Highways to cut although this may not happen until the bird-nesting season finishes on 1st August. The chairman thanked the resident for his input.

Another resident complained that plants were being cut down when verges are cut; the clerk believed this is probably being addressed at SDDC's review of its services as mentioned above.

6.07.16 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th June 2016. These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Strand seconded Cllr Beadle).

07.07.16 Police Report

The clerk reported that 6 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 2 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for May. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. The chairman rued that no PCSO was present again; clerk replied he asked the new PC (Oliver Priddle) who apologised he could not attend. Clerk will ask him to visit us at the September meeting.

08.07.16 Digital Derbyshire

Whilst hoping that DD will improve its infrastructure Cllr Strand believed an alternative broadband provider ('Big Blue Rocket') will prove most useful if not; the parish is no further forward with DD but at least it has offered the voucher scheme as mentioned above. Nevertheless, BBR recently distributed a leaflet around Thulston expressing disappointment with the village's subscription to its service and now asks for a favourable reply within 4 weeks. Although not wishing to promote the service Cllr Strand (as agreed by members) suggested BBR display and promote its service at the village hall (and the council would offer to display its posters on the notice boards) but the invitation was not accepted. Hence, council is somewhat perturbed by the leaflet. Despite this, council **agreed** it should meet BBR later in the month, Cllr Strand to arrange if the firm accepts. The chairman thanked Cllr Strand for his continued input.

9.07.16 Elvaston Castle Development Board

Cllr Strand explained there had been no meeting recently, the next will be held on Thursday. The onus now is for the Board to form the Management Committee, recruitment for which should be complete by the autumn. Interviews will begin soon and representation is required/ preferred from the local community. The committee should be in place by early next year. The chairman believed that recruitment for a local person to sit should be promoted before October's meeting (when Tony Palmer attends).

10.07.16 Boulton Moor Housing

As no complaints or issues have been received recently there is nothing to report. The chairman read some of the liaison group's minutes from the meeting held on 16th June explaining some of the items. The next meeting is on 24th November.

11.07.16 Elvaston Communities Group

Eve Wilson announced that the next event is a 40/50/60s dance evening on 13th August at Nunsfield House, Alvaston; a drinks bar and a DJ playing topical music are featured. Eve urged attendees to dress appropriately for the occasion and hoped that the council will promote it. Children are not allowed (although this rule may be changed if necessary) and tickets are £5 each. She wants to encourage residents from Boulton Moor and especially from the new development. The chairman said he had received interest from BM residents.

Mike Tong reported that a working party planted new seedlings on 4th July and the dead rowan tree on the village green has been replaced.

12.07.16 Flooding and Gravel

Nothing to report.

13.07.16 Chairman's Report

None.

14.07.16 Matters for Decision or Discussion

14.1 Parking around Silver Lane. **Resolved:** to be raised at the forthcoming Safer Neighbourhood Meeting (including a request for 'inconsiderate' car parking notices) on 14th July. Cllr Beadle asked for 2 further items to be raised at that meeting: errant car parking around the Harrington Arms and speeding cars through the villages.

14.2 Consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive. **Resolved:** this was discussed earlier. Councillors have the quote for signs and will consider their purchase in the next meeting. The chairman thought it acceptable that that SDDC be asked for a financial contribution at the above mentioned meeting.

14.3 Outcome of the communication between council and a resident concerning her overreaching hedge at Grove Close. Clerk asked the resident if she is willing to discuss the dispute with 2 members but did not receive a reply.

Resolved: clerk to ask the resident again.

14.4 To consider speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** Cllr Mansfield bought 24 stickers and awaits delivery.

14.5 possible funding of Citizen Advice drop-in sessions. The South Derbyshire CA is bidding for funds to bring the advice centres out to our villages and it asks for support in the cost of the venues. It needs to hire a room for around 3 hours where staff can talk to residents privately and probably entails two meetings a year. The sessions might possibly start in October. The CA will try to book appointments for residents as well as holding a drop-in session to ensure people come and visit. Members **agreed** with the proposal.

14.6 registration of the village green. **Resolved:** Cllr Beadle obtained advice from Geldards solicitors and will now ask Alexander & Co. solicitors for its advice.

15.07.16 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Strand highlighted that foliage around the bus stop on the A6 impedes vision for waiting passengers and bus drivers; clerk to report to Highways.

Cllr Beadle commented that trees on the footpath on Oak Road had overhanging branches although a resident pointed out that district council will not trim these until 1st August in case of disturbing nesting birds.

Cllr Russell wishes to show Cllrs Strand and Beadle the procedure for checking the defibrillators at the Harrington Arms and village hall; these 3 members to arrange in early August. Cllr Loakes inspects the device at Ambaston. Cllr Russell has asked Vic Venus to cut the village hall grass.

In his absence the clerk read a note from Cllr Loakes who complained that the overgrown verges along Ambaston Lane are still uncut.

16.07.16 Clerk Report

1. Clerk asked the lengthsman for details of his existing NEST pension provision to give to the payroll technician and awaits a reply.

2. Clerk reported a shallow pothole lying between the Harrington Arms and the Pinfold to Highways on 17th June.

3. Tony Palmer of the Elvaston Castle Development Board confirmed attendance at October's meeting.

17.07.16 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters

Members had received recent circulars from the clerk.

18.07.16 Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment – the following cheques were approved and signed:

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001164	J Irons – Clerk’s salary June*	533.06	-	533.06
	J Irons – Clerk’s salary July	477.40	-	477.40
001164	J Irons - clerk home allowance x 2 months at £18 pm	36.00	-	36.00
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay June	192.00	-	192.00
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay July	192.00	-	192.00
001165	HMRC – clerk’s tax June	82.43	-	82.43
001165	HMRC – clerk’s tax July	60.80	-	60.80
001166	DCC – clerk’s pension June	140.57	-	140.57
001166	DCC – clerk’s pension July	123.58	-	123.58
001167	Nick Sellek – website domain renewal	58.85	-	58.85
	TOTAL	1896.69	-	1896.69

* includes 3 hours overtime relating to the Persimmon Homes meeting on 9th March and 2.5 hours overtime relating to the meeting on 16th June and writing of the minutes.

(b) **Income**

See below

(c) **Direct Debits**

Receipt – 2nd tranche of precept 2016/17 £5410.00

Bank balance as at 30th June 2016 £36,376.40

19.07.16 To consider planning applications:

None.

20.07.16 Items for Information only

The chairman announced 2 forthcoming events: a quiz night at the Harrington Arms on 24th July and a circular walk in aid of Rainbows and McMillan charities on 30th July.

21.07.16 Agenda Items for next meeting

- Derby & Derbyshire Minerals Plan (and Fracking for shale gas in particular);
- Boulton Moor;
- Digital Derbyshire;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board;
- Purchase of speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins;
- consideration of new rural and Boulton Moor signage;
- SDDC’s supply of car parking notices and parking issues in general;
- issues raised at the Safer Neighbourhood Meeting on 14th July (the above in particular);
- hedge at Grove Close;
- Registration of the village green.

22.07.16 The next Ordinary Council Meeting is on 12th September 2016 at **7.30pm**.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm

Signed

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).