

Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th December 2017 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present: Cllrs P Bickerton (Chairman), R Russell and M Beadle.

In Attendance, DCllr Peter Watson, 3 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.12.17 To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs R Strand (holiday), S Spenser (work commitments), T Mansfield & Loakes (unwell), DCllr Hilary Coyle and CClr Neil Atkin (work commitments). Cllr C Hurt confirmed his resignation to the clerk on 23rd November.

02.12.17. Variation of Order of Business: None

03.12.17 Declaration of Members Interests: None

04.12.17. Digital Derbyshire. CClr Atkin provided an update in his report below.

05.12.17. Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust.

Members **agreed** to invite Charles Heaney (Project Manager Property) to February's meeting. The chairman thought flyers in order to advertise prior to the event.

06.12.17. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Beadle regretted that the recently replaced missing street sign on Main Road has been partly vandalised, an attempt to remove the name plate has been made. The missing sign at Yew Tree Lane awaits replacement. Cllr Beadle believes the 30mph warnings on the new village signs should be replaced with new ones and repositioned separately to the signs. Clerk to arrange.

Cllr Russell noted that she had met Gill Forester and had raised several issues with her, set out in a report which she forwarded to the clerk as follows:

Details of the meeting held between Councillor Russell and Gill Forester Elvaston Castle Park Manager. 16th Nov 2017.

Woodland Festival Parking in the villages causing disruption to residents.

For the last 2 years Gill has requested from the relevant department that they manage the disruptive parking within the villages by some of the public attending this event. However as we all know that never happened. She will be sending the photographs sent to her by several village residents to the relevant department to enforce her request for next year's event. She was very grateful to the residents who took the time to do this as she was very disappointed that the traffic management issue hadn't been addressed. As for the cost of £8 per car for the event (£7 with the voucher) it is good value as it covers all the occupants. Due to the stalls for this event being located at various locations within the park it cannot be fenced off to allow for admission to be charged.

Speed hump on Stables Drive.

The offending speed hump at the bottom of Stables drive has not been forgotten. As her staff levels have been depleted again and other more urgent matters taking priority the lowering of this hump is still outstanding.

Other matters within the park.

The fencing around the carriage block is due to the roof being unsafe in that area.

The car parking machines are due to be replaced late 2018-19. There will be both card and cash machines as there are now. They cannot use the type of machine that will take phone payment due to the poor signal in the area.

There have been issues with the water level within the lake. The EA penstock controlling the level had seized, that has now been repaired but investigations are still ongoing as the water level is still a bit low.

Notices will be going up around the castle explaining why some Yew hedges are being left to grow. This is to allow some of the shapes to go back to how they were originally.

The toilets are due to be reopened soon, no date as yet.

The website for the castle is not up to date as changes have been made to the DCC website which has caused a few problems with updates.

Cllr Russell thought that the grit-bin at the village green needs filling; clerk to arrange.

07.12.17. District and County Councillor's reports

District Councillor Peter Watson

1. The recent East Midlands Airport presentation at Weston Village Hall was a success and well-attended. Growth at the airport continues but this does not necessarily equate to an increase in noise due to larger aircraft with quieter engines. A 5-yearly report will be produced with the next consultation taking place next year.
2. The recently announced 'Nottingham-Derby metro area is designed to encompass local areas such as Rushcliffe, Erewash and S Derbyshire. In his opinion DCllr Watson thought that Nottingham may well be the biggest benefactor although he thought the proposal will not come to fruition.
3. DCllr Watson asked the clerk of the future meeting dates; clerk to provide.
4. Finally he wished all attendees well for the festive season.

County Councillor Neil Atkin

Cllr Atkin apologised for his absence but sent the clerk an update as follows:

On outstanding business from the last meeting:

1. *A request for free parking at Elvaston for the Rainbows Santa Run - cancelled on Sunday due to adverse weather conditions, however I have arranged a meeting for this week to discuss future parking charges at the Castle and the outcome of the Trustee meeting held in October.*
2. *The broadband letter I have not yet sent due to the issues around the fatal accident at Swarkestone. You will get a full response as promised by me although long overdue. I hope to speak with Digital Derbyshire shortly.*
3. *Whilst writing I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy christmas and best wishes for the New Year.*

08.12.17. Website maintenance.

Held over to the next meeting.

9.12.17 Elvaston Communities Group including storage of the new gazebos.

Eve Wilson is concerned at increased car-parking congestion at the time of the fete and added that Gill Forester has asked DCC. The chairman thought this can be addressed at the February meeting when Charles Heaney is present. In addition Cllr Atkin is pursuing this at present.

Eve announced that the Group's website is live (www.elvaston.org.uk) although much information needs yet to be posted; only the home page and amended constitution are available. Eventually a link to both the parish council and WW1 websites will be accessible.

Upcoming events for 2018 will be finalised on Wednesday; in the meantime Eve reminded members that the Christmas carols evening is at the Harrington Arms on 17th December starting at 6.30pm; a band will be present and a raffle held. Nothing further to report on gazebos.

10.12.17 Public participation No further contribution.

11.12.17 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November 2017. These were approved and accepted as a true record once a minor amendment had been made after which they were signed by the chairman (pp Cllr Beadle, seconded Cllr Russell).

12.12.17 Boulton Moor Housing

The chairman asked the clerk to arrange to have the 3 grit bins at Boulton Moor filled.

13.12.17 Flooding and Gravel Nothing to report.

14.12.17 Police Report

None - the police website had not been updated for October and still shows September's incidents, which were included in last month's minutes. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>.

15.12.17 Chairman's Report.

The chairman announced that the Children's Rainbow Hospice run due to take place on 10th December at the Castle was cancelled but it should be rescheduled for either next Sunday or the New Year. He thanked all attendees, members and district and county councillors for their attendances and input during the year and wished all well for Christmas and New Year.

16.12.17 Matters for Decision or Discussion

16.1 The rural signs are now in place although the planters need to be attached to the posts; Ambaston's sign should be repositioned; and the 30mph markers should be moved as stated above.

Entry signs at Boulton Moor and Chellaston Lane: clerk has applied to Highways for a licence to erect a village boundary sign on Chelleston Lane. Barrett Homes has contacted the City Council over the possibility of a sign at Colwell Drive.

16.2. Car parking issues; covered earlier.

16.3 Registration of the village green. Cllr Beadle reiterated that the solicitor has lodged the planning application with DCC and matters are progressing. After conducting a Land Registry search of the open space at the Greenway on Woods Meadow she discovered that this parcel is already registered. The chairman thanked Cllr Beadle for her efforts.

16.4 Defibrillator and first-aid training course. Mr Birch contacted St John's ambulance service and suggested to council it accepts its offer of a course. Members **agreed** with the proposal: to be held on 3rd February in the village hall between 9.30am – 1pm. It costs £25 per head for a maximum of 14 participants. Mr Birch will confirm and coordinate the details with final numbers of applicants to be finalised eventually.

16.5 Memorial plaque in honour of Peter Waters. **Resolved:** Eve Wilson kindly suggested that the ECG will arrange a bench and plaque while the parish council will provide the wording. The chairman thanked Eve for her contribution.

16.6 budget review. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.

17.12.17 Clerk Report

1. Trees on Ball Lane. DCC's reply states *'our tree inspector and he has advised that wires going through branches is a common occurrence. However, if we were to be contacted by BT, as they consider the trees an issue, we may consider completing some minor works. Please bear in mind that the trees offer amenity value to the area and are a valuable asset therefore we must be careful not to carry out any unnecessary works that may cause stress on the trees'*.

2. Hardyal Dhindsa (Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire) has offered to visit our area in the New Year to give another presentation to the parish.

3. The clerk asked Cllr Russell whether SDDC had trimmed the 2 cherry trees; she will check. The clerk asked the tree officer to inspect the chestnut tree on the village green and awaits his reply.

4. Clerk asked Gill Forester (removal of speed humps on Stables Drive) and Chris Nash (billboard at the Thulston roundabout) on 5th December. We await Gill's reply (although Cllr Russell made her aware – see above). DCC's reply over the billboard stated *'regarding the mobile billboard/hoarding at the above location, we have sent this on to Highways England as this section of road is their responsibility'*.

18.12.17 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters. Members **agreed** to remove this item from future agendas.

19.12.17 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001237	J Irons – Clerk's salary November	497.43	-	497.43
001237	J Irons – Clerk's salary underpayment from year 2016/17	477.40	-	477.40
001237	J Irons – home allowance November	18.00	-	18.00
001237	J Irons – home allowance underpayment year 2016/17	18.00	-	18.00
Stand Order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay November	272.00	-	272.00
001238	HMRC – clerk's tax November	62.20	-	62.20
001239	DCC – clerk's pension November	134.43	-	268.86
	TOTAL	1479.46	-	1479.46

(b) **Income** none.

(c) **Bank balance as at 30th November 2017** **£32029.58**

20.12.17 To consider planning applications:

Consultation.

9/2017/0196 - OUTLINE APPLICATION (ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR THE ERECTION OF TWO DWELLINGS AT 41 GROVE CLOSE THULSTON. : Amended indicative layout/access plan and tree assessment/protection details –10 days for comments was allowed as from 16th November although none were received from members.

21.12.17 Items for Information only. Clerk circulated 1 item.

22.12.17 Agenda Items for next meeting

- website maintenance;
- Boulton Moor;
- Elvaston Communities Group and storage of gazebos;
- Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust;
- To invite Hardyal Dhindsa to give a presentation;
- Update on car parking issues and BM signage (if any);
- Plaque wording for the sensory garden bench;
- Budget review.

23.12.17 The next Council Meeting is on Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm.

Forthcoming meetings in 2018: 12th February, 12th March, 9th April (APM & Ordinary).

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Signed

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).