

MINUTES of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th September 2016 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present:

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

In Attendance:

DCllr Peter Watson, CCLlr Rob Davison, 4 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.09.16. Apologies

Cllrs C Hurt (work commitments), S Spenser (work commitments), P Loakes (holiday), M Beadle (holiday) and DCllrs Neil Atkin and Hilary Coyle.

02.09.16. Variation of Order of Business

None.

03.09.16 Declaration of Members Interests

None

04.09.16 District and County Councillor Reports

County Councillor Rob Davison

1. At the last meeting a resident asked the county councillor of progress on the car parking issues at the summer fete and around the golden gates; CCLlr Davison has no news yet.
2. A further public consultation is ongoing to assess the adoption of reliable broadband provision but this may take 12-18 months to implement. A voucher scheme is in force which is designed to help residents with the cost of installing an alternative provider; Digital Derbyshire have issued 16 codes (vouchers) so far.
3. DCC has now sanctioned CCLlr Davison's request to help fund a 'welcome to Boulton Moor' sign from his member allowance to the value of £1200; the clerk confirmed he has received the cheque and has banked it. The chairman thanked the county councillor for his contribution to the scheme.
4. He once again expressed reservations about a forthcoming devolution in the Chesterfield area, which may become absorbed into the Sheffield City region and believes it will dilute services. The consultation has now closed with Chesterfield keen on the proposal while DCC oppose it. The Secretary of State will now consider the findings.
5. DCC has almost identified a site for a new secondary school, which is required under SDDC's Local Plan Part 2. DCC has 2 in mind: the first at Thulston fields although this lies within the greenbelt; and north of the A50 near Lowes Farm towards Swarkestone. Stenson Fields has been discounted. The Secretary of State will decide the location but the school will certainly be an academy.
6. Barrow on Trent wishes to divest itself of agricultural land (152 acres) and is applying for a change in the parish boundary; this will also discourage any new housing proposals. Twyford and Stenson Parishes may apply to change their boundaries too.

District Councillor Peter Watson

1. The Local Plan Part 1 has been approved and the consultation over Part 2 has ended having received many comments; Part 2 should be adopted in summer next year. Open spaces are an important topic to many people and this may constitute a separate part of the plan (possibly titled Part 3).
2. A district council decision over the Stenson boundary application as noted above is expected in May next year.
3. Sporting facilities have been promoted recently and these include a climbing wall at Swadlincote; a football/cricket and floodlit tennis complex at Melbourne that was 50% funded by SDDC; and a similar facility being installed at Etwall.
4. The next Area Forum and Safer Neighbourhood Meeting will be held on 10th October. DCllr Watson is aware that this clashes with the parish council meeting on the same night but stressed the difficulty in having sufficient attendees available on some dates. He asked the clerk to furnish upcoming dates of parish council meetings over several months to help in this regard.

5.09.16 Public participation

A resident noted that when Highways undertake road repairs for 16 weeks it will close the river bridge in October which people may be unaware of; clerk will update the notices to reflect this.

6.09.16 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th July 2016. These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Strand).

07.09.16 Police Report

The clerk reported that 2 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 4 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for June. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. The SDDC weekly crime data reported 3 incidents of racially related ASB in Elvaston between the reporting period 29th August – 4th Sept. The chairman rued that no PCSO was present again; clerk said he will ask PC Oliver Priddle to visit us at the next meeting.

08.09.16 Digital Derbyshire

Cllr Strand considered 'Big Blue Rocket' to be a viable alternative broadband supplier to Digital Derbyshire's provision (or lack of it at present). The parish council has made residents aware of BBR through flyers and has offered the company a venue in which to display its services. BBR is recognised by DD as a provider and has backdated its offer of financial assistance to residents wishing to engage BBR (through the voucher scheme mentioned above). Cllr Strand added that while BBR is not an ideal solution, it works although may become more expensive.

A resident commented that he has a contact at Open Reach which is progressing the provision of broadband here, possibly within 6 months. Cllr Strand was sceptical that OR can achieve it in the timeframe because we have had such promises for 4 years. The chairman thanked the resident and asked him to keep council informed.

9.09.16 Elvaston Castle Development Board

Cllr Strand explained that he had little to report. The details of the Trust are being decided and the Board wishes to recruit a local representative; Cllr Strand has put forward interested parties' names (some from the Communities Group). Plans currently under discussion include renovating the shower block, caravan park, courtyard area and the building itself.

The chairman thanked Cllr Strand for his continued input and reminded members that Tony Palmer will attend October's meeting.

10.09.16 Boulton Moor Housing

The chairman recently received 2 complaints from residents that the promised landscaping at the area between the Snelsmoor Lane site and Sevenlands Drive had not yet begun. He will raise this at the next liaison meeting on 24th November.

11.09.16 Elvaston Communities Group

Eve Wilson was pleased to announce that the 40/50/60s dance evening on 13th August at Nunsfield House, Alvaston was a success; it covered costs and made a small profit. Another is intended next year. A fashion show is due to be held on 4th November for which models are required. The customary carol singing gathering will be at the Harrington Arms on 18th December. A traditional walk will take place in the New Year, possibly along roads in the area to allow an easier pastime and for participants to be noticed. It begins at Boulton Moor and ends at the Harrington Arms. Mike Tong reported that 2 working parties recently cut back growth at the sensory garden. The water feature overheated and broke down but a new pump was bought and will be installed soon. The Clover Close hay meadow has undergone mowing, scarifying and raking; green hay has been laid to encourage fresh grass and wild flowers. Several community events, and especially the summer fete, need gazebos which preferably would be big enough to accommodate a music band. Three gazebos that link together would be ideal and may be made available to other parish groups. Cllr Strand wondered where they would be stored; a discussion ensued and members agreed to

continue the topic in the next meeting. Finally Eve reminded council of the coffee morning to be held on 25th September.

12.09.16 Flooding and Gravel

The clerk noted that a resident produced a flood protection plan in November which has not been progressed. The resident is in contact with Andy Ellis at EA and asked that council discuss the matter at tonight's meeting. Members agreed to raise it at the next meeting when the resident attends.

13.09.16 Chairman's Report

None but he announced his apologies for the next meeting.

14.09.16 Matters for Decision or Discussion

14.1 Parking around Silver Lane was raised at the Safer Neighbourhood Meeting (including a request for 'inconsiderate' car parking notices) on 14th July by the chairman. It is a police matter if any are parked illegally; inconsiderate parking is not actionable. Regarding the latter council can only apply polite notices to vehicle windscreens.

14.2 Consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive. **Resolved:** members will inspect areas suitable for the signs and will consider their purchase in the next meeting. Once decided council thought it acceptable that SDDC be asked for a financial contribution if it wishes to be included on the signage. The clerk will confirm the wording required by DCC for the BM sign with Cllr Davison. Once the project begins council will ask SDDC its intention over a match-funded contribution.

14.3 Outcome of the communication between council and a resident concerning her overreaching hedge at Grove Close. **Resolved:** no further action although situation to be monitored.

14.4 Grant request from the Communities Group to help fund new gazebos. **Resolved:** to meet the full amount requested (£2100).

14.5 registration of the village green. **Resolved:** Cllr Beadle was to obtain advice from Alexander & Co. solicitors; members will ask her in the next meeting.

15.09.16 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Mansfield bought 24 speed/slow down stickers for wheelie bins and has applied these to several residents' bins. It was **agreed** that Cllr Mansfield count the number needed for other residences and buy the requisite amount. He rued that walkers at the Clover Close meadow do not keep to the perimeter path despite signs displaying this request. The Golden Gates Gallop is on the 9th October.

Cllr Strand noted 5 incidents of fly-tipping on Ambaston Lane and a bag of rubbish at the Castle gates; clerk to report to the Clean Team.

Cllr Russell reiterated the resident's concern that the river bridge will be closed in October.

16.09.16 Clerk Report

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

2. Derby City Council will work closely with the EA and hopefully STW to desilt the Thulston Brook. It will assess the potential for storing silt on the banks before it is removed from site (alternatively it may be possible to spread the silt on the adjacent farmer's fields). Some preliminary tree / bush clearance needs to be undertaken relatively quickly to allow necessary vole surveys to be completed before the end of September. The City Council will advise councillors and residents of its schedule 7 days before it starts.

3. In his absence Cllr Loakes passed the following comments to the clerk. *'I have no issue with the upcoming planning application, contractors vehicles to be parked on site as much as possible in order to ensure safe access and exit by residents, some of which are quite senior citizens. Ref Broadband for Ambaston, I personally am quite concerned with the transmission and reception of these microwave signals as several articles and studies strongly suggest that there is a negative impact to wildlife including the potential disruption of bee navigation and a possible link to other issues. Being a beekeeper and having a concerned interest in wildlife I find myself unable to support this method of increasing broadband speed until I have concrete evidence of no risk to wildlife.'*

17.09.16 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters

Members had received recent circulars from the clerk.

18.09.16 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001168	J Irons – Clerk’s salary August	477.20	-	477.20
001168	J Irons - clerk home allowance	18.00	-	18.00
001168	J Irons expense – postage stamps (4 books x 12).	26.40	-	26.40
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay August	192.00	-	192.00
001169	HMRC – clerk’s tax August	61.00	-	61.00
001170	DCC – clerk’s pension August	123.58	-	123.58
001171	Toby Mansfield – 30mph speed stickers	31.98	-	31.98
001172	Grant Thornton LLP – external audit 2015/16	100.00	20.00	120.00
001173	Shardlow Parish Council – 200 broadband flyers	10.00	-	10.00
	TOTAL	1040.16	20.00	1060.16

(b) **Income**

£45 comprising 3 x allotment rents
£1200 contribution from DCC for new signage

(c) **Direct Debits**

None

Bank balance as at 31st August 2016 £34,524.72

19.09.16 To consider planning applications:

9/2016/0887 - THE DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUNGALOW AND ERECTION OF A TWO STOREY DETACHED DWELLING AT 2 MAIN STREET AMBASTON. **Resolved:** no objection.

20.09.16 Items for Information only

The clerk circulated 2 items if interest.

21.09.16 Agenda Items for next meeting

- Boulton Moor;
- Digital Derbyshire;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board (highlighting the visit from Tony Palmer);
- Purchase of speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins;
- new rural and Boulton Moor signage;
- hedge at Grove Close;
- website maintenance;
- Registration of the village green.
- Storage facility for gazebos possibly at the village hall and to raise a cheque (£2100) for the grant.

22.09.16 The next Ordinary Council Meeting is on 10th October 2016 at **7.30pm**.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Signed

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).