

# **Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON**

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

**In Attendance:** CCllr Neil Atkin, DCllrs Hilary Coyle and Peter Watson, 6 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

## **PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

### **01.07.17 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllrs C Hurt (work commitments), S Spenser (holiday) and T Mansfield (holiday).

**02.07.17. Variation of Order of Business:** item 4 was moved to item 6.

**03.07.17 Declaration of Members Interests:** None

### **04.07.17. Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Beadle highlighted a missing street sign at Yew Tree Lane, clerk to report. She noted that the hedge on Main Road has now been trimmed.

Cllr Strand rued that debris had appeared at the allotments but tenants hired a digger to remove it; tenants have since spoken to the culprit. Consequently a new padlock has been fitted to the gate but Cllr Strand has only 1 key; members **agreed** the council should fund the purchase of 10 new keys, one of which is for the Communities Group. Cllr Loakes confirmed that builders at Ambaston have offered to remove the existing village sign in readiness for a new one at no charge.

### **05.07.17. District and County Councillor's reports**

#### **District Councillor Peter Watson**

1. DCllr Watson apologised on behalf of the attending district and county councillors for being slightly late due to part of the A50 being closed, which resulted in a detour.
2. The Flood Liaison Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June was successful with all agencies in attendance. The works to Ambaston are due to be completed before Phase 2 of the OCOR scheme begins but this is not confirmed; outline planning only has been submitted. Once Phase 2 begins, protection for Ambaston must be secure although EA have alluded to this albeit without intent at present.
3. A fly-tipper caught dumping around 80 tonnes of rubbish in South Derbyshire was been given a fine and a six-month suspended jail sentence after SDDC applied to the court for a prosecution. In addition his vehicle was seized.
4. The consultation on Local Green Spaces Development plans will accept comments until 7<sup>th</sup> August. All amendments have been made to the Local Plan Part 2 and the changes appear in a new document, consultation of which lasts from 7<sup>th</sup> July – 18<sup>th</sup> August. The Plan should be finalised by September which sees the completion of an 8-year assessment.

#### **County Councillor Neil Atkin**

1. The Castle has its own fibre broadband line and so as Digital Derbyshire does not fund this it cannot be pursued. DCC continues to endeavour to supply broadband to the area and modelling will be undertaken in the next few months.
2. Parking charges have been scrapped in Matlock with the possibility this will be rolled-out county-wide.
3. Staff changes are afoot at county hall to save £300k. The chief executive and a senior director position will be terminated. A new post of strategic director will be discussed on 26<sup>th</sup> July. 588 other posts are to be retired but some replacements will occur over the next 4 years.
4. CCllr Atkin has been appointed to several outside bodies save for the Elvaston Castle Trust; Tony King will attend these meetings. CCllr Atkin met Peter Robinson, a local trustee, who had received a quote of £200k to refurbish the Gothic Hall. Costs of £8m have been mooted for renovations of the Castle although the final figure could be £40m. The shortfall may derive from HLF and other grants. The car-parking machine will be re-assessed and redundant farm buildings may be converted to chalet cabins to encourage tourism. Outbuildings at the Castle may be turned into

craft shops which could produce an income of c£500k per year. The first wedding event took place last Saturday and 20 more are planned for the rest of the year although these may disturb residents living close to the walled garden. The high wall in the walled garden will be repaired. Showers will be reinstated at the caravan park and a shop is proposed.

Mr Birch asked about car-parking charges; Cllr Atkin asked Mr Birch to email him with his concerns but added that this is in the hands of the trustees. Eve Wilson asked if stables can be included within the craft shops; Cllr Atkin said this is not intended at present. Mr Jeffries asked if the old racket courts could be revamped; Cllr Atkin suggested he put his request in an email.

5. Highways are looking at the footpath provision at Snelsmoor Lane; Cllr Atkin will revert once he has an update.

#### **06.07.17. Digital Derbyshire.**

Cllr Strand was adamant that a positive result should derive from the DD modelling procedure; the slow connection in the villages has adversely affected residents and businesses for many years. Mr Birch asked why, if DCC own the Castle, the village cannot have a fibre connection too. Cllr Atkin thought it may be unviable.

**07.07.17** County and district councillors left at 8.05pm.

#### **08.07.17. Website maintenance.**

Cllr Mansfield had sent the clerk an email advising that we renew the present domain through the existing website provider for now; clerk has done this.

#### **9.07.17 Elvaston Communities Group including storage of the new gazebos.**

Eve Wilson said a summer break is forthcoming so no events are planned. A new website is being created and Eve showed council the template. The Group's constitution will be examined again soon and she asked members for their comments, especially the inclusion of new items. A fun dog show featuring the German Shepherd Club will be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August. Discussion over the gazebos to be held over to the next meeting.

#### **10.07.17 Public participation**

Mr Shaw complained that vehicles travelling on Borrowash Road to the recent steam rally were close to running pedestrians over; this would have been avoided if the hedges had been cut. Clerk to ask SDDC. A ticket machine at the Castle had been vandalised.

**11.07.17 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017.** These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Beadle, seconded Cllr Russell).

#### **12.07.17 Boulton Moor Housing**

The chairman reported that grass is beginning to grow after being re-seeded at the open space area on Colwell Drive, however it is still fenced off.

#### **13.07.17 Flooding and Gravel**

Mr Birch had attended the Flood Liaison meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June where he reported the jet-skiers at Ambaston. The minutes of the FLM confirmed that SDDC will report these to the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership. He also questioned the OCOR flood alleviation works at Ambaston as mentioned above at minute (05/07/17).

Mr Birch raised the run-off from Boulton Moor contributing to raised water levels in the villages and is concerned about the width of channels. Cllr Russell offered to show him the culvert running under the A6.

#### **14.07.17 Police Report**

The police website reports 6 minor incidents at Boulton Moor and 4 in the rural ward for April. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. Other recent incidents include:

Mike Tong reported that a handbag was stolen from Stables Cottage;

Cllr Beadle said a battery was stolen from the vicarage;

Cllr Loakes reported that diesel was taken from a builder's site at Ambaston; and  
 A resident noted that charity bags (collecting for Air Ambulance etc) had been taken from pavements recently.

**15.07.17 Chairman's Report.** A charity walk of c5miles is intended on 29<sup>th</sup> July beginning at the Harrington Arms at 9.30am; residents are welcome to join the group.

**16.07.17 Matters for Decision or Discussion**

16.1 Entry signs at Boulton Moor and rural villages. Clerk reminded both SDDC and David Wilson Homes seeking permission for the installation of 2 new boundary signs at Colwell Drive and Snelsmoor Lane on 7<sup>th</sup> July. After discussion members agreed on a contractor quote for removal of 5 rural signs; and to order 5 new signs. Cllr Loakes was pleased to report that the builders at Ambaston offered to remove that sign free of charge.

16.2. Hedge cutting on Main Road. Cllr Beadle was pleased to note that this has been cut.

16.3 car parking issues and signs. Clerk reminded DCC over possible installation of no-parking signs on 7<sup>th</sup> July and still awaits Highway's reply stating if these would be legal after sending them photos of those on Elvaston Lane.

16.4 To adopt recently updated council policies. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.

16.5 resident's request regarding Chellaston Academy. No further discussion suffice to say that members thought DALC's suggestion that consensus of opinion via email to reach an urgent decision can allow the decision to be made providing it is qualified at the next available meeting.

16.6 staining of notice boards: **Resolved:** not to be undertaken at present.

16.7 Registration of the village green. Cllr Beadle confirmed that the solicitor has lodged the planning application with DCC.

16.8 Jet-skiers on the quarry lagoon at Ambaston. Discussed earlier although Mr Birch added this activity is Tarmac's responsibility to rectify. Criminal damage must have taken place before the police will investigate, otherwise it constitutes a civil action only. However, a new security company has been appointed who claim it will attend the scene within 20 minutes of being notified of such activities. It also offers to conduct regular patrols.

16.9 To review latest budget figures. **Resolved:** agreed.

16.10 To agree a donation of £100 to the German Shepherd Club under s137. **Resolved:** agreed

**17.07.17 Clerk Report**

1. A resident at Sevenlands Drive complained about a plethora of learner drivers in the area. Members agreed that this had been discussed at a previous meeting adding that very little can be done to stop it.

2. After the clerk applied to the airport for a grant EMA confirmed it will not contribute to the new signage.

**18.07.17 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters.** Members confirmed that they had received recent circulars from the clerk.

**19.07.17 Finance**

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001218	J Irons – Clerk's salary June	497.43	-	497.43
001218	J Irons – expenses June see attached sheet	18.00	-	18.00
Stand Order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay June	272.00	-	272.00
001219	HMRC – clerk's tax June	62.20	-	62.20
001220	DCC – clerk's pension June	134.43	-	134.43
001221	German Shepherd Club (if agreed earlier)	100.00	-	100.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1084.06</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1084.06</b>

(b) Income  
 Allotment rents £ 45.00  
 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of precept received on 5<sup>th</sup> July £5410.00

(c) Bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 £33,967.33

**20.07.17 To consider planning applications:**

Consultation.

9/2017/0196 - OUTLINE APPLICATION (ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR THE ERECTION OF TWO DWELLINGS AT 41 GROVE CLOSE THULSTON. Still pending.

A consultation event will be held at the War Memorial Hall in Aston on Trent on 17<sup>th</sup> July addressing Local Green Spaces Development plans and the Design and Affordable Housing planning documents

**21.07.17 Items for Information only.** Clerk circulated 2 items.

**22.07.17 Agenda Items for next meeting**

- website maintenance;
- Boulton Moor;
- Elvaston Communities Group and storage of gazebos;
- Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust;
- To place Elvaston Charitable Trust further up the agenda;
- Registration of the village green;
- Update on car parking issues and signs, and BM signage (if any);
- to adopt recently updated council policies;
- Jet-skiers at Ambaston.

**23.07.17** The next Council Meeting is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Signed .....

CLlr P Bickerton (Chairman).