

# Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at the Village Hall, Elvaston

## Present:

Cllrs P Bickerton (Chairman), C Bennett, E Beech and R Bullivant.

In Attendance: DCllrs Peter Watson and Dan Corbin, CClr Neil Atkin, 11 parishioners and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked all to observe one minute's silence as a mark of respect on Remembrance Day.

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

**01.11.19: Apologies for absence** Cllrs G Dodson (otherwise engaged) and S Spenser (work commitments).

**02.11.19: To consider the co-option of possible new members.** No one has come forward.

**03.11.19: Variation of Order of Business** none

**04.11.19: Declaration of Members Interests** None declared. Cllr Bennett signed his Declaration of Office form to confirm his role as vice-chair after which the chairman congratulated him on his appointment.

## **05.11.19: District & County Councillors' reports.**

### **County Councillor's Report – CClr Neil Atkin**

1. CClr Atkin reiterated from the last meeting that several parishes had completed a Neighbourhood Plan which tie into SDDC plans. The chairman asked Eve Wilson to update CClr Atkin soon.
2. The recent heavy rain has uplifted the tarmac on several roads and due to the number of incidents these will take time to repair. He urged residents to report such damage on the Highways website.
3. Flooding levels are high in Ambaston with water approaching 27cm from the top of the bank. SDDC's specialists are trained in response but invariably get caught out by the speed of the event. He thanked Kevin Birch for his invaluable information at the end of last week although reminded attendees that professionals (EA, Fire Service etc) should be called in the first instance to deal with it.

### **DClr Daniel Corbin**

1. DClr Corbin now has a list of 'trigger points' from Persimmon Homes denoting time frames for installation of services, schools etc but these can change. He will send these to the clerk.
2. He has a meeting on Thursday with designated individuals at SDDC to discuss introduction of Neighbourhood Plans.

### **DClr Peter Watson.**

1. DClr Watson thanked Kevin Birch for his excellent report over the flooding issues as mentioned above. He believed the next flood liaison meeting should concentrate more on Ambaston and Shardlow. That said the OCOR defences built in Derby had not (thus far) adversely affected these villages.
2. He received an OCOR letter confirming its intentions on more defences and how these will affect the villages.
3. DClr Watson will raise any planning issues at committee if requested but without prejudice i.e. he cannot support or object based on this council's view.
4. He is pleased to see the DClr & CClr reports brought forward as an earlier item on this and future agendas.

## **06.11.19: To welcome Cllr Alan Graves from Derby City Council.**

Mr Graves did not arrive to which the chairman was most disappointed. Council had intended asking him about the footbridge from BM to Field Lane and parish plan issues. The chairman confirmed that council will continue to pursue installation of the footbridge.

#### **07.11.19: Elvaston Castle Gardens Trust update**

A trustee in attendance was pleased to report that an open evening held on 24<sup>th</sup> October was most productive. Clarification of future plans will be forthcoming early next year. Planning applications have been submitted to address the Wheel House and Clock Tower. A resident believes that the Wheel House needs specialist input and asked of the progress with HLF funding. The trustee said a bid has been submitted but no decision has been made. Next Spring should see more progress on plans and funding with work starting by the year-end (despite a conflicting timeframe given by the media). After this the work will take another year to complete.

Another resident asked when the Trust takes control of the grounds and thought the Trust and DCC should address the drainage issues which are most pressing due to the recent bad weather. The trustee replied saying that the Trust takes a strategic view and insisted that the new road and car-park will be built first. As regards drainage, the showground has historically been a problem. The grounds are open but sightseers should be discouraged from visiting.

#### **08.11.19: Elvaston Castle Action Group update**

In the absence of Sarah Leuenberger, Chair of Elvaston Castle Action Group, Rachel Scott rued the impact that the new road, roundabout onto the A6 and associated infrastructure, pollution from increased traffic etc would have an adverse effect on wildlife habitat and biodiversity. No more consultation will be allowed over the Masterplan which means that it is vital that parishioners should be well aware of the issues. She urged the council to be vigilant in circulating this message and asked for council's support.

Rachel confirmed that the next ECAG meeting is on Monday, 18th November at 7.30pm at 57 Grove Close and members are welcome to attend.

District councillor Watson left at 8.15pm.

#### **09.11.19: Digital Derbyshire.**

Mr Birch stated that new cables/ infrastructure will be installed next week which will involve closure of Ambaston Lane. He received marketing material (leaflets, pens, key fobs etc) from DD which he brought tonight.

#### **10.11.19: Councillor's Reports**

The chairman thanked Kevin Birch and Paul Loakes for their dedicated assistance regarding the flooding issues as described above. He also thanked the ECG for its Remembrance Sunday service yesterday and is always keen to see a decent turnout of parishioners. The chairman again welcomed Cllr Bennett to appointment of vice-chair. Cllr Bennett rued that fireworks are ignited beyond 5<sup>th</sup> November and believes they constitute a public nuisance. The BM-Field Lane brook is possible to cross if wearing waders. Council will continue to pursue the possibility of a bridge here. Discussion began over the removed Mountfield Way bin and damaged notice board but as these are subject to police investigation decisions over these is delayed.

Cllr Bullivant obtained 2 quotes for repair of the allotment gate and awaits a third.

Cllrs Beech and Bickerton gave thanks to volunteers and ECG who helped place lamp-post poppies for the Armistice Day commemoration. Cllr Bennett will seek volunteers via Facebook to remove them soon.

#### **11.11.19: Elvaston Communities Group**

Eve Wilson noted that few members of the public attended the 'Apple Day' on 26<sup>th</sup> October but volunteers present enjoyed the cider. She thanked them and added that the event will continue in future. Eve circulated a 'Parish Plan pack' stating that the need for a plan arose 10 years ago by the then called 'Steering Group'; it now needs updating. After she asked for council's support the chairman confirmed that council wish to have a plan in force. He took the opportunity to thank the Group for its input throughout the community. Eve thought a public meeting may be productive to glean residents' views and ideas of the plan. The chairman agreed saying that the plan could then be formulated. Cllr Bennett offered to assist the Group with newsletters and workshops. CCllr Atkin added that once created both he and DCllr Watson should be sent a copy because these bodies ought to be involved. DCllr Corbin was furnished with a hard copy of the Parish Plan pack to peruse before his meeting at SDDC on Thursday as mentioned above. Rachel Scott explained the difference between a parish and a neighbourhood plan and circulated an information sheet highlighting these. The chairman responded stating that council will consider both intended plans and added that a leaflet drop may prove useful to help with residents' awareness.

Eve announced that this year's Christmas celebration will be held at the Harrington Arms on 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. Melbourne brass band will be present.

**12.11.19: Parish Plan Group.** Discussed above and to be an ongoing topic in the future.

**13.11.19: Website management. Resolved:** to demand an immediate response from the ex-councillor currently hosting the site for a bespoke contract and provision of council's full access to the site (pp Cllr Bickerton, seconded Cllr Bennett).

**14.11.19: Public Speaking.**

Mr Birch gave an account of his efforts on Friday to inform EA & DCC planners of the imminent danger of flooding. The roads were already deluged (mainly from agricultural run-off north of the village) and properties became increasingly at risk. He managed to contact Tim Summers at SDDC who maintained contact throughout the evening. Both Kevin and another resident, Paul Loakes, took rudimentary measurements of the water level at the flood bund but a more accurate method is needed. Both individuals were asked of the demographic make-up of the village which they were able to answer with a degree of accuracy.

It is apparent that an improved response is desperately required to address the issue in future. Provision of sand bags, communication procedure and possible rescue of elderly and disabled residents are paramount concerns. The north side of the flood bank was worst affected which is a matter that OCOR will target although this is dependent on EU funding. Hence this may only materialise in 2-3 years' time. He kindly circulated a 3-page debrief report to council explaining these events.

Kevin will meet with Tim Summers tomorrow to discuss matters further; Cllr Bennett will endeavour to attend. The chairman thanked both Mr Birch and Mr Loakes for their efforts, vigilance and input.

Two residents contributed their thoughts over the flooding. Cottages at the Castle had been affected although thankfully the inhabitants had previously been evacuated. Some parishioners had checked on vulnerable properties for which the chairman gave thanks.

A resident echoed Cllr Bennett's complaint of fireworks having been set-off in Boulton Moor, especially yesterday being Remembrance Sunday which was disrespectful, and was most concerned of the effect on domestic animals.

Cllr Atkin left the meeting at 8.45pm.

**15.11.19: To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th October 2019.**

Once approved these were signed as a true record by the Chairman (pp Cllr Bullivant, seconded Cllr Beech).

**16.11.19: Police Report.** 6 minor incidents were reported on the police website in the rural ward, 11 in Boulton Moor in September. Details can be accessed at: <https://www.police.uk/derbyshire/SS03/crime/>.

**17.11.19: Flooding and Gravel.** Kevin Birch had presented an account earlier therefore nothing further to report.

**18.11.19: Matters for Decision or Discussion**

18.1 Parking issues: nothing further and no additional volunteers for the Speed Watch campaign at present. Cllrs Beech and Bennett to produce a poster for the notice boards and Facebook requesting volunteers.

18.2 The village hall sign on Main Road. Clerk confirmed that the contractor that supplied the BM sign can also provide a Highways compliant village hall sign; clerk to pursue sizes and quote.

18.3 Extra waste bins in Boulton Moor. **Resolved:** to order a new bin to be placed on the lay-by on Main Road, Elvaston (pp Cllr Bullivant, seconded Cllr Bennett). Also councillors will identify areas to benefit in BM and a final decision will probably be made at the PH meeting in March.

18.4 Photos to be taken of members for insertion onto the website. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting when these will be taken.

18.5 online banking. The account is now functional although funds have not yet been transferred from the Nat West bank. Once this has been completed the clerk will arrange tonight's payments and send to the chairman for verification.

18.6 quotes for repair to the allotment gate; discussed earlier.

- 18.7 Tree planting in the area. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting
- 18.8 air pollution diffusion tubes. These have been ordered by the clerk payment for which will be made tonight.
- 18.9 Christmas tree on the village green. **Resolved:** agreed and clerk to ask Cllr Dodson to source and arrange.
- 18.10 to consider a gift to Mr Birch. **Resolved:** at Kevin's request no gift to be given.
- 18.11 to consider the tax technician's payroll services fees for next year. **Resolved:** to accept the fee increase and continue with her services.
- 18.12 To consider a donation to the WI. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting.

#### 19.11.19: Clerk's Report

- Cllr Bennett has already agreed to check the Defibrillators and will visit ex-councillor Russell to take instructions.
- Cllrs Bennett and Beech are booked on the DALC training course to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- Grant application from ECG for the amount of £1475. **Resolved:** agreed
- There will be a budget review in the next meeting.
- Vandalised bin at Mountfield Way and notice board at Sevenlands Drive are under police investigation and will be discussed in the next meeting.

#### 20.11.19: Finance:

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

Chq no.	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001358	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	606.43	-	606.43
001358	J Irons – clerk's expenses in August (home all. etc)	32.35	-	32.35
Stand order	F Simnet - Lengthshman pay 4 weeks to 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (rural ward); paid via Nat West Bank on 1 <sup>st</sup> November	285.60	-	285.60
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov (Unity Trust)	F Simnet - Lengthshman pay 4 weeks to 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (BM ward)	285.60	-	285.60
-	HMRC – employees' tax August ( <b>nil</b> due to overpaid tax –amount owed by HMRC now totals £425.20)	-	-	-
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov (UT)	DCC – clerk's pension October	147.64	-	147.64
001359	Donation to the RBL poppy appeal under s137	150.00	-	150.00
001360	Robert Lewis Signs – repair to BM noticeboard	112.50	22.50	135.00
001361	Gradko International – NO2 diffusion tubes	102.30	20.46	122.76
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov (Unity Trust)	Cllr Colin Bennett – reimbursement of Persimmon flyers (to replace Nat West cheque 1357)	55.00	-	55.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1777.42</b>	<b>42.96</b>	<b>1820.38</b>

Cheques paid through Nat West in the December meeting.

- (b) **Income** – Nat West bank interest to 1<sup>st</sup> November £40.07
- (c) Bank balance as at 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 £28621.49

#### 21.11.19: To consider planning applications:

DMPA/2019/1244 – Listed Building Consent to alter cladding on Clock Tower from a coursed effect lime render finish to a diamond-format copper shingle at Elvaston Castle Country Park. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2019/1241 - the erection of a detached garage at 49 Bowes Road, Boulton Moor. **Resolved:** no objection.

**22.11.19: Items for information.** No major items of interest were received.

#### 23.11.19: Agenda items for the next meeting:

- Extra waste bins in the parish;
- Parking and Community Speed-Watch Group;
- Neighbourhood/ Parish Plan;
- Tree planting in the area and Christmas tree on the village green;
- The village hall sign on Main Road;

- Photos to be taken and details of members created for insertion onto the website;
- To consider a donation to the WI;
- Budget review;
- Repair of the allotment gate;
- bin at Mountfield Way and notice board at Sevenlands Drive;
- To raise a cheque for the ECG to the amount of £1475.

**24.11.19:** Date of next meeting is Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

**There being no further business the Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 10.20pm**

**Signed .....**  
Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman)

**Date.....**