

Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th June 2017 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present: Cllrs T Mansfield (Chairman), R Russell, M Beadle, S Spenser and P Loakes.

In Attendance: Cllr Neil Atkin, DCllr Hilary Coyle, 4 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.06.17 To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs P Bickerton, R Strand (holiday), C Hurt (work commitments) and DCllr Peter Watson.

02.06.17. Variation of Order of Business None.

03.06.17 Declaration of Members Interests None

04.06.17. To receive a report from Dr Peter Robinson, trustee of the Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust.

Dr Robinson was appointed as a trustee 2 weeks ago and confirmed that Tony Clarke, the previous chairman of the Development Board, is also a trustee. There are presently 9 trustees with a county councillor becoming a trustee in due course. It may be 10 years before the Trust runs the estate, this will be once it becomes sustainable. It presently addresses identifying pots of money available for pursuing projects; another HLF bid may be made.

Trust and county council meet every 2 months (the first having already been held). The next will include discussion over procedure and branding of the respective elements of county council /Trust; the latter's role is to make progress for the hand-over to the former.

The Castle has been re-roofed; a wedding contract has been agreed with 20 bookings to date. The refurbishing of toilets is almost complete and new café tenants will soon arrive. The library will be used as meeting room and garden walls are being re-built. Restoration of the lake and improvements to the caravan park are intended. An economic assessment will be undertaken; all issues are led by the county council helped by input from the Trust. Mr Tong asked whether the county council can override schemes; Dr Robinson said county council is the owner therefore the Trust signs a lease and invests in activities; the 2 entities will work together. That said, the Trust is keen to appoint volunteers and to converse with those businesses that cannot deal with county council due to procurement issues and similar.

Eve Wilson asked about tenants. Dr Robinson explained that conversations are ongoing with café, cricket club etc, but not yet with the equestrian centre.

Mike Tong asked about tea rooms. Dr Robinson said the tenancy agreement contains a 3-year break clause allowing flexibility for another tea room which may be required for increased visitor numbers, which could rise to c500k per year.

The chairman raised car parking facilities. Dr Robinson believes these arrangements should lie at the core of the estate and is being considered.

The chairman thanked Dr Robinson for his attendance and presentation. Dr Robinson offered to visit another council meeting in the future which members appreciated after which he left at 7.55pm.

05.06.17. Digital Derbyshire.

Discussed in Cllr Atkin's report below.

06.06.17. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Spenser's cat had recently been shot and badly injured which he reported to the police.

Cllr Loakes witnessed 2 men shooting swans in the park last Tuesday which he reported to the rangers and police.

DCllr Coyle added that this had also occurred at Barrow recently.

Cllr Beadle confirmed that registration of the village green is being progressed by the solicitor involved.

The chairman rued that the road sign on Ball Lane is still missing; clerk to remind SDDC.

Cllr Strand sent apologies to the clerk and asked him to mention the following:

Regards to Peter Robinson;

Reminder to Gill Forester about the humps on Stable Drive. Clerk did this a month ago but will chase; Chellaston Academy letter; Cllr Strand believed the resident did not allow council enough time to respond, did not provide adequate information and he did not believe an MP could have lent support (personal not government related). The clerk had responded saying he believed that DALC advice, while not to be ignored, should allow for a decision out- with a meeting. The chairman agreed and decided this needs further discussion in the next meeting.

07.06.17. District and County Councillor's reports

District Councillor Hilary Coyle.

1. DCllr Coyle had been impressed with the village Fete. She presented details of SDDC planning consultation to be held at various locations throughout June including Hilton, Melbourne and Etwall; a date for the Aston on Trent event to be advised. The clerk had received this previously and circulated it to members.
2. The next Safer Neighbourhood and Area Forum will be held at Melbourne Assembly Rooms on 19th June. DCllr Coyle encouraged residents to attend and bring ideas to the event.
3. The next Flood Liaison Meeting is on 22nd June at Swadlincote; DCllr Coyle advised anyone wishing to attend and ask questions to submit those questions in advance.
4. DCllr Watson noted that some of his comments were omitted from last month's minutes; clerk to include.

Cllr Loakes is pleased that trimming of verges near the bends on Ambaston Lane is being undertaken but the long stretches are left to grow. DCllr Coyle replied to say she will enquire over the frequency of cutting these sections. Regarding Planning Application 9/2017/0196 (41 Grove Close, Thulston) an extension of time for comments was granted to the owner by SDDC; Cllr Beadle had originally asked for an extension of time for a council letter opposing planning permission. DCllr Coyle assured that this has been delayed and a TPO had been placed on a tree in the garden.

County Councillor Neil Atkin

CCllr Atkin had previously sent the following report to the clerk which the clerk had circulated to members.

Chairman,

I have now been issued with an official contact email address to receive any enquiries on the following link:

Neil.Atkin@derbyshire.gov.uk

From time to time people may contact me on my District Council contact details on matters requiring urgent queries or responses.

Neil.atkin@south-derbys.gov.uk

In future I can only be contacted by email or the text messaging service due to hearing problems, it will be more efficient and faster as I shall be in meetings most of the time and will reply as and when appropriate.

Mobile messaging number:

07970 337 178

My PA is Sue Harrison and she will deal with my correspondence and any telephone calls, I will present you with her contact details as outlined below now everything has settled after moving into new offices. Please note that my PA is only available by telephone on weekdays in the mornings and at any other time by email contact.

Members Secretary

Sue Harrison

Derbyshire County Council

County Hall

Matlock

Derbyshire

DE4 3AG

Tel: 01629 536055 (Ext. 36055)

Email: sue.harrison@derbyshire.gov.uk

To clarify for audit purposes may I ask the Parish Council to submit any questions in advance of a PC meeting to enable answers to be reported in advance or presented verbally.

Or

Should a question be raised at the meeting by a Parish Councillor / member of public to be sent to me to be looked into and resolved as a matter of public record.

Member Surgeries:

Regarding my member surgery arrangements to cover the local Parish Areas listed at the top of my report it has been decided to cease this arrangement due to new safety guidance in light of the Jo Cox situation we have been advised not to run members surgeries alone, In the meantime I shall be available by appointment to visit individuals at home or at a neutral location to address their enquiries.

Appointments:

My County Council appointments thus so far are:

Vice- Chairman – Pensions & Investments Committee

Derbyshire Combined Fire Authority

Derby & Derbyshire Development Plans Joint Advisory Board

Outside Bodies:

East Midlands Chamber of Commerce

Elvaston Castle & Country Park Members Working Party

Elvaston Quarry Liaison Committee

Museum of the Mercian Regiment (Worcestershire & Sherwood Foresters Collection)

Nottingham East Midlands Airport Independent Consultative Committee

Member Champion

Armed Forces Covenant

To Conclude:

In future I hope to send a copy of my County Council report to the clerk in advance of the meeting or afterwards for clarification purposes.

I hope to join you at a future meeting and look forward to working with members of the Parish Council.

News From DCC :

Broadband.

I have sent a copy in advance of the work undertaken by Digital Derbyshire across the Aston Division so far. An update by BT will be presented to the County Council towards the end of June. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to send in your queries regarding this service.

I understand a letter an official letter from the parish has been received by the officers of Digital Derbyshire and a response has been made (see below).

A meeting to update the parishes will be arranged in due course & invitations shall be sent in advance.

DCC Local Area committee's

The previous arrangement for local area committees have now been deleted from the diary calendar and scrapped.

Regarding Broadband Robert Rowan at DCC replied to council on 15th May saying:

Dear Mr Irons, Thank you for contacting me regarding broadband services to Ambaston, Elvaston and Thulston.

In relation to the comments you have raised regarding Big Blue Rocket, can I ask if you or other residents have raised these concerns directly with BBR and if so, what has been their response? And have any of the residents used the BDUK Better Broadband Subsidy voucher scheme to support this service? If so, we can raise this with BDUK directly.

In relation to Ambaston and those residents who are dissatisfied with the services BBR are offering, then it might be worth contacting other wireless providers to see whether they would be able to provide services to these areas.

A list of alternative providers in Derbyshire are available on our website.

http://www.digitalderbyshire.org.uk/better_broadband_subsidy_scheme/default.asp

With regard to bringing fibre broadband to Ambaston, Elvaston and Thulston through the Digital Derbyshire programme, I can advise that we await the modelling outputs from BT with regard to where we are targeting next and would be hopeful that all three areas will be included within the next phase of deployment.

We anticipate this modelling to be agree over the coming months, following which we will be able to provide more information in terms of timescales and proposed solutions.

Robert Rowan | Digital Derbyshire Programme Manager

The chairman asked of the cost of installing broadband to the villages citing that the Castle has a fibre optic line from the A6. Cllr Atkin will revert and assured that the county council will deliver whatever BT does not.

08.06.17. Website maintenance.

The clerk sent details of the present log-in arrangements from the current web developer to Cllr Mansfield in order that he may create a new website; Cllr Mansfield has made a start on this.

09.06.17 DCllr Coyle and Cllr Atkin left.

10.06.17 Elvaston Communities Group including storage of the new gazebos.

The chairman thanked Group members for their hard work in making a success of the fete.

Eve Wilson announced that visitor numbers were slightly down on last year's turnout, mainly due to rain. She thanked the chairman and other volunteers for their assistance. Car parking is the main concern although Eve suggested that transport to the cricket ground be arranged in future. A public meeting of the Community Group will be held on Thursday 15th June, one of 4 per year. The constitution may be revisited. She suggested that any ideas arising can be presented to the parish council to which the chairman agreed.

Mike Tong said more flora surveys will be conducted at the Coronation Meadow and hay planting begins soon. The sensory garden is improving and work continues. He thanked supporters of the village fete.

Discussion over the gazebos to be held over to the next meeting.

11.06.17 Public participation

Nothing further.

12.06.17 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 8th May 2017. After the addition of a sentence supplied by DCllr Watson these were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Spenser).

13.06.17 Boulton Moor Housing

Nothing to report.

14.06.17 Flooding and Gravel

The next Flood Liaison meeting is on 22nd June as mentioned earlier.

15.06.17 Police Report

The police website reports 14 minor incidents at Boulton Moor and 4 in the rural ward for March. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. Mike Tong reported that several burglaries had occurred in Elvaston recently. The chairman recommended that residents and members sign up to Derbyshire Alert for updated crime reports.

16.06.17 Chairman's Report. None although he suggested that Cllr Bickerton may wish to add items to next month's report.

17.06.17 Matters for Decision or Discussion

17.1 Entry signs at Boulton Moor and rural villages. Clerk awaits replies from SDDC and David Wilson Homes over installation of 2 new boundary signs at Colwell Drive and Snelsmoor Lane after sending them both more information, especially on the signs' dimensions. Clerk received questions over the 5 rural signs from the supplier who said it cannot remove the existing rural sign posts; members **agreed** that the clerk obtain quotes from contractors to address this. Two entry signs exist at the northern end of Elvaston; members **agreed** that both should be replaced. The Ambaston sign is small and the supplier asked whether a larger sign here is appropriate; members **agreed** that it is.

17.2. Hedge cutting on Main Road. Cllr Beadle contacted the owner of this land who assured that we could contact him anytime should we have any further problems. Cllr Mansfield consequently spoke to the agent who was surveying the hedge and field who also gave the owners details. Cllr Mansfield passed these details to the clerk.

17.3 car parking issues and signs. Clerk awaits a reply from DCC over possible installation of no-parking signs. He sent photos of those on Elvaston Lane to Highways but it replied to say these may be illegal; clerk to chase. Warning notices for attaching to cars in order to alleviate parking congestion can only be applied by the police.

17.4 to adopt recently updated council policies; held over to the next meeting.

17.5 resident's request regarding Chellaston Academy; held over to the next meeting.

17.6 To review latest budget figures; held over to the next meeting.

18.06.17 Clerk Report

Staining of notice boards; held over to the next meeting.

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

20.06.17 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001214	J Irons – Clerk’s salary May	497.63	-	497.63
001214	J Irons – expenses May see attached sheet	18.76	-	18.76
Stand Order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay February	272.00	-	272.00
001215	HMRC – clerk’s tax May	62.00	-	62.00
001216	DCC – clerk’s pension May	130.52	-	130.52
001217	Elvaston Communities Group – gardening grant	240.00	-	240.00
	TOTAL	1220.91	-	1220.91

(b) **Income**

Refund for VAT incurred 2016/17 £262.81

(c) **Bank balance as at 31st May 2017 £35,496.05**

21.06.17 To consider planning applications:

9/2017/0482 - THE FELLING AND PRUNING OF SYCAMORE TREES COVERED BY SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 09 AT 4 STURGES LANE THULSTON. **Resolved:** no objection.

9/2017/0434 - THE FELLING OF TWO SYCAMORE TREES COVERED BY SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NUMBER 9 AT 51 Grove Close, Thulston. **Resolved:** no objection. Consultation.

9/2017/0196 - OUTLINE APPLICATION (ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR THE ERECTION OF TWO DWELLINGS AT 41 GROVE CLOSE THULSTON. Still pending and discussed earlier at minute 07/06/17.

22.06.17 Items for Information only. None.

23.06.17 Agenda Items for next meeting

- website maintenance;
- Boulton Moor;
- Elvaston Communities Group and storage of gazebos;
- Sevenlands Drive resident complaint over learner drivers and ASB;
- Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust;
- Staining of notice boards;
- Registration of the village green;
- Update on car parking issues and signs, and BM signage (if any);
- to adopt recently updated council policies;
- resident’s request regarding Chellaston Academy;
- To review latest budget figures.
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24.06.17 The next Council Meeting is on 10th July 2017 at **7.30pm**.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.17pm.

Signed

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).