

Minutes of Meeting on 21st October 2021
Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Cllrs Amanda Brennan (acting chairman), Sally Fairey, Michael Hare, Maxine Jeggo, Martine Ward and Gill Williams

Also Present:

District Councillors Gary Scott and Ann Wiggins

Mrs A Baxter (clerk) and 4 members of the public

Absent: Cllr John Gray

21/179 Chairman's welcome.

Cllr Brennan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

21/180 Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Gray sent his apologies. County Cllr Guglielmi also sent his apologies for not being able to attend.

21/181 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Personal Interests.

None.

21/182 Approval and signing of the minutes from 22nd September 2021.

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 22nd September 2021 as true and accurate.

Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.

21/183 County Councillor report. Written report. To include where relevant an update on the following:

i) North Essex Garden Community

ii) LHP applications; Colchester Road Crossing, Parking outside Budgens, any others.

iii) Other; Request for improvements to footpath between Alfells and the pathway leading to the South Green and the footpath to the bus shelter. Finch Lane.

Cllr Guglielmi was not in attendance, but it was updated that the bollards outside Dormers, which were a Local Highways Panel application, have been installed. Cllr Scott reported that Essex Highways were going to put a raised kerb in which would have meant that the bollards were not needed. However, if they raise the kerb then rain could run off into the adjacent house. They are looking into it.

21/184 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the meeting of the Council on 22nd September 2021 not covered in this agenda.

The replacement bins have not been purchased for Elmcroft yet as we are still waiting to hear back from TDC with agreement.

21/185 Public Speaking

A member of public reported that a NHW sign has been broken and thrown into a hedge. Cllr Ward will ask the Neighbourhood Watch team about this. Bromley Road is going to be resurfaced next week and a resident asked why they were doing it at night. It was thought that this was to avoid traffic congestion. Dangerous driving on Bromley Road was also reported.

21/186 District Councillor reports. Written report – to take questions on the report and provide any additional information not on the report.

See attached report.

Cllr Scott added that Local Government reform is back on the agenda.

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21/187 Playing Field

i) An update on the arrangements with Reed Hall Sentinels Football Club.

We are still waiting to hear from ECC. Cllr Guglielmi has sent an e-mail asking whether we can have a reduction on the legal fees.

ii) To consider measures for dog mess reduction on the field.

The clerk and a resident have met with the TDC dog warden, who will be following up on some things with us and will visit the field. He is the only warden though and has other responsibilities. Cllr Scott will check with TDC to see how many dog wardens there should be.

A resident is happy to volunteer and help with unlocking the gates and be trained to issue fines. He spoke about a zero-tolerance policy. Cllr Brennan asked to be contacted in cases of dog mess found to see how bad it is.

Councillors reviewed and approved a series of measures.

Proposed: Cllr Fairey, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

iii) Works to tree on the field.

There is a cherry tree on the edge of the field, growing over into a resident's garden, that requires works. Market Field School arranged for an arboriculturist to inspect the tree and will arrange for the works as recommended. The council will pay for half of the cost of the works as per our joint user agreement.

21/188 North Essex Garden Community

An update.

i) From the Garden Community workshop.

The workshop was about blue sky thinking and they did not listen to the attendees. It was felt that it was a waste of time. Cllr Brennan asked Mr Gary Guiver whether any Parish/Town borders would change, and he said he would get back to her. Cllr Brennan will write to him as he has not yet answered. Cllr Scott reported that with potential Local Government Reform Colchester and Tendring might be merged.

ii) From a meeting with local councils.

Cllr Brennan met with chairmen of Alresford, Ardleigh and Wivenhoe Councils about a joint approach to CBC and TDC regarding the lack of information about the Garden Community.

iii) To consider a request for a meeting to answer questions about the Garden Community, to come from Elmstead and other local councils.

Council was in favour of requesting a meeting. Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.

iv) To consider questions to be asked, either at the meeting or in writing.

Questions will be put together for approval.

21/189 New Community Centre Committee

An update from the meeting held on 7th October 2021.

Some members met with Oliver Hookway, the CEO of Go Homes. He suggested a building site completion date of mid-2023. There is a working party looking at the outdoor provision which has got lots of ideas, including a skate park and BMX track. The committee looked at the plan and these fit in with a single MUGA, football pitch and one play park. The clerk will put Mr Gladwin in touch with the committee to liaise on the Green Infrastructure as relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan.

21/190 Neighbourhood Plan

An update. To include

i) Focus Groups

The Focus Groups will be held on Tuesday.

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ii) Exhibition

Plans for this will follow the Focus Groups.

iii) Survey

This will depend upon the feedback from the Focus Groups and Exhibition.

iv) Housing Needs Assessment

Aecom are undertaking this for us and are in the process of putting together a report.

v) Feasibility study on Community Centre site

A suggested option for affordable housing on this site is for 2 blocks of 2-bed apartments which will be 2 or 3 storeys or a mix. The idea is to offer affordable housing for the second generation of Elmstead residents.

vi) Any other?

Green spaces: we need to reach out to the landowners regarding the green spaces we would like to include. Mr Gladwin will circulate the list and Cllr Williams will check whether we received a pro-forma letter from O'Neill Homer.

21/191 Queens Platinum Jubilee

To be held June 2nd – 5th 2022 with an extra bank holiday. To follow up on the following:

i) Diamond Jubilee Beacons.

Cllr Brennan reported that she found someone who can make the brazier, but that Go Homes cannot site the beacon on Charity Field due to the timber framed houses. Similarly, they cannot agree for a gas beacon for insurance reasons. She raised concerns regarding the safety of a fire burning in a brazier at quite a height with residents attending an event in a location that is likely to have trees nearby.

It was resolved that the gas fired beacon would be a safer choice and that we will purchase it at a cost of £490 plus VAT. We have had 3 offers of donations towards the cost of the beacon.

Proposed: Cllr Fairey, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

ii) The Queens tree canopy.

Mr Gladwin will think about the location and add it into the Green Infrastructure plan.

iii) A fun day to be held at the cricket club on Sunday 5th June.

The clerk is to put Cllr Jeggo in contact with EPSA (the Primary School PTA) with a view to arranging a meeting with them and other parties who might be able to help.

21/192 Finance

To look through the finance report and approve the additional payments for October. See appendix 1.

It was resolved to accept the finance report and approve the payments. Proposed: Cllr Fairey, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

21/193 Planning Applications:

*21/01552/FUL Mr Steve Williams - Hill Residential Construction Ltd Proposed development of 40 dwellings to amend the approved plans for the same plots as per approved application 19/00791/DETAIL (Decision date 15/06/2020). Land to The East of School Road, School Road, Elmstead, Essex, CO7 7ET
Deadline for comments 28th October 2021.*

It was discussed that the change to double garages, and the increase in size of a house will reduce the green space on the site. The clerk is to ask for additional time to respond so that that planning committee can meet and discuss the application further.

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21/194 Public Correspondence

i) Issues with dog fouling and parking at Elmcroft

The council will be purchasing a poo bag dispenser for Elmcroft and is looking at some signage.

ii) Bromley Road/Clacton Road traffic lights.

It has been reported that the phasing is not right, and the clerk has reported this to Essex Highways.

iii) Streetlight on Hatchcroft Gardens.

The streetlight which is not working has been removed from the Essex Highways reporting map. Cllr Wiggins will follow this up.

iv) Any other?

There has been a request for a speed camera on Colchester Road. It was discussed that the Neighbourhood Plan has a lot of speed mitigation, and the crossing should slow traffic down, so we will see how that goes.

21/195 Items for the December Upmarket article

The Christmas drinks and nibbles at the December meeting.

21/196 Items for the next agenda or for information only

Cllr Ward; Neighbourhood Watch and litter picking.

21/197 Date of next meeting

18th November 2021

The meeting closed at 8.58pm.

There being no further public business councillors were thanked for their attendance.

Minutes written by Mrs. A Baxter

Contact: 01206 827139

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Elmstead Market Parish Council – October 2021

Tendring

GS now sits on the Freeport East Committee which is made up of all parties of the Council. This is chaired by Neil Stock. This is not a decision-making body with reference to Harwich Port.

GS took part in the Resources and Services Meeting which met and spoke about Council house voids with Tim R Clarke and Andy White.

AW and GS attended Full Council where Cllr. Chris Griffiths put forward a motion about protecting resident's rights to objecting to planning applications.

AW attended Cabinet in GS's place where we spoke about carbon offsetting with regard to various activities that happen in the District such as the Clacton Air Show.

Michael Gove has taken over from Robert Jenrick as Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Govt.

GS attended Group Leaders. Highlights of the conversation were Freeport Status, Covid updates, Local Govt. Reform now back on the Agenda, Officer appointed and to be paid by TDC and ECC to Economic Growth Team.

TDC has waived rents due from community groups for this financial year which at a cost of £83,000.

The Pride of Tendring Awards are open and we will be submitting our nominations as TDC Councillors before the 25th October.

Ian Davidson continues to email out the latest Covid information.

Local Plan and Policy Committee met and talk about conservation areas within the TDC area. We talked about St Osyth, Dovercourt, Thorpe and Clacton. The Committee will bring forward other areas. There will be a six-week consultation with the general public on each area.

Also talked about was the amount of housing being built in Tendring. The legal figure is 550 per year – this has been met and may go below 550 in 2033. GS asked to have a breakdown of the percentage and increase in housing ward by ward.

There was an update from Gary Guiver with reference to the Garden Communities in West Tendring. Still waiting for an update from the Inspector. The link road decision will be made on November 1st and discussion about it.

Elmstead

GS and AW continue give out boxes and visited new residents on Norfolk Grove.

We have had residents complaining about Veolia not taking rubbish and recycling from the properties on Victory Fields which has been forwarded onto TDC. Some residents might be paying for their waste to be taken away.

We have continued to have emails and phone calls from residents of Hatchcroft Gardens about lampstand 6.

Residents in Elmstead have complained about farm vehicles dropping their onions and potatoes on the main road.

Gary Scott and Ann Wiggins – District Councillors for Elmstead – October 2021