

Minutes 21st May 2020
Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

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

Also Present: Mrs Baxter (clerk) and 1 member of the public.

District Councillor Gary Scott

County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi

Absent: Cllrs Nick Bell and Gill Williams

20/079 Chairman's welcome.

Cllr Beard welcomed everyone to the council's first virtual meeting.

20/080 Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs Bell and Williams were unable to attend due to internet connectivity issues. Cllrs Gray and Walsh did not attend the full meeting due to connectivity issues.

District Councillor Wiggins was unable to attend due to internet connectivity issues.

20/081 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Personal Interests.

None.

20/082 Council to ratify and agree record of decisions made by e-mail in lieu of meetings since 19th March 2020.

To note in particular that the council has decided to defer the Annual Parish Council meeting.

It was resolved to do the above. Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.

20/083 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 19th March 2020 not covered in this agenda.

The clerk gave a brief update. A lot of items from the March meeting were held over.

Website: There have been updates to improve the use of the website when using a mobile phone.

Governance: There are still policies to approve, to look at for the next meeting.

Grants: The clerk has informed the local organisations that this is on hold.

20/084 Public Speaking

None

20/085 County Councillor report. Written report – a short verbal report.

Cllr Guglielmi: Is trying to set up a meeting with Lanswood to discuss community benefits. They are waiting for the results of their viability report. The section 106 has not been agreed yet.

Cllr Walsh and District Councillor Scott joined the meeting.

Cllr Guglielmi: The Planning Inspector has published a letter to say that the only viable part of the North Essex Garden Communities project is the Colchester/Tendring border.

Cllr Cowell asked if the objections to this have been ignored.

Cllr Guglielmi responded that they were considered last June and in January, and the NEGC has been subject to a high level of scrutiny. A huge amount of work has been done to make the plans viable.

A member of public (spokesman for the Crockleford and Elmstead Action Group) asked that bearing in mind the public do not support the plans, and in a post Covid world are we really going ahead with this garden community?

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Cllr Guglielmi responded that the planning inspector found the project to be sound, and if it didn't go ahead we'd have to find alternative housing and it will leave the District open to speculative planning as TDC will be short on its 5 year supply. NEGC needs to decide what it will do next.

The ECC Cabinet are meeting next week to vote on a preferred link road route, the route recommended is 1C variant. The route was viewed by the attendees. CEAG are going to write to the cabinet asking them to delay making a decision.

Cllr Gray joined the meeting.

Cath Bicknell has left TDC planning and two new assistant directors have been appointed. Gary Guiver will be the assistant director for the Local Plan and Policy and Graham Nourse for planning.

20/086 District Councillor reports. Written report – a short verbal report.

- TDC has given grants to 80% of businesses in Tendring and are trying to make contact with the other 20%.
- They have been attending online meetings with Ian Davidson to keep up to date.
- Cllr Scott reported to TDC that the bottle bank on School Road was full with broken glass all around.
- TDC are to open some public toilets.

20/087 Planning Committee update

Council to accept a report of planning committee decisions made by e-mail in lieu of meetings since 19th March 2020.

The council viewed and accepted the reports.

Cllr Charnick asked about the application for 45 houses on Bromley Road. This is still undecided.

Cllr Beard reported that one of the Go Homes companies has gone into liquidation. The company that owns the site is still going. There will be a delay to the Charity Field development and possibly a risk to the New Community Centre project.

20/088 COVID-19

A report on Elmstead Mutual Aid and the Elmstead Community Larder.

The clerk read through the report.

20/089 Pin Boards for Bus Shelters

To discuss the replacement of the pin board in the Budgens bus shelter as part of its refurbishment, and also the provision of pin boards in the North Green bus shelter and the bus shelter opposite Oatlands.

After a discussion it was decided that pin boards will be provided and the choice would be made by e-mail after the meeting.

20/090 Finance

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

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

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20/091 Items for next agenda or for information only

Cllr Ward reported that trees are growing over school road that need cutting back.

Cllr Charnick asked that we let Mr Dingwall know about the stones on the green, for when he cuts the grass.

Cllr Scott raised that Mr Potter was not on the list for street names in the Charity Field development.

20/092 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 18th June 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.57pm.

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

Minutes written by Mrs. A Baxter

Contact: 01206 827139

Signature

Date