

**Minutes of Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021**  
**Elmstead Parish Council – New Community Centre Committee**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

**Present:** Mr P Beard (chairman), Mrs P Anderson, Mr R Fairweather, Cllr J Gray, Mrs R Valentine and Mr S Wright.

**Also present:** Mrs Baxter (clerk) and one member of public

**Not present:** Cllr Martine Ward, Mrs C Brock, Mrs J Grotier, Mr S Higgins, Mrs D Stammers and Mrs J Triscott.

**21/029 Chairman's welcome**

Mr Beard welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**21/030 Apologies of Absence**

Cllr Ward, Mrs C Brock, Mrs J Grotier, Mr S Higgins and Mrs J Triscott sent their apologies.

**21/031 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Personal Interests**

None.

**21/032 Approval and signing of the minutes from the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021.**

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 as true and accurate.

Proposed: Mr Fairweather, Seconded: Mr Beard, 4 in favour. (2 abstentions as absent at that meeting)

**21/033 A report on any updates since the last Committee meeting to include**

*i) Meetings held to progress the specifications of the CC.*

Mr Fairweather: Held a meeting with Cllr Gray and Mr Wright today to go through the specification. He thinks they have covered everything but the doors. When it is completed, it will go to the Parish Council for ratification. He is trying to speak to the fire brigade about fire regulations for community buildings.

Mr Beard asked if Go Homes would be doing the drawings. Mr Fairweather thinks so but is not sure. Oliver Hookway has told us that they now outsource their architecture. Cllr Gray will call Adrian Toulson tomorrow and ask about the drawings. They did previously say they would do the architect and engineer drawings.

Mr Gladwin was concerned about the timings; it could take a year to get architects' drawings finalised. Cllr Gray is to also ask Mr Toulson if the drawings used for the planning application are final and about giving the specification to the directors in a meeting. There was a discussion around the height of the building, why is it so tall if the ceilings will be 3m throughout? The roof will be good for solar panels.

*ii) Any feedback from Go Homes regarding the Community Centre and the status of the Charity Field development.*

Cllr Gray could not get hold of Mr Toulson today so there was no update.

*iii) The status of the amended deed of variation for Charity Field.*

The amended deed has been finalised. Mr Beard asked when the £50,000 for the allotment land being used for the additional bungalows will be triggered.

*iv) The status of the Church Road development.*

No update was given.

Signature .....

Date .....

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**21/034 Outdoor sports and recreational facilities**

*An update from the working party regarding facilities for the outdoor space.*

Cllr Gray spoke about the work he had already done in researching and costing facilities. He is in favour of a skate park but feels that this would be the wrong site and spoke about other skate parks which had to be re-sited. It could cause problems with vandalism, but it was asked whether a MUGA might cause the same issues. Whatever the facilities are village residents will be going there.

It was discussed that there are ways to build quiet skate ramps and asked if it could be sited nearer the community centre. It would need planning permission and would not raise an income. There was a discussion over whether any of the facilities would be profit making. Cllr Gray spoke about the meeting he had with Ian Davidson (TDC CEO) where it was indicated that some money from the sugar tax could be used for a track with equipment to go around the edge of the site. Story boards were also an idea for this funding.

It was asked whether it would be dangerous to have equipment around the football pitch. There was a discussion about whether there would be perimeter fence, and where it would be located.

Mr Gladwin added that the Neighbourhood Plan has been looking at what facilities the community wants. It would be good to get together with the working party and have a discussion/informal meeting. The clerk is to set this up.

**21/035 A discussion on any actions to take going forward.**

Cllr Gray is to speak to Mr Toulson about the drawings. Mr Fairweather is to finalise the specification.

**21/036 Matters raised for the next agenda or for information only.**

Mr Beard thought that it would be good to talk about the buy a brick scheme. We may not need the funding, but it would be nice for the community.

Cllr Gray mentioned a grant for future maintenance and management of the facilities. Also, that Sport England has funding for floodlights.

A windfarm looking to support local facilities was also mentioned.

There was a discussion about the provision of a bar, as the response to the Neighbourhood Plan survey showed that the residents are very much in favour of a pub in the village. It could be a good source of revenue, and with the village growing it may be financially viable. It was originally intended to only be for events like weddings where caterers/hirers get their own temporary licenses.

It was also pointed out that with the hiring of the community centre it may not be possible to put on regular “pub” nights.

**21/037 Date of next committee meeting**

6th January at 7pm.

Everyone was thanked for attending.

The meeting closed at 8.48pm.

**Minuted by Mrs A Baxter**

**Contact: [elmsteadparish@gmail.com](mailto:elmsteadparish@gmail.com)**

**Telephone: 01206 827139**

Signature .....

Date .....