

**Minutes 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019**  
**Elmstead Parish Council – New Community Centre Committee**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

**Present:** Cllrs Paul Beard (Chair), John Gray, Jane Triscott and Martine Ward. Mrs C Brock, Mr R Fairweather, Mr S Higgins, Mrs R Valentine and Mr S Wright

**Also present:** Mrs Baxter (clerk)

**Not present:** Mrs E Chubb, Mrs J Grotier, Mrs H McGrath, Mr P Saill and Mrs D Stammers.

**19/001 Chairman's welcome**

Cllr Beard welcomed everyone.

**19/002 Apologies of Absence**

Mrs McGrath and Mr Saill sent their apologies.

**19/003 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests**

None

**19/004 Approval and signing of the minutes from the meeting of December 6th 2018.**

It was resolved to accept the minutes from December 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 as true and accurate. Proposed: Cllr Triscott, Seconded: Mr Fairweather, all in favour.

**19/005 A report on updates since the last Committee meeting.**

Mrs Baxter reported that she had started the application form for registering the current community centre with land registry but will need help to finish it.

Mr Fairweather has spoken to a Mr Graham Ellis of Stanfords whose father helped to rebuild the community centre and was once a trustee. He advised that we need to register the building and get planning permission for the site before we sell. Mr Fairweather has been looking on-line for estimates of the cost to provide a valuation of the community centre and has seen estimates of around £1,500. Mr Ellis has offered to do a basic survey for £150 and also offered his help. It was resolved to recommend this option to the Parish Council at the February meeting. Proposed: Mr Fairweather, Seconded: Cllr Beard, all in favour.

Cllr Beard reported regarding the Church Road application being discussed at the PC meeting. It was a very close vote in favour of a neutral response with comments regarding the aspects the council did not agree with.

It was reported that The Charity Field reserved matters application was also discussed at the council meeting with Tendring planning finally agreeing on the plan layout we wanted. The council voted in favour as long as the layout remained the same.

Mr Wright reported that an archaeological dig on Charity Field had been completed.

**19/006 Subcommittee reports:**

i) *Funding and feedback from other community centre projects.*

Included in the item below.

ii) *The council would like the New Community Centre Committee to look at raising additional funding.*

Cllr Beard explained that the council was concerned regarding the funding from Church Road being ready in time for the build, and suggested raising funds in case a plan B is needed. It would be a lot of work and they didn't want to add pressure to the current subcommittee but apologised for the original wording of the agenda regarding the formation of a new working party. Cllr Triscott confirmed that the subcommittee are happy to do all the fund raising, they have

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done a lot of work so far, particularly with Sue Sheppard. They are happy if others want to help.

Cllr Triscott: Has spoken to Sue Sheppard who says that we can get the extra £400k but it will take 1-2 years. We need to list what's needed, get quotes and then make the applications. We can't raise funds until we have a specification.

Cllr Triscott provided the committee members with a written report.

There was a discussion around sharing information about the new community centre, by holding a meeting or exhibition, or including it in upmarket. Would it be best to wait until we have the architects' drawings to hold the public meeting? It was agreed to add the public meeting to the March agenda.

Mr Fairweather added that Mr Tedder (Go Homes) has said that he thinks £800k will probably see the community centre finished. Cllr Beard will invite Mr Tedder to the March meeting to speak to the committee.

*iii) Designs and plans for the new hall.*

The latest plan was shown to the committee. The only difference to the latest plan Go Homes provided is that the plant and cleaner's room have been moved next to the office. Mr Tedder has seen the list of requirements and returned comments. Some items will not be provided by Go Homes but can be financed by the EMCHAT funds. There was a discussion around the scouts' store, external access and access to storage. The carpeting of the smaller hall was also discussed.

Mr Fairweather reported that Mr Tedder had mentioned the possibility that if the allotments are not required he could seed and prepare the football pitch instead.

**19/007 A discussion on any actions to take going forward.**

Cllr Beard is to invite Mr Tedder to the next meeting.

The subcommittee is to start looking into funding sources for the additional £400k.

The current plans are to go up in the halls for viewing.

Cllr Triscott is to write an article for Upmarket with an update.

**19/008 Matters raised by Councillors for the next agenda or for information only.**

Cllr Fairweather asked whether the council had a right to discuss and make a recommendation to the committee when it should be the committee making recommendations to the council. Cllr Beard responded that the council was right in having a concern and asking the committee to take action on it. It was discussed that this came about as the council felt it would have been in a better position to respond to the Church Road application if alternative funding were available.

Cllr Triscott reported that a meeting has been organised with someone at TDC at Sue Sheppard's suggestion. This is on the 13<sup>th</sup> February at 10am. There will also be someone there to give advice on finance.

**The meeting was closed at 8.51pm.**

**Minuted by Mrs A Baxter**

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

**Telephone: 01206 827139**

Signature .....

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