

Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th December 2016 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present: Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Strand and Cllr P Loakes.

In Attendance: DCllr Peter Watson, CCllr Rob Davison, 5 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.12.16 To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs C Hurt (work commitments), S Spenser (holiday), R Russell (ill), M Beadle (otherwise engaged), T Mansfield (otherwise engaged) and DCllrs Hilary Coyle and Neil Atkin.

02.12.16. Variation of Order of Business

The chairman proposed to move item 14.1 further up the agenda which was **agreed**.

03.12.16 Declaration of Members Interests None

04.12.16 District Councillor Peter Watson

1. The recent Persimmon Homes meeting was successful and attendees agreed that a half-yearly report from PH would be sufficient in future unless any main issues arise. The footbridge intended to be built across the A6 will go ahead as planned.
2. The Local Plan Part 2 consultation has finished attracting 70 comments from the public. The plan will be presented to full council in January.
3. DCllr Watson has drawings of the HS2 route for anyone wishing to see them.
4. He asked to be furnished with meeting dates in 2017.
5. Finally DCllr Watson thanked council for its friendly meetings and offered everyone his best wishes for the festive season; the chairman returned the compliment.

The chairman had previously asked about a different footbridge to that reported by DCllr Watson and asked whether a bridge will be built at Thulston Brook, between Meadow Nook and Poole Close. It is needed because the brook fills with water. Cllr Strand offered to send a photo to DCllr Watson after which he will investigate.

Cllr Strand asked if the HS2 route may be sent via email; DCllr Watson said it is a massive document and would take much downloading. He could send links to sections of the document if required.

County Councillor Rob Davison

1. Alluding to the earlier point of HS2, CCllr Davison said this had been discussed at DCC recently. He thought the quality of maps was poor and some are even out-of-date.
2. He agreed with DCllr Watson regarding the PH liaison meetings claiming they had proved most useful and should henceforth be substituted with a 6-monthly progress report. The site of the school has been moved to the opposite side of Snelsmoor Lane and the county councillor is keen to restrict errant car parking over driveways at school-run hours.
3. He welcomed a comment in the last meeting that inconsiderate car-parking generally may be inhibited by implementing a by-law.
4. CCllr Davison wished to change point 4 of the previous minutes in his report which was immediately changed by the clerk. He preferred *'The NHS, city council and county council want central government to become more open'* to replace *'The NHS, city council and county council want central government to become more involved'*.
5. Provision of care services is the issue of the day and is receiving high-profile media coverage; meanwhile the NHS continues to wane under the financial burden of provision.
6. Regarding noise complaints about the conveyer at the gravel site, CCllr Davison has spoken to Vikki Webb at DCC who will formulate a response in time for the January meeting.
7. He wished all attendees a Happy Christmas and New Year.

The chairman raised agenda item 14.1 (consideration of village entry signs (rural) and boundary sign at Colwell Drive, and the possibility of a financial contribution from SDDC). Members, Cllr Davison and the clerk **agreed** to meet on site at Colwell Drive and Snelsmoor Lane to discuss positions for 2 large signs. Four smaller signs to be placed at existing rural sites was **agreed**.

05.12.16 Public participation

A resident complained of inconsiderate parking on Brook Road and Grove Close saying that possible restrictions to alleviate this will only cause problems elsewhere. Higher parking charges at the Castle have increased this activity in surrounding streets, especially at the Pinfold and Grove Close. He is also dismissive of 'Permit Holders only' signs in these streets. While accepting it is difficult to police he believed signs such as that on Elvaston Lane seem to deter this behaviour ('No parking/ access for Elvaston Castle and grounds'). Cllr Davison said permits need purchasing and previously thought double yellow lines to be the best solution but after hearing the resident's account of the sign he considered it a good idea. Cllr Davison will informally raise it with Highways.

On a similar note another resident complained of parking on the lay-by on Main Road, Elvaston.

A third resident considers that the police do not look at developing trends when assessing particular crimes in certain areas. He will raise this at the next Safer Neighbourhood meeting on 24th January. Reported crime data can be up to 3 months old. The chairman asked the clerk to invite the local PCSO to the next meeting. The clerk has already invited Hardyal Dhindsa, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, to attend the next meeting although Mr Dhindsa replied to request more insight into what is asked of him.

06.12.16 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th November 2016. After a minor amendment (see above) these were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Loakes, seconded Cllr Strand).

07.12.16 Police Report

The clerk reported that 4 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 5 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for October. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. Members rued the lack of support being shown through non-attendances of officers; as mentioned above clerk to again invite the PCSO to meetings.

08.12.16 Website maintenance Held over to the next meeting.

09.12.16 Boulton Moor Housing

The chairman agreed with DCllr Watson's view earlier that the Persimmon Liaison meetings should be held on an *ad-hoc* basis in future and not 6-monthly. The footbridge at Thulston Brook was discussed earlier.

10.12.16 Elvaston Communities Group

In her absence Eve Wilson sent a report to the clerk prior to the meeting.

1. Events 2017. March dance (venue still to be agreed), May Village fete July, concert in the park (band to be agreed), Autumn event to be agreed - any ideas?

Christmas carols as usual (Harrington Arms, 18th December at 6pm).

2. August 2018. "After the War" exhibition. Gill Forrester has agreed to the use of the Gothic Hall etc for this. My initial thoughts are that it should be more interactive than the last one. More later.

3. Meeting with Gill Forrester. She is very amenable to our use of the park as this brings in revenue. She cannot be swayed on the use of any fields for car parking. I discussed with her strategies for managing parking for our big events. However anything we agree will require more volunteers and this will have to be a major drive this year.

4. Sensory Garden - monthly tidy ups continue. Ray [Jeffries] is still working on the water feature.

Cllr Strand wondered if the marquee at the cricket club will be replaced. Mike Tong replied saying he met the cricket club who have plans for a new club building, to which the chairman offered council's support to this. Sport England

may provide funding, some s106 Buttercup Leys money may be available and DCC's Communities Priorities Programme, a fund to support local communities, may be accessed. Cllr Strand knows a sporting consultant who can assist with raising funds and gave the lady's details to Mike. In addition, Mike will arrange a meeting between the representative groups involved.

Cllr Strand asked whether a New Year walk around the village will take place but after discussion Cllrs Strand and Bickerton agreed to arrange one and tell the WI about it.

11.12.16 Flooding and Gravel

Kevin Birch circulated his draft flood plan recently although he received a poor response. He attended the Flood Liaison meeting at Swadlincote on 2nd November and explained that other villages have worse problems than Ambaston. EA will install a river level monitor at Ambaston but levels at which warnings are triggered remains unclear. He too voiced his concerns over noise from the conveyer mentioned above saying that a barrier should be built to surround it and thereby eliminate noise. The quarry site is to be extended; the northern extension will start in 2018.

Cllr Loakes thought that the original planning application provided for the conveyer to be set below surface level to reduce dust and noise but this has now been changed. He maintains the conveyer should be set underneath Ambaston Lane.

12.12.16 Elvaston Castle Development Board

Cllr Strand attended last week's Board meeting which focused on recruitment of trustees to the new Trust. All applications have been received; shortlisting of candidates will follow ending with interviews on 19th & 20th January. The next meeting is on 1st February which is intended to be the last before the handover to trustees. Thereupon, transfer of DCC staff to the trust and TUPE employment regulations will be implemented.

A contract for weddings has been awarded; 40 per year to be held in the Gothic Hall or under another structure. Receptions to be held in the walled garden. The tea-rooms will begin operating in January. Toilets in the Castle have been refurbished and the drain at the caravan site has been completed. Work on the clock tower and nursery walled gardens are due to start. DCC has bid for £240k of funds to repair the roofs.

13.12.16 Chairman's Report None.

14.11.16 Matters for Decision or Discussion

14.1 Consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive. **Resolved:** discussed earlier.

14.2 Purchase of more speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** Cllr Mansfield has ordered these and sent the clerk's details to the supplier who will provide an invoice.

14.3 storage of the Communities Group's new gazebos. These presently reside in a resident's garage; Ray Jeffries is checking the level of insurance cover required.

14.4 bank mandate, budget update and setting of the forthcoming year's precept. Cllr Spenser was absent and so could not sign the mandate. **Resolved:** clerk to visit the member at home to obtain his signature. The other 2 items to be held over until a finance meeting has been held.

14.5 registration of the village green. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.

14.6 BT consultation on the removal of public payphones. **Resolved:** clerk to object to the proposed removal of the box on Broad Lane citing use by tourists and those residents without a mobile phone as valid reasons. Added to this, mobile phone reception is poor in this area. Also, BT should repair the phone.

14.7 to sign the S1 form for DCC relating to the pension scheme. **Resolved:** duly signed by the chairman.

15.12.16 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Strand rued that the speed bumps on Stables Drive have not been reduced in height; clerk to remind Gill Forester.

Cllr Loakes gave his thanks to the Communities Group for its Christmas decoration of the village hall.

16.12.16 Clerk Report

Clerk offered details from DCC over the Derby and Derbyshire Minerals Local Plan – Sites Consultation which offered the chance of commenting on the plan.

17.12.16 Digital Derbyshire to be removed from future agendas

18.12.16 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters Members had received recent circulars from the clerk.

19.12.16 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001184	J Irons – Clerk’s salary November*	509.77	-	509.77
001184	J Irons - clerk home allowance November	18.00	-	18.00
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay November	192.00	-	192.00
001185	HMRC – clerk’s tax November	68.80	-	68.80
001186	DCC – clerk’s pension November	132.85	-	132.85
Direct debit	Severn Trent Water – allotments (paid 8 th December)	92.32	-	92.32
	TOTAL	1013.74	-	1013.74

* includes 3 hours overtime relating to the Persimmon Homes meeting on 24th November and writing of the minutes.

(b) **Income**

None.

(c) **Direct Debits**

Severn Trent Water – see above.

Bank balance as at 30th November 2016 £30,461.53

20.12.16 To consider planning applications: none

21.12.16 Items for Information only The clerk circulated 3 items of interest.

22.12.16 Agenda Items for next meeting

- website maintenance;
- Boulton Moor;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board;
- Invitation of police officer, PCSO and PCC;
- Raise a cheque for speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins;
- new rural and Boulton Moor signage;
- bank mandates, budget update and setting of the forthcoming year’s precept;
- Registration of the village green (questionnaires);
- Car parking issues;
- Storage facility for gazebos possibly at the village hall.

23.12.16 The next Ordinary Council Meeting is on 9th January 2017 at **7.30pm**. There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm and wished everyone an enjoyable and happy festive season.

Signed

CLlr P Bickerton (Chairman).