

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

Present: Councillors Paul Beard (Chair), Nick Bell, Amanda Brennan, Ali Charnick, Pam Cowell, John Gray (Vice Chair), Stephen Walsh, Martine Ward and Gill Williams.

Also Present: Mrs Baxter (clerk) and 7 members of the public.

District Councillors Gary Scott and Ann Wiggins

County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi

Absent: Cllr Sally Fairey

**20/029 Chairman's welcome**

Cllr Beard welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

**20/030 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Sally Fairey sent her apologies.

**20/031 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**20/032 Approval and signing of the minutes from**

i) 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020

It was resolved to accept the minutes (with some spelling corrections) from 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 as true and accurate.

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

ii) 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 as true and accurate.

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

**20/033 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 not covered in this agenda.**

Cllr Bell has had no luck contacting a police officer to do a speed check on Bromley Road.

Cllr Charnick will try and find out who our local police officer is.

Cllr Cowell has sent an e-mail to Bernard Jenkin MP about the crossing for Colchester Road, the potholes on Bromley Road and other problems in the village. Someone has replied asking for details and Cllr Cowell will respond.

The clerk has not found out who owns the entrance road to the Grange Farm development. It was suggested to contact Hills Development and ask.

**20/034 Public Speaking**

A resident told the council that he cannot access the back access to his garden because of overgrown vegetation in the access path. Cllr Scott had contacted TDC and thought someone would come round. They haven't but the council handyman has and reported back that it is growing through from the cricket club ground. The clerk will contact someone from the cricket club to ask if their groundsman can cut it back before the nesting season.

**20/035 County Councillor report**

See report.

Cllr Guglielmi: He will reschedule the site meeting on Chapel Lane so that Cllr Fairey can attend. The ECC surgery date for the Alfells footpaths has been put back to 16<sup>th</sup> March. The LHP application for bollards outside Dormers will go to the panel on 19<sup>th</sup> March. He has asked members enquiries to chase the streetlights not yet fixed in Elmcroft and Holly Way. The Colchester Road crossing is with a cabinet member for action. Speed restricting measures outside Market Field School have been referred to a cabinet member.

A resident has asked whether the part night street lighting can be changed following break ins in the village, in particular Elmcroft and Holly Way. Cllr Guglielmi advised that changes to part night lighting can only be recommended by the Police in cases where there is a considerable level of crime, so it is unlikely that ECC will turn lights back on without any input from the Police. It is unlikely that TDC will want to pay ECC to turn the lights back on, as this matter was amply discussed when the PNL was first introduced and it did not progress.

Signature .....

Date .....

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

Cllr Guglielmi reported on the NEGC: The future of this is tied into the Inspector's decision, it will either be found sound or not sound in its current format.

He passed on all Elmstead councillor's comments regarding the meeting in Elmstead to Richard Bailey and felt that the event was done in haste.

They have the money for the link road, this will be delivered once 50 houses have been built. This is not linked to the NEGC however the money for the rapid transport system is. The final details for the RTS are to be decided. If it's a tram the route will be identified, if it's buses then bus lanes will be identified.

Councillors expressed their concerns that with all the additional vehicles the NEGC will bring the link road will not help the traffic situation into Colchester and that it will get worse on Clingoe Hill.

They also expressed that there has not been enough push to make residents understand what is happening. We had one meeting in Elmstead and residents were not invited.

It was added that this is the first we've heard of the 50 houses needing to be built before the link road.

Carlo offered to arrange for a TDC planning officer to come and do a presentation regarding the NEGC at a council meeting.

Cllr Beard asked whether Cllr Guglielmi could help with Finch Lane, we've been trying for ages to Essex Highways to make a decision as to what to do to reinstate the footpath.

The clerk is to send Cllr Guglielmi the correspondence.

Cllr Beard: The planning application for Lanswood has gone in and there is nothing for Elmstead in there. We asked to have a round table meeting and nothing has happened.

Cllr Scott stated that he and Cllr Wiggins have been invited to a meeting at Lanswood next Friday and they asked Lanswood if they had invited the Parish Council but have not had a response. Cllr Beard confirmed that we are invited to that meeting.

Cllr Beard asked for an update on the Colchester Road crossing. Cllr Guglielmi stated that it is up to the developer to deliver £70k to towards the crossing and that if they put in a new application EH will include that contribution in their consultee comments.

Cllr Guglielmi left the meeting.

**20/036 District Councillor reports.**

See report.

Cllr Scott: Regarding the enforcement funding this could be used for TPO issues. Ian Davidson will make a plan for what it will cover and Cllr Scott will bring it to the next meeting.

Cllr Scott has met an Alresford Road resident and 2 EH officers to discuss speeding.

Cllr Brennan reported that there has been an accident on Alresford Road this week and that someone wrote off their car. Also her husband was pushed off the road by a bus. Cllr Scott asked Cllr Brennan to send that information to him.

Cllr Bell asked if there was any news on a roundabout for the Budgens junction. Cllr Scott has asked Thomas Eng (EH) if a roundabout could fit into that junction. He will also bring it up at the Lanswood meeting.

Cllr Scott asked that if people have questions or comments about recycling and waste to contact him or Cllr Wiggins, they are keen to hear on this subject.

**20/037 New Community Centre Committee**

- i) *An update from the committee meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.*

Cllr Beard: We held the meeting, there is not much to report. The meetings are public and everyone is welcome to come.

- ii) *The council has received a request from Go Homes for a letter confirming its approval of the plans and specification to be referred to with the revised S106 Agreement.*

Cllr Gray: We reviewed the specification and made some changes: We added solar panels, changed the floor to a sprung floor in the large hall and upgraded the toilets.

It was resolved to approved the updated specification and confirm thus in a letter to Go Homes. Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

Signature .....

Date .....

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

Cllr Scott advised that there is a new grant available of £0.5million for community group projects in Tendring. Individual grants may be in the region of £500-£10k.  
Cllr Scott was asked to let the clerk know how we can apply for this grant – The Tendring Community Benefit Fund.

**20/038 Planning Update**

**Determinations (for information only)**

- i) *19/00808/FUL Land adjacent Finch Lane Bromley Road Elmstead Essex CO7 7BX. Erection of detached dwelling with garage. Approval – Full*

**20/039 Tree Planting on Dene Park**

*Cllr Cory has asked whether the council would be happy for Colchester Borough Council and Wivenhoe Town Council to carry out the planting of 10 trees along the edge of the green opposite Millfields Primary School. The aim is to stop cars parking on the edge of the green as it is being churned up by cars.*

The clerk has spoken to our contractor who cuts the grass and he has asked that the trees be planted as close as possible to the edge and to leave 2.5m between the trees so that he can cut between. The clerk has left a message with Cllr Cory's PA to ask who will be responsible for the trees in terms of maintenance and public liability, what type of trees they are planting and do they have a site plan?

It was discussed that parking here is a problem, but that making changes will push the parking problem elsewhere. To protect the trees they would need to be bigger than whips and be planted back from the kerb. A native hedgerow and tree combination would be good environmentally. It would need to retain vehicle access.

It was asked if we still want the land, it is not in the Parish of Elmstead now but it used to be before the Parish borders changed. Future councils may want to do something with it, in the Wivenhoe Town plan it's designated as public open space. Could it be a solution to the school's parking problem?

It was agreed to chase for the answers from Cllr Cory and ask additional questions as raised above.

**20/040 Climate Emergency**

- i) *Does the council wish to declare a climate emergency? What actions does the council need to take? Does the council wish to appoint a working party to work on a climate emergency plan?*

Cllrs Ward, Walsh and Charnick have not had time to meet. The council resolved to constitute a working party of these councillors to research the topic and make proposals to the council. Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Gray, all in favour.

- ii) *To discuss the possibility of a tree planting plan.*

Deferred until after the working party meets.

- iii) *A silver birch has come down in the recent storms on Elmcroft. Does the council wish to replace it?*

The clerk was recommended to get a quote from Original Landscape Design in Dedham.

**20/041 The naming of Elmstead roads after local residents.**

*An update and to ratify the names put forward for the Charity Field development.*

It was resolved that the names Norfolk, Hart, Vaughan, Baxter and Tolley be put forward for street names in the Charity Field Development. Proposed Cllr Gray, Seconded Cllr Ward, 8 in favour, 1 against.

**20/042 Council website**

*To consider any decisions to be made for the website to be provided by Parish Council Websites.*

Cllr Charnick said that google analytics would be better for measurements of the website, you get a better breakdown and the clerk will be able to access it.

It was resolved that the council preferred website address is [elmsteadparishcouncil.org.uk](http://elmsteadparishcouncil.org.uk)

Signature .....

Date .....

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

Proposed: Cllr Charnick, Seconded: Cllr Walsh, all in favour.

**20/043 Councillor training**

*Cllr Ward has expressed an interest in attending a number of training courses. CIF training 2nd March (free), end of year accounting 11th March (£70), council finance 19th June (£70), budget & precept 21st Oct (£70), Charity training 2nd July (TBC).*

It was resolved to approve the above training excluding the 11<sup>th</sup> March as this is for councils with a precept of less than £25k.

Proposed: Cllr Walsh, Seconded: Cllr Charnick, all in favour.

Cllr Scott will check to see if TDC are doing any planning training.

**20/044 VE75 Celebrations**

*Does the council wish to consider options for an event to mark the VE75 celebrations to be held 8<sup>th</sup> May – 10<sup>th</sup> May?*

Cllr Bell has spoken to the British Legion and they are not planning on doing anything.

It was discussed that as it's late to arrange an event we could focus on a decorative tribute such as a red, white and blue flower display on the green, a raised or tilted flowerbed, red and blue lighting, bunting and flying the flag. Cllr Charnick will speak to Deans to see what they can do and councillors are to think through ideas to discuss at the next meeting.

**20/045 Parish Clerk's working arrangements;**

*An update on the options for an office window hatch and other measures discussed in the meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> January.*

Cllr Gray: Spoke to FV Conservatories and they advised that 600mm x 600mm is too small we'd need 900mm x 600mm. Cllr Gray asked for a quote and they offered an ex demo model for free. It will do the job until we get the new community centre.

After a demonstration it was resolved for the handyman to install the window in the office.

Proposed: Cllr Charnick, Seconded: Cllr Ward, 8 in favour, 1 abstention.

**20/046 Youth Facilities**

*To discuss residents' requests to consider a skate park for the Charity Field development.*

It was discussed that would be good to have facilities for older children but the issue is that we don't have the land. It is debatable as to whether anything could go on Elmcroft, we can't put anything on the playing field and we don't know how much land will be available on Charity Field. Potential locations were discussed and the fact that it couldn't be too close to houses. Councillors could speak to local landowners and we could speak to the Market Field School about the playing field.

It was decided that in the first instance we will put something in Upmarket about the request for the facility and asking for landowners with potential for land for it to contact us.

**20/047 Finance**

- i) *To look through the finance report and approve the payments for February. See appendix 1.*

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

- ii) *Mower insurance – renewal due 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.*

It was resolved to delegate authority to the clerk to seek an additional 2 quotes (we have one) and make a decision.

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

**20/048 Communications** *Items of interest for inclusion in our April Upmarket report in addition to the report of meeting.*

Ask for help for the VE75 celebrations.

We should keep talking about the NEGC.

Signature .....

Date .....

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

**20/049 Items for next agenda or for information only**

Cllr Gray spoke about the list of improvements for the village and asked that councillors add their ideas to the list.

**20/050 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

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

Minutes written by Mrs. A Baxter  
Contact: 01206 827139

Signature .....

Date .....