

Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th January 2019 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present: Cllrs P Bickerton (Chairman), R Strand, M Beadle, E Beech, S Spenser and T Mansfield.

In Attendance: DCllr Peter Watson, 4 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.01.19 To receive apologies for absence:

Cllr R Russell (otherwise engaged), CCllr N Atkin (at an AGM in Aston on Trent) and DCllr H Coyle.

02.01.19 Variation of Order of Business: none

03.01.19 Declaration of Members Interests: none

04.01.19 Elvaston Castle Action Group: Nothing to report.

05.01.19 Digital Derbyshire: nothing to report.

06.01.19 Councillor's Reports:

Cllr Strand was pleased to report that the overgrown hedge at the bus shelter on the A6 opposite the Castle gates had been cut. He is dismayed that the missing bus shelter on the A6 (subject to an insurance claim) has not yet been replaced; clerk to urge SDDC again. Cllr Strand noted that several potholes have been filled in Grove Close but not completed properly and more have now appeared; clerk to report to Highways. The road sign at the junction of the A6 and Broad Lane has been damaged and sits at an angle; clerk reported this to Highways last month but will remind them.

Cllr Loakes rued the presence of fly-tipped white goods on Ambaston Lane; both clerk and lengthsman have reported these to the Clean Team and will continue to do so.

Cllr Beech said that 9 residents conducted a litter- pick around Buttercup Leys a few weeks ago and suggested this be done around 8 weeks. A trailer was used to dispose of the waste. One resident is vocal and continues to be most irate over the amount of litter, DCllr Watson suggested such litter be reported to SDDC who can provide bags and calipers; clerk to enquire. Also, the Clean Team can be called at any time to attend and remove waste.

Cllr Beadle asked whether the council is allowed to accept more members; the clerk confirmed that an electorate of up to 2500 residents may be represented by up to 12 members.

07.01.19: District and County Councillors' report:

DCllr Peter Watson.

1. DCllr Watson was dismayed at the treatment of the Elvaston Castle Action Group by DCC at a recent meeting between the two. The Action Group was not asked questions and therefore did not have a chance to speak; and the Castle trustees were not allowed to speak at all. DCllr Watson thought council should formally write to the leader of DCC expressing its disappointment to which Members **agreed**. He also suggested that a quick response to the complaint be demanded after which, should this be unsatisfactory, council may consider complaining to the Ombudsman. He will enquire about this possibility with SDDC's legal team.

2. After receiving an enquiry from Kevin Birch DCllr Watson will meet Derby City council to discuss the OCOR's proposed implementation of improvements to the Ambaston flood bank.

3. He thanked Ray Jeffries for his enquiry over SDDC's intentions regarding local sports facilities and will discuss this at district.

4. District council elections will take place on 2nd May.

Cllr Neil Atkin

Cllr Atkin gave his apologies for this evening's meeting due to attending the Aston AGM followed by the board of Trustees meeting. He wrote *'The only outstanding report I have is an update on the ECGT. All meetings have been cancelled at present to sort out the new member appointments on the ECGT Board of Trustees and also on the sub committees of which I have no further information. I have no other local issues to raise due to the Festive break'*.

08.01.19 Website Maintenance: Cllr Mansfield will add members' contact details and welcomes content and suggestions for the site, especially photos. Seasonal scenes would add an attractive feature and he intends posting photos of the Cricket Club upgrading. He especially needs a photo of Cllr Loakes which can be taken at the next meeting.

The clerk needs a page for this year's minutes adding which Cllr Mansfield will arrange soon.

09.01.19 Elvaston Communities Group:

Eve Wilson explained that a Group meeting will take place tomorrow night. The Christmas carol event held on 16th December at the Harrington Arms proved a success and £318 was raised from the raffle for charities.

A Group EGM was held last week where Dave Welch was appointed the new secretary. The Group needs more volunteers to contribute to committees and help with events. The AGM will be held on 25th February where all positions (chair, treasurer and secretary) are due for re-election.

Cllr Mansfield offered to add a link from the council's website to the Group's Facebook page.

10.01.19 Public Speaking:

Ray Jeffries wondered if the light in the bus shelter on A6 will be repaired; clerk has asked for this and will remind Highways.

Mr Birch asked DCC for the grit bin at Ambaston to be filled but it has not – clerk to remind Highways.

Andrew Lindsey was in attendance on behalf of Cricket Club explaining that it needs around £200k for the installation of a new hall and renovation of the toilets. He asked whether the council would become a member of the club. The chairman replied saying council will discuss the matter as an agenda item later tonight (see minute 16.01.10 (10)).

Mr Jeffries thought the club could benefit the area by educating youths, on a disused pitch for instance.

11.01.19 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2018: These were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Mansfield and seconded Cllr Beadle).

12.01.19 Boulton Moor Housing: Cllr Beech asked whether the latest Persimmon minutes may be posted in notice boards; DCllr Watson thought this acceptable for *agreed* minutes and will ask Tony Clarke (Persimmon) to confirm. Members discussed the feasibility of our lengthsman to service both BM and Buttercup Leys (as well as the rural ward), especially as these grow in size. The chairman will arrange another meeting with the lengthsman to discuss.

13.01.19 Flooding and Gravel:

Kevin Birch has circulated a copy of the flood plan to residents. He now possesses 500 sand bags (from DCC) which he will issue in the event of flood and inform vulnerable residents; the filling of these bags lies with residents. Mr Birch believes OCOR should complete its work in order to protect Ambaston and is relying on DCllr Watson for more guidance.

The chairman thanked him for his efforts and input.

14.01.19 Police Report: November – 12 reports of minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 3 in the rural ward. Details are found at: <https://www.police.uk/derbyshire/SS03/crime/>.

15.01.19 Chairman's Report: none

16.01.19 Matters for Decision or Discussion:

1. Car parking issues. Cllr Beadle submitted DCC's questionnaire asking for preferences over yellow lines around the village; we now await DCC's decision.
2. Avenue of trees at the Castle. Kevin Birch thought that the Avenue should be retained as a heritage

feature and as such be opened as a 'concessionary/permissive way' and not a footpath. He will raise it when he meets Tarmac next April but in the meantime will circulate a letter to members and the clerk that should be considered and, if agreed, sent to Tarmac.

3. Parcels of land for possible tree planting. **Resolved:** to be removed from future agendas.

4. Update on bridge between Pool Close and Field Lane (if any). **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.

5. To consider the quotes for installing steps on the village green. Clerk has asked SDDC whether sufficient room exists for their grass mowers and awaits details of their size. Clerk also asked whether its contractors are willing to gain access from the footpath at Grove Close instead. No reply from SDDC at present.

6. Permission for a new shed on allotment plot 10. **Resolved:** granted.

7. New 'welcome' sign at Colwell Drive. Clerk awaits City Council's inspectors' further assessment of the site.

8. To discuss the possibility of online banking. in the last meeting council agreed to transfer accounts from the Nat West to the Unity Bank; however since then the clerk found more information on Nat West's online service. **Resolved:** Clerk to enquire at Nat West whether its service incurs a charge and accords with Unity's service.

9. To consider a Grant Application from the Elvaston Castle Action Group and waive requisite clauses in council's Grants Policy. **Resolved:** the grant application for £500 (and hence suspension of the clauses) has previously been agreed; however members insist that reimbursements for *bona fide* costs incurred by the Group be paid to the particular payee on production of receipts.

10. To consider a Grant Application from the cricket club. **Resolved:** while fully supporting the project council cannot honour any grant at present and feels in need of more information. Therefore, a council 'Cricket Club committee' will be formed, the members of which will discuss the matter with the Communities Group; Cllr Mansfield to liaise.

11. Training courses for both existing and new members including a bespoke course on s106 matters. **Resolved:** clerk to ask DALC to arrange a s106 course and to book 5 members on the Councillor Training session scheduled on 3rd June.

12. To sign the Form A precept request for 2019-20. **Resolved:** the precept request was increased in the forthcoming year by £3000 to £13820; chairman and clerk duly signed the form.

13. Budget review. Finance committee members and the clerk discussed a revised budget at the finance meeting on 2nd January and adopted it after a few amendments were made; it was briefly discussed tonight with those members present in favour of the above decision.

The lengthsman attended the 2nd part of the meeting to discuss his contract. Councillors asked if he is prepared and able to work more hours as Buttercup Leys grows in size as mentioned above; Neil will review his current financial situation and revert. Councillors are contemplating the employment of another lengthsman in addition to Neil although this depends on Neil's response. Discussion over the clerk's contract was held over until tonight's meeting.

17.01.19 Clerk's Report:

1. Clerk awaits Royal Mail's reply over installing letter boxes on the new developments at Buttercup Leys and Boulton Moor.

2. Clerk reported the broken light in the bus shelter on A6 at Thuston (near to the Raynesway traffic roundabout and opposite the Castle gates); and several potholes in Grove Close to Highways. He will remind as mentioned above.

3. SDDC's reply over new waste bins at Boulton Moor; '*What normally happens is when we take on a new development the bins that the developer has installed S.D.D.C. will adopt them. We will look into additional bins over a period of time to see if it is warranted or not, if we decide that an additional bin is not warranted but the Parish still want a bin installed then the Parish will have to pay for installation and emptying*'.

4. Clerk asked the contractor to trim the village green and remove a fallen hawthorn tree at a cost of £300 which was **agreed**.

18.01.19 Finance:

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001302	J Irons – Clerk's salary December -January	519.80	-	519.80
001302	J Irons – home allowance & expenses December - January	258.00	-	258.00
Stand Order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay December	285.60	-	285.60
001303	HMRC – clerk's tax December	67.80	-	67.80

001304	DCC – clerk’s pension December	141.15	-	141.15
001305	CLlr T Mansfield – website server	85.00	-	85.00
001306	Elvaston Villgae Hall room hire 2 years (Jan – Dec 2017 & 2018)	385.00	-	385.00
	TOTAL	1742.35	-	1742.35

- (b) **Income** – allotment rent plot 9 £5.00
- (c) **Bank balance as at 9th January 2019** £ 27144.01

19.01.19 To consider planning applications:

9/2018/1252 - THE ERECTION OF AN EXTENSION AND A GARAGE CONVERSION AT 12 WINDMILL CLOSE BOULTON MOOR. **Resolved:** no objection.

20.01.19 Items for Information: no major items of interest had been received. The latest DALC Circulars had been sent to members.

21.01.19 Agenda items for the next meeting:

- update on car parking issues (if any);
- To discuss Kevin Birch’s letter to Tarmac regarding the avenue of trees at the Castle;
- update on booking of s.106 and other training course;
- update on the bridge on the footpath between Pool Close and Field Lane (if any);
- update over quotes for installing steps on the village green (if any);
- update on Colwell Drive signage issue (if any);
- Update regarding online banking;
- Outcome of the creation of a cricket club committee;
- Outcome of the meeting with the lengthsman (if held).

22.01.19 Date of next meeting: the next Council Meeting will be held on Monday 11th February 2019 at 7.30pm.

Part 1 of the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

23.01.19. To move the following resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960): *‘that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw’.*

24.01.19. To sign the clerk’s contracts for 2018/19 & 2019/20. **Resolved:** after 3 amendments the contract was signed by both chairman and clerk; clerk to scan and circulate to members. Clerk to circulate the H&S and Equal Opportunity policies and car allowance rates (clerk’s) to members.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20pm.

Signed

CLlr Paul Bickerton (Chairman)