

# **Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON**

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

**In Attendance:** Cllr Rob Davison, DCllrs Neil Atkin and Peter Watson, 4 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

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

### **01.03.17 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllrs P Loakes (holiday), S Spenser (work commitments), C Hurt (work commitments) and DCllr Hilary Coyle.

### **02.03.17. Variation of Order of Business**

Item 14 was moved to be discussed within item 10.

### **03.03.17 Declaration of Members Interests**

None

### **04.03.17 District and County Councillor's reports**

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

1. DCllr Watson met the chairman to view the Thulston Brook bridge that stands between Meadow Nook and Poole Close. DCllr Watson agreed to meet the chairman on site later in the week. A resident had highlighted a health & safety issue. Persimmon Homes will not address this, Derby City council knew little of it and DCllr Watson awaits a reply from the Parks department. Progress is hindered because the brook lies on the boundary between district and the City.
2. No complaints were received from Elvaston over waste collection services during the Christmas period. Those that did complain were mostly unsure of collection dates and SDDC will add more clarity to the calendar next year. DCllr Watson explained the vast amount of waste collections undertaken throughout the area.
3. The Infinity Garden Village scheme at Stenson Fields was approved by district council on 2<sup>nd</sup> March.
4. DCllr Watson attended the recent race track liaison meeting last week. The track is under new ownership through a 21-year lease although the same management team is retained. Relations between the track and surrounding villages and administrative bodies has improved in recent years, something DCllr Watson attributes to these regular meetings.
5. A key factor arising from the recent Area Forum is that Derbyshire is comparatively safe. The SNM will continue and the police declared an ongoing commitment to this cause.

Cllr Strand asked whether Formula 1 car racing will be held at the race track; DCllr Watson replied saying not but superbike events are preferred and encouraged. DCllr Atkin added that the Download music festival continues and despite rumours that the Glastonbury event is coming to Donington it will not. The Sunday market has now ceased.

#### **District Councillor Neil Atkin**

District council will raise its element of the council tax by 1.95%, the same as last year.

#### **County Councillor Rob Davison**

1. After the last meeting Cllr Davison reported the open electrical junction box in a bus stop on the A6; this should now be closed.
2. He thanked Cllr Strand for his efforts on the Castle Development Board.

3. Cllr Davison believes the only lasting solution to car-parking congestion is a rewriting of the national law.

4. Vikki Webb at DCC replied concerning issues at the quarry and a site visit involving her, Cllr Davison and Kevin Birch will be held soon.

5. Cllr Davison believes an east-west road built at the proposed Infinity Garden village will not alleviate the increased housing issue and prefers to see a north-south road created instead.

#### **05.03.17 Public participation**

None.

**06.03.17 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.** These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Beadle, seconded Cllr Mansfield).

#### **07.03.17 Police Report**

The police website has not yet been updated to show January's figures. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>.

Mike Tong noted that a gate had been unlocked at the Park on Saturday night and 3 horses escaped; head collars were taken.

#### **08.03.17 Website maintenance**

Cllr Mansfield offered to design a template for the proposed new website and clerk to ask the current web developer the status of copyright of the Castle logo. Council has his permission to use the logo on a new site and the new rural village signs but members believe council should own it outright.

#### **09.03.17 Boulton Moor Housing**

The chairman and DCllr Watson met to view the bridge at Thulston Brook as mentioned earlier. The chairman reported that dredging of the Thulston Brook has resulted in mud and sludge remaining around the workings. Also, the notice board on Colwell Drive is inaccessible. Clerk to ask his contact at the district council how long the work will take.

#### **10.03.17 Elvaston Communities Group**

Eve Wilson reminded members that the Big Band Dance Night is on 1<sup>st</sup> April; tickets are £7.50 each. Village Fete is upcoming in May although parking problems might arise again. Eve has spoken to Gill Forester who assures that bollards will be placed in the area and will ask Cllr Davison if other measures can be taken to alleviate congestion. Eve met the website developer to discuss a new design. The Facebook page is busy and attracts much interest, especially over the Castle. Eve is keen to engender more interest in the parish as a whole, thereby involving the community more. Due to building work being undertaken at the sensory garden no planting or husbandry is being done at present. Fencing has been erected at the Coronation Meadow to prevent cattle eating spring bulbs. The next Community Group meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March at the village hall and will be followed by 3-monthly meetings thereafter, which are open to the public.

**11.03.17 Storage of the Communities Group's new gazebos.** Cllr Mansfield announced that a meeting of various community groups will meet on 31<sup>st</sup> March to create a working group to discuss storage of the Communities Group's new gazebos. It will focus on storage at the village hall site including possible replacement of the small hut (although this may be a listed building) Cllr Mansfield will report the outcome of the meeting to the Village Hall Committee. Eve asked for the Community Group to be involved.

### **12.03.17 Flooding and Gravel**

Kevin Birch awaits a reply from EA over his recent suggestion of a flood plan. He wondered if the brook's culvert under the A6 is in adequate condition to withstand any increased run-off water from Bouton Moor; clerk to ask his contact at SDDC.

### **13.03.17 Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust**

Cllr Strand had nothing to report now that the Development Board has been dissolved and the Trust taken over. However, it may be useful to obtain the input of a local resident who was appointed as a Trustee. The chairman thanked Cllr Strand for his efforts and diligence whilst sitting on the Board.

### **14.03.17 Chairman's Report**     None.

### **15.03.17 Matters for Decision or Discussion**

**15.1** Village entry signs at Boulton Moor and rural villages. Clerk awaits replies from SDDC and Davis Wilson Homes over installation of 2 new boundary signs at Colwell Drive and Snelsmoor Lane. Clerk received an amended quote for the 5 rural signs to which members **agreed**. However, before ordering these clarification is sought regarding the Castle logo. The clerk has applied to the airport's Community Fund for a small grant to help fund the project.

**15.2** registration of the village green. Cllr Beadle received a few completed questionnaires from several residents that are required by the Land Registry but more are needed. Once received she will deliver them to the solicitor involved.

**15.3** car parking issues. Clerk awaits a reply from SDDC over possible installation of no-parking signs. Clerk to send photos depicting congestion to the PCC for discussion in the next meeting.

**15.4** litter picking along Ambaston Lane and into the village. This will be discussed during the clerk's and lengthsman's appraisal to be held at the chairman's house on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**15.5** Tax technician payroll contract. Clerk obtained 2 quotes for the same work resulting in the present technician being the cheapest. Members **agreed** to retain her services.

### **16.02.17 Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Strand believed the recent introduction of a £3 charge at DCC recycling centres may result in increased fly-tipping in the area and asked members to monitor this. Clerk to enquire of the Clean Team if it too can monitor the number of such offences. He announced that an allotment holder has relinquished one of his 2 plots and will ask the only remaining applicant on the waiting list if they are interested.

Cllr Beadle rued that unwanted notices are being pinned to notice boards; these advertise services and trades. Members agreed these should be removed when spotted.

Cllr Mansfield received and is distributing new wheelie-bin stickers that denote a 30mph speed limit. Preferable delivery addresses include houses in Brook Road, Grove Close and Ambaston.

Cllr Russell reported a missing road sign on Ball Lane, opposite Ambaston Lane; clerk to tell Highways. She thought the hedge on Main road, near Silver Lane needs cutting; clerk to tell Severn Trent. Potholes are appearing in Grove Close, Brook Road and outside the Beechwood caravan Park. Also, a drain at the latter location is blocked and needs clearing. Clerk to tell Highways. Cllr Russell asked members if they wished Vic Venus to cut the village hall grass this coming year to which they **agreed**. Finally, she gave the new website designer's card including contact details to the clerk.

### **17.03.17 Clerk Report**

1. The Police & Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, Hardyal Dhindsa, will attend the APM on 10th April.

2. Clerk explained Paul Fox's quote for trimming branches and foliage on the village green and the Ball Lane footpath, with which members **agreed**. Despite a resident confirming he would cut the hedge that encroaches over the public footpath on Thulston village green he has not. Cllrs Beadle and Mansfield to ask the resident if he objects to a contractor cutting the hedge; if not clerk to arrange.

3. The lengthsman has declined an invitation to join the council's pension scheme.

4. Clerk confirmed that allotment agreements are due to be circulated.

### **18.03.17 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters**

Members had received recent circulars from the clerk.

### 19.02.17 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001195	J Irons – Clerk’s salary February	477.20	-	477.20
001195	J Irons - clerk home allowance February	18.00	-	18.00
Stand Order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay February	192.00	-	192.00
001196	HMRC – clerk’s tax February	61.00	-	61.00
001197	DCC – clerk’s pension February	123.58	-	123.58
001198	SDDC – dog bin emptying 2016/17	223.08	44.62	267.70
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1094.86</b>	<b>44.62</b>	<b>1139.48</b>

(b) **Income**

£6935.00 SDDC concurrent expenses for year 2016/17; paid into bank on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

(c) **Bank balance as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017** **£34,135.53**

### 20.03.17 To consider planning applications:

9/2017/0208 - THE ERECTION OF A TEMPORARY SALES CABIN ON LAND AT SK3931 5448 SNELSMOOR LANE BOULTON MOOR. **Resolved:** no objection.

9/2017/0218 - THE DISPLAY OF A 'V' BOARD SIGN AND 2 NO SALES FLAGS ON LAND AT SK3931 5448 SNELSMOOR LANE BOULTON MOOR. **Resolved:** no objection.

**21.02.17 Items for Information only.** The clerk circulated 1 item of interest.

### 22.02.17 Agenda Items for next meeting

- website maintenance;
- Boulton Moor;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Charitable Trust;
- Storage of gazebos;
- Attendance of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire;
- Registration of the village green (questionnaires);
- Update on car parking issues and signs, and BM signage (if any);
- Outcome of clerk’s and lengthsman’s appraisal (if held);
- To rearrange agenda items and to add Digital Derbyshire for the next meeting.

**23.03.17** The Ordinary & Annual Council Meetings are on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at **7.00pm**.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Signed .....

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).