

Minutes 16th July 2015
Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Councillors Bell, Beecham, Fairweather, Redding, Routledge, Beard, Kirby

Also present: County Councillor Guglielmi, Mr Paul Teague (Essex Neighbourhood Watch liaison officer, Mr John Wright (secretary for Tendring Neighbourhood Watch) and 5 members of public.

15/118 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Brock and District Cllrs Heaney and Nicholls. Russ Cole (item 15/121)

15/119 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests

Cllrs Routledge and Beecham are members of Elmstead in Bloom – item 15/131 – a non-pecuniary interest.

15/120 Approval and signing of the minutes from 18th June 2015

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 18th June 2015 as true and accurate.

Proposed: Cllr Beecham, Seconded: Cllr Beard

15/121 Police Report (Crime information)

Russ Cole, Temporary Chief Inspector, District Commander Tendring is attending our meeting.

Russ Cole apologises that he is unable to attend the meeting and will try to attend our August meeting.

15/122 Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Paul Teague is attending our meeting to discuss neighbourhood watch schemes.

Mr John Wright (secretary for Tendring Neighbourhood Watch) explained that it's not difficult to set up a watch, but that you need people to be co-ordinators. A co-ordinator runs their group in their own way and according to the groups own needs. The group can consist of houses on one street, or surrounding streets too. The co-ordinator needs to be on-line to receive e-mails from Paul and John, and receive information via a Facebook page and a website. If members are nervous of contacting the police then the co-ordinators can do it on their behalf.

John also told us about Essex Community Messaging (ECM). You sign up on line and receive community safety information via email, text or voice message. You can select what information you would like to receive.

It was agreed to add something about neighbourhood watch and ECM to the September article for Upmarket. John said he would post a notice on streetlife. We'll also put a notice in the Essex County Standard.

15/123 Public Speaking

A resident has been chasing Tendring planning department regarding the increase in use of Autumn House from 6 to 12 bedrooms. A planning contravention notice was served in February but he has been unable to find out anything since.

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Cllr Guglielmi: Attended a meeting on 10th July where this was on the list for action to be taken. ECC are pushing Tendring planning to do something about this, there has been a breach in planning and it will be dealt with.

Action: send the resident's e-mail address to Cllr Guglielmi so that he can be kept up to date with developments.

15/124 County Councillor report

Cllr Guglielmi: Spoke to Cllr Derrick Louis (Essex County Council) who in turn spoke to Simon Hughes who is the officer responsible for leases about the Market Field lease. They will arrange a meeting at county hall to discuss the renewal of the lease and Cllr Guglielmi will attend if we wish.

Tendring's Local Plan: There will be a series of consultation events and EPC will need to give their response to the consultation in the next few weeks. TDC are seeking a review on the evidence that 12,000 houses are needed over the next 17 years as the latest census shows a reduction in the Tendring population.

See District Council Report and ECC report attached for other news.

Regarding the speeding motorbikes (item 15/128) we can submit a scheme to the local highway panel via Cllr Guglielmi for speed reduction. Cllr Guglielmi will send us a scheme request form.

15/125 District Councillor reports

No reports

15/126 Planning

Applications: None

Determinations:

15/00607/FUL Allens Farm, Tye Road, Elmstead - Erection of second combined heat and power bio-gas plant comprising anaerobic digester, additional co generation unit and substation. Approval – Full

15/00711/FUL Allens Farm, Tye Road, Elmstead - Erection of agricultural building to be used in connection with recently constructed anaerobic digester. Approval - Full

Any other applications or determinations received after the agenda was issued?

14/00813/FUL Plot 1, Adj Saresta Care Home, Bromley Road, Elmstead - Installation of temporary storage and residential accommodation. Refusal - Full

15/127 Dene Park

An update regarding the village green status application and correspondence with Jenny Moody properties for advice. Any next steps?

We are awaiting a decision regarding the application for village green status on this land. The applicant had been given a deadline of mid-July to provide some outstanding information. The caseworker on the application asked the clerk if the Parish Council held the missing information but the clerk has been unable to find it. Cllr Redding offered to look through the legal documents to see if he can find the information.

It was resolved to readdress the situation in one year's time, subject to changes in material circumstances.

Proposed Cllr Beard Seconded Cllr Bell, 5 in favour, 2 abstaining

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15/128 **Speeding motorbikes on Clacton Road**

A resident who lives on Clacton Road, past the Beth Chatto gardens, has contacted us to let us know about the dangerous speeds that motorbikes are driving on that section of the road and asks if there is anything the PC can do about it? He suggests some traffic calming measures.

Cllr Beecham said that the speedwatch team can go the car park on Clacton Road but they can't operate outside the 30mph limit as it's too difficult to get the details.

Cllr Fairweather asked what decides where the 30mph limit ends, is it houses and lampposts?

It was decided to contact Essex Highways and ask what factors decide where a 30mph zone is located.

Cllr Redding said we should have a look at the scheme request form Cllr Guglielmi is suggesting and perhaps we could put up "kill speed" signs outside houses like they do in Alresford.

15/129 **Finance**

To see if there are any questions regarding the finance report and approve the payments for June. See appendix 1.

It was resolved to accept the finance report and approve the payments for July.

Proposed: Cllr Routledge Seconded: Cllr Redding

Finance Committee

An update: The finance committee met to discuss the first quarter expenditure against budget.

Cllr Redding stated that the committee were comfortable with the budget and expenditure to date. The asset register needs to be looked at again, and do any councillors know someone who would be able to do a valuation on the building for purposes of the asset register and insurance?

The clerk is to distribute the analysis from the meeting.

For grants, we won't change the formula this year but we could change it for the following year. For example coincide the giving of the grants with a summer event where there will be a good turnout.

Cllr Beard questioned whether councillors should be attending some of the village club's meetings as a way to engage with them. For example the cricket club.

15/130 **Reporting Lines and Responsibilities**

In the finance committee meeting in a discussion around Mr Dingwall's grass cutting and Mr Wright being a stand in whilst Mr Dingwall is on holiday the

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issue arose that it is not clear what the reporting line between Mr Dingwall and the clerk or councillors is, leading to some conflicting and confusing communications and lack of communication.

The reporting line should be between Mr Dingwall and the clerk only, or if councillors are involved to keep the clerk informed.

15/131 **Shrubbery border between Clacton Road and the car park**

Elmstead in Bloom have asked for EPCs assistance in maintaining/overhauling the shrubbery and this was discussed in our June meeting. Is there any update on the ideas suggested as to how to tackle the shrubbery?

Cllr Bell has spoken to Angus Hopkins of the Plymouth Brethren who was delighted to have been approached. They have the right equipment to help.

It was decided that at the next EIB meeting they will discuss if they can make a plan for the work that needs doing with the view that the Plymouth Brethren will provide the manpower, and Cllr Redding volunteered to help.

Cllr Redding mentioned that he picked up a lot of litter when he went to the car park. The clerk is to speak to the handyman about picking up litter there.

15/132 **Working parties – Village jobs**

An update

Cllr Fairweather: There is a lot to do and they are working steadily through it all. He said that there was rubbish thrown around the back of the community centre and there is greenery growing through.

15/133 **Speedwatch**

An update

Cllr Beecham: Not much has gone on. There will be a meeting next week about different issues. Maybe having 2 people out at a time is not enough, does anyone have any ideas? Cllr Beecham is trying to be a trainer for Tendring. Cllr. Bell requested that the equipment goes to other volunteer's residences when Cllr Beecham is away.

15/134 **Market Field Lease**

An update.

There is to be a meeting at county hall between Essex County Council, Elmstead Parish Council and Market Field School to discuss the renewal of the lease. Two of our councillors are invited to attend.

Cllrs Beard and Beecham would like to attend.

Ellen Chubb requested that any arrangements were not to include the car park which is needed for the community centre.

15/135 **Communications**

Items of interest for inclusion in our September Upmarket report.

Neighbourhood Watch

Essex Community Messaging

Speeding motorbikes

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15/136 Items for next agenda or for information only

To hear from councillors any items that they would like on the next agenda or of interest only.

Cllr Kirby: footpaths/pavements for the next agenda.

Cllr Beard: The traffic lights on Bromley Road are changing when there is no traffic waiting. He's spoken to Ricky Vaughan about the fireworks display and they are not sure if they are doing it this year. The school bus is not going to drive around the village any more. There will be a new public bus (Hedingham) covering Elmstead to the Colne School but it will not be able to go into the School. Cllr Beard attended the EALC training and said it was really good and the trainers were good. It was good to mix with other PCs. Cllr Beard has ideas regarding twitter and Facebook as a way to engage the parishioners, having council days where councillors go to an event to speak to people, and making a council plan with our aims for the year.

The councillors were thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed at 10.03pm

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Appendix 1

Elmstead Parish Council Finance Report

Closing Balances to 30th June 2015 are:

Current Account to Bank Statement Ref 747	£19,562.25
Total uncashed cheques	£2,147.20
Total of cheques below (July payments - request for approval)	£174.20
Balance in current account after cheques	£17,240.85
Deposit Account to Bank Statement Ref 142	£27,693.95
Estimated Overall Closing Balance - Current and Deposit	£44,934.80

Income Details for June 2015:

Saver Account Interest	£3.72
Total income for June 2015	£3.72

Approval is requested for the following payments:

Elmstead Community Centre – Hall Hire June x 2	£30.00
EALC Councillor Training 1 – Cllr. Beard	£70.00
Mrs. Baxter expenses – files for office, supplies for AGM, postage	£13.90
Cllr Beecham – mileage for risk assessment course 72 miles @45p/mile	£32.40
Cllr Beard – mileage for Councillor Training Day 1 62 miles @45p/mile	£27.90
Total Cheques	£174.20

Report prepared by A Baxter – Clerk & RFO
 13th July 2015

Signature

Date