

MINUTES OF THE ELVASTON ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th May 2016 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present:

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr T Mansfield, Cllr S Spenser, Cllr P Loakes, Cllr C Hurt, 3 parishioners and J Irons (clerk).

In Attendance:

Cllr R Davison and DCllr P Watson.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.05.16 Election of Chairman

Cllr Bickerton had been previously proposed by Cllr Strand. **RESOLVED:** Cllr Bickerton was elected and duly signed his declaration of acceptance of office form.

02.05.16. Election of Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Strand had been previously proposed by Cllr Bickerton. **Resolved:** Cllr Strand was elected and will sign his declaration of acceptance of office form at the next meeting.

03.05.16. To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs R Strand (holiday), Cllr M Beadle (family illness) and DCllrs H Coyle and N Atkin (work commitments).

04.05.16: Variation of Order of Business

None.

05.05.16: Declaration of Members Interests

To enable Members to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they have in subsequent agenda items, in accordance with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct. Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at that time. **None declared.**

06.05.16: Declaration of Councillors' agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct and to sign Declaration of Interests forms.

Councillors present duly agreed to abide by the Code.

07.05.16: District and County Councillor's Reports.

Cllr Rob Davison

1. Cllr Davison congratulated the earlier election of both chair and vice-chair and believed these members formed a cohesive pair.
2. He is following up DCllr Coyle's recent enquiry over the provision of signs to prevent the excessive use of Colwell Drive by learner drivers. Clerk read a reply received from Highways a few weeks ago (see minute 20.05.16 (2) below).
3. DCC has approved a £45k spend to improve drainage on the caravan site at the Castle.
4. He believes the recent questionnaire to glean resident's views on Broadband to be most worthwhile and will prove fruitful.
5. Cllr Davison attended the Elvaston Quarry Liaison meeting on 26th April and is concerned at the pace of the restoration works although is optimistic that the operator (Biffa) can deliver on its promises. If not then sanctions will apply.
6. The last meeting saw concern from members of the temporary nature of repairs to potholes on Ambaston Lane and of the lax attitude by workmen. The county councillor has noted this at Matlock and will revert when repairs are due to start. Cllr Loakes believes these are imminent because some holes have been marked to denote infilling. A resident thought heavy vehicles are the cause of the holes; Cllr Davison will take advice from the highways officer and revert.

7. Cllr Davison is keen to see 'welcome to Boulton Moor' signs erected and is prepared to contribute to their cost from his county councillor allowance. The chairman thanked him for his generous offer and for his report.

DCllr Peter Watson

1. The DCllr also extended his congratulations to the newly elected chairman and vice-chairman and thought their combined experience would prove successful to the council.

2. DCllr Watson was dismayed that a recent press report claimed Broadband not to be important to rural areas; he is in touch with MP Heather Wheeler to convey the results of Elvaston's 2 recent questionnaire surveys that dispel the myth.

3. The next liaison meeting with Persimmon Homes is on 16th June in the village hall at 7pm.

4. A parish briefing on crime and ASB will be held on Wednesday in Swadlucote and members are urged to attend.

5. SDDC is taking more stringent action over fly-tipping including more prosecutions and fines. An offender can expect a fine of £400 (£240 for a fast payment), but a second offence results in court action. Anyone found dumping hazardous material will not be issued a penalty notice but will instead be sent directly to court.

6. DCllr Watson received a complaint over a Boulton Moor issue and will therefore ask Persimmon about it (see minute 14.05.16 below).

08.05.16: Public Speaking – (matters only relevant to this parish to be discussed) A period of not more than 5 minutes will be made available for members of the public and members of the Council to comment on any matter
None.

09.05.16: To approve the minutes of the (2) meetings held on the 11th April and the extraordinary meeting held on 28th April 2016. These were approved (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Loakes) as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

10.05.16: Appointment of members to Committees or Sub Committees and their respective delegated authority.
The Officers for 2016-2017 were all unanimously elected as follows:-

- Elvaston Castle and Village Hall Committees – Cllr Russell;
- Finance Committee – Cllrs Bickerton, Strand and Mansfield;
- Elvaston Communities Group – Cllr Bickerton;
- Allotment Committee – Cllr Strand;
- Charities Trusts – Cllrs Mansfield and Russell;
- Boulton Moor development – Cllrs Bickerton, Strand, Russell and Beadle.

11.05.16: Police Report. 2 minor incidents were reported on the police website in the rural ward, 5 in the Boulton Moor in February. Details can be accessed at: <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DE03/crime/>

SDDC's Weekly Crime Update, which has replaced Derbyshire Alert, showed the following:

Date: 04/04/16 to 10/04/16.

Castle Court Thulston Sat 09/04 22.00hrs- Sun 10/04 07.00hrs- insecure garage search made nothing stolen.

Sat/ Sunday – 9th & 10th - Elvaston Car Park - passenger side window smashed, bag stolen.

11th to 17th April: Caravan Park Main Rd Elvaston, Tues-Wed – number plates stolen

Friday 29th April – forced attempted entry into a house at Meadow Nook, Boulton Moor, door damaged.

Snelsmoor Lane, BM – overnight Tues/Weds - padlock forced on developer's site, equipment and 600-700 litres of red diesel stolen.

Sevenlands Drive – Weds/ Thurs – van broken into and tools stolen.

12.05.16: Digital Derbyshire. Clerk announced that he had sent replies to the questionnaires from residents stating their views on broadband provision in the villages to Digital Derbyshire.

13.05.16: Elvaston Castle Development Board. Nothing to report, Cllr Strand will update in the next meeting.

14.05.16: Boulton Moor Housing. The next liaison meeting with Persimmon Homes is on 16th June in the village hall at 7pm, as mentioned above. The chairman received a complaint from a resident about vans driving along the new footpath at Snelsmoor Lane. Although trees have been planted shrubs have not, weeds grow and the site looks unsightly. The chairman has forwarded the message to DCllr Watson who will ask Persimmon; it will also be raised at the liaison meeting.

15.05.16: Elvaston Communities Group. The chairman announced that the village fete will be held at the cricket ground on 30th May at 12 noon. A picnic will be held to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday at the recreational area on Colwell Drive on 11th June (clerk to confirm with the City Council). Flyers will be distributed around Boulton Moor and be displayed on notice boards.

16.05.16: Flooding and Gravel. A resident attended the recent quarry liaison meeting where it was noted that demand for aggregates has declined recently. He is upset over 2 points: no start date has been proposed for the next stage of the extension; and the programme of works agreed a few years ago has not been complied with. The chairman thanked him for his attendance to the liaison meeting and reporting here tonight.

17.05.16: Matters for Decision or Discussion

1. Provision of a notice board at Snelsmoor Lane. **Resolved:** clerk to order a dual-display board to be placed at the footpath on Snelsmoor Lane and ask the supplier for a discount if 2 are ordered.
2. Purchase of speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.
3. Installation of dog fouling prevention notices at the Castle. Cllr Russell met Gill Forester on 18th April who regretted she could not justify the erection of a dog waste bin but agreed to place dog fouling notices around the site.
4. Adoption of a Grants Policy. **Resolved:** agreed after an adjustment was made.

18.05.16: Cllr Hurt left the meeting at 8.30pm.

5. Response from Highways over excessive amounts of advertising notices at Thulston traffic roundabout. A Highways inspector visited and removed plastic signs but let the Buttercup Leys signs remain.
6. Review of standing orders and financial regulations. **Resolved:** no changes intended (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Spenser).

19.05.16: Councillor's Reports

Cllr Russell said that CHT is waiting for a response from the ambulance service before the defibrillator at Ambaston can be checked. Ivy at 1 Main Road and the hedge between 1&2 Grove Close are overgrown – clerk to write to the residents. The culvert near the kissing gate between the village green and the Castle running across the stream needs repair- clerk to advise EA.

As mentioned above Cllr Russell met Gill Forester on 18th April at the Castle and provided the following report;

Clover Close and Oak Flats - these two areas may eventually be used for grazing but funding is needed to get them securely fenced first.

Café - After the café went to tender one of the applicants was chosen and they are waiting for their response. The supplier for Ice Cream sales remains the same.

Castle toilets - The toilets within the castle are in need of refurbishment, but will need DCC Cabinet approval before that can happen.

Weddings at the Castle - Hopefully weddings will be held within the Castle and grounds before too long. Tenders will be sought in the future. Gill hopes that the refurbishment of the toilets and the commencement of weddings taking place will come together.

Walled garden - The wall in middle of the two parts of the walled garden has partly collapsed, hence the fencing with the plastic screening. This still allows the public access to the open side of the walled garden. They are waiting for the results of the survey of the wall. Eventually they hope to hold weddings in the second part of the walled garden. The front wall that has been fenced off for several years is still in need of repair and various ways of funding this are being explored.

Cllr Mansfield believed that village entry signage should be replaced with modern ones and flower beds require some upkeep. Similarly, Cllr Loakes rued the state of Ambaston’s signs. Clerk will furnish information on Shardlow’s new signage at the next meeting.

20.05.16: Clerk’s Report

1. Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2011: clerk established that no cookies appear on the website. Clerk uploaded the audited financial information onto the site and asked Nick Sellek (twice) to attach a vacancy notice for another member to the lead page on the site; and to change the Steering Group name to Communities Group.

2. Highway’s Senior Traffic Engineer replied over clerk’s enquiry over a sign at BM deterring learner drivers: *“If it is public highway, then the only way we can legally restrict use of the road to certain classes of road user is to put in place a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Enforcement of this would be down to the police. There is considerable cost and time in progressing a TRO, and it is not something DCC would be in a position to progress, given costs / time involved, particularly bearing in mind funding priorities and as always, the limited funding levels available. Similarly the police would be unlikely to be in a position to allocate enforcement resources for a TRO, on a road away from main urban centres. (i.e. police unlikely to be able to allocate sufficient enforcement resource for any measure such as this to be effective in practice)”*.

3. Clerk reminded Highways about the loose wiring at the bus shelter on the A6.

4. Clerk recently noticed that Thulston Brook is starting to accrue litter again but as EA only cleared it in March it will ask them to tidy in a few weeks.

5. Clerk sent an email to the Ramathon organisers asking them to ensure that litter dropped in and around Shardlow & Elvaston is collected this year (especially from Ambaston Lane). If not Shardlow's council has stated that it will arrange for collection and charge the organisers for this service. Clerk received a reply which he sent to members earlier this evening.

6. Clerk asked the City Council whether we can hold a picnic to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday at the recreational area on Colwell Drive on 11th June as mentioned above and awaits its reply.

21.05.16: Derbyshire Association of Local Councils newsletters. Clerk offered the latest Circulars which had been emailed to all Cllrs previously.

22.05.16: Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment – cheques to be approved and signed

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001153	J Irons – Clerk’s salary April	473.18	-	473.18
001153	J Irons - clerk home allowance £18 pm	18.00	-	18.00
001153	J Irons – expense petrol to internal auditor & return twice (76 miles at 0.65p per mile)	49.40	-	49.40
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay April	192.00	-	192.00

001154	HMRC – clerk’s tax	59.80	-	59.80
001155	DCC – clerk’s pension	122.39	-	122.39
001156	Elvaston Communities Group – sensory gdn	530.00	-	530.00
001156	Elvaston Communities Group –hort. show	179.00	-	179.00
001157	Helen Daniels – internal audit 2015/16	95.00	-	95.00
001158	SDDC – waste sacks	46.00	-	46.00
	TOTAL	1764.77	-	1764.77

(b) **Income**

7 allotment rents banked - £105.

(c) **Direct Debits**

None

Bank balance as at 30th April 2016

£34,114.11

23.05.16: To consider planning applications

9/2016/0324 - THE ERECTION OF EXTENSIONS, A DETACHED GARAGE AND NEW BOUNDARY WALL AT 11 SILVER LANE THULSTON. **Resolved:** no objection.

24.05.16: Items for information only. The clerk offered 2 items of interest.

25.05.16: Agenda items for the next meeting.

- Broadband;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board;
- Boulton Moor Housing;
- Purchase of a notice board for Snelsmoor Lane;
- Costs and consideration of village entry signs;
- Purchase of speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins;

26.05.14: Date of next meeting – Monday 13th June 2016 at 7.30pm

Persimmon Liaison meeting on Thursday 16th June in the village hall at 7pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm

Signed

CLlr P Bickerton (Chairman)