

Minutes 18th June 2015

Elmstead Parish Council

Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Councillors Bell (Chairman), Beecham, Redding, Beard and Kirby

Also Present: Three members of the public

15/100 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Brock, Fairweather and Routledge were unable to attend due to holidays.

15/101 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests

None

15/102 Approval and signing of the minutes from 21st May 2015

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 21st May 2015 as true and accurate.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Kirby

Cllr Bell spoke in reference to Minute item 15/089 Planning regarding the previously made comments about the pumping station on Clacton Road needing to be tankered. He reported that on the 16th June at 8.30am there was a tanker there and it was still there at 1.30pm.

15/103 Police Report (Crime information)

The crime figures for May as available on the Essex Police website are Elmstead – 9, Frating – 3, Thorrington - 4 and Great Bromley - 3. There is no more information on the website about the type of crimes.

The clerk reported that she had invited PC Dan Heard to attend the June meeting but has not heard back. However we have heard back regarding the neighbourhood watch query and Mr Paul Teague, the Essex Watch administrator, has been in contact. It is hoped he will be able to attend the July meeting to talk to us about neighbourhood watch.

15/104 Public Speaking

Mrs Valentine asked about the neighbourhood watch sign which was put up outside her house many years ago but has fallen down. We don't believe that there are any active neighbourhood watch groups in Elmstead so won't be able to get another sign, but following on from 15/103 we can ask Mr Teague in our next meeting.

15/105 County Councillor report

Not provided

15/106 District Councillor reports

District councillors not present

15/107 Planning

Applications:

15/00536/OUT Havenbrook Clacton Road Elmstead. Proposed development of 5 No. detached bungalows and associated access road.

It was agreed to object using the relevant arguments from the previous two planning objections, 15/00675/OUT and 15/00679/FUL.

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Determinations:

14/01174/ADV Kings Arms, Clacton Road, Elmstead. Non-illuminated fascia sign, car park signage, externally illuminated flag sign and poster signs (retention of). Approval - Advertisement Consent

15/00649/NMA Blue Gates Farm, Colchester Main Road, Alresford. Re-positioning of gate at entrance of site to allow better access for machinery. Approval Non Material Amendment

15/00492/FUL Mr B Whiting, Bottles Hall, Clacton Road, Elmstead. Change of use of land to site mobile home for use and occupation of stockman. Approval - Full

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

15/00417/OUT Mr M Willis Barnfield Lodge, Clacton Road, Elmstead. Erection of two detached dwellings served by existing vehicular access. Approval - Outline

15/108 Working parties – Village jobs

An update

Elmcroft car park – the white lines were painted by Cllr Fairweather and his brother in law.

Next on the list are the panels for the community centre and then the 2 bus shelters and the village noticeboards at the end of July/beginning of August. Cllr Beecham also said that the community centre toilets and kitchen will be painted August/September.

The Elmstead sign on the South Green needs maintenance. The main post is oak and needs sanding and lacquering. The top needs re-painting. Cllr Beecham is happy to provide a quote for the work for the re-painting of the top. Cllr Bell pointed out that it is good for the village that the Parish Council is covering a lot of the maintenance work voluntarily.

Cllr Redding asked who is responsible for the ivy on the corner of Church Road/Elmstead Road, outside Momples Hall. EPC to ask Cllr Brock.

15/109 Finance

To listen to 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 June.

Proposed: Cllr Beecham, Seconded: Cllr Beard

15/110 Shrubbery border between Clacton Road and the car park

Elmstead in Bloom have asked Cllr Routledge if EPC would consider overhauling the shrubbery to make it easier to maintain. Cllr Routledge suggests that the s106 funds could be considered for this project.

Mr David Plummer of Elmstead in Bloom explained that the members of EIB are elderly and are unable to maintain the shrubbery which looks untidy and unwell. It needs a major overhaul which EIB could then maintain. If possible he

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wouldn't like to see the existing shrubbery removed as Beth Chatto originally put it in and she would be very upset if it was removed.

Also, there used to be a fence at the back to stop people walking over the shrubbery and it would be good to put a new fence in.

The following ideas were discussed: Mr Plummer will approach Beth Chatto Gardens and see if they will help with the overhaul.

Cllr Redding will approach the Plymouth Brethren, as some gentlemen he met at a Parish Meeting a few years ago offered to help with work around Elmstead. Cllr Beecham said that at the police conference he attended they spoke about ex-offenders community service. A private company organises it and they don't charge for the work. Somebody qualified would supervise.

A working party from the Council could be put together to tackle the shrubbery. Mr Plummer requested that 1 or 2 councillors visit the shrubbery to see for themselves.

The clerk is to try and find out who owns the land and the above suggestions are to be followed up.

15/111 **Neighbourhood Watch**

Do we have any further information regarding neighbourhood watch schemes in Elmstead? (Currently awaiting information from Mr Paul Teague, Essex Watch Administrator)

We are hoping that Mr Teague and/or a colleague will attend our July meeting to provide information on neighbourhood watch schemes.

15/112 **Councillor Training**

A discussion around the training offered by EALC to come to the PCs – look at the list of topics they cover, costs and whether or not as a group we need more info on any of them.

Cllr. Beard will provide feedback on the EALC councillor training at EALC he is due to attend at the end of June and the clerk will ask the local PCs if they are interested in sharing training and costs.

15/113 **New Community Centre working party**

An update from Cllr Beecham.

See appendix 2.

It was discussed that there will be lots of indoor storage and outdoor storage for sports equipment and the PC mower. The kitchen will have access to the large and small meeting room.

The clerk is to ask Mr Kevin Coleman (director of phase 2 planning) to meet at his earliest convenience before the final plans are submitted to discuss the community centre requirements.

15/114 **Speedwatch**

An update

Cllr Beecham will be able to conduct speedwatch training in Tendring.

15/115 **Market Field Lease**

An update.

Cllr Bell updated the PC on a meeting with Mr G Smith, the headmaster of Market Field School: Mr Smith wishes to take on the Market Field lease when it

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expires in 2017 and fence off the field, providing a key which village residents will be able to use, but no access for dogs as he would like the school children to be able to use the field free of dog mess. It was discussed whether part of the field could be fenced off, with the remainder accessible. The alternative of purchasing a local farmers land for the School was also discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Bell would speak to the farmer. Mr Smith apologised for an article in the Gazette where he called for the land to be leased to the School as soon as possible.

Cllr Bell has spoken to the farmer, who was also contacted by Mr Smith after the meeting, discussions are ongoing.

The clerk is to follow up with Cllr Guglielmi regarding receiving no response from Lambert Smith Hampton to our request to extend the lease on Market Field.

15/116 Communications

Items of interest for inclusion in our August Upmarket report.

Continue to report that we are 3 councillors short and need new councillors.

Include something about neighbourhood watch, are any residents interested?

15/117 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 Beard spoke about the Elmstead fireworks display. He will ask Jackie or Ricky Vaughan if they are planning to run it this year and ask what help they might need.

The clerk reported that Mrs Laura Hopkins has informed the PC that her EPS forest school will be lighting a bonfire on Elmcroft on Friday 19th June.

The councillors were thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed at 9.18pm.

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Appendix A

Elmstead Parish Council Finance Report

Closing Balances to 29th May 2015 are:

Current Account to Bank Statement Ref 742	£20,684.76
Total uncashed cheques	£1,539.35
Total of cheques below (June payments - request for approval)	£148.07
Balance in current account after cheques	£18,997.34
Deposit Account to Bank Statement Ref 141	£27,690.23
Estimated Overall Closing Balance - Current and Deposit	£46,687.57

Income Details for May 2015:

Total income for May 2015	£0.00
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Approval is requested for the following payments:

Elmstead Community Centre – Hall Hire May x 2	£30.00
EALC risk assessment course – Cllr. Beecham	£80.00
Mr Dingwall expenses – Strimmer petrol, bin bag holder & black bags	£14.45
Mrs. Baxter expenses – files for office, supplies for AGM, postage	£23.62
Total Cheques	£148.07

Report prepared by A Baxter – Clerk & RFO
 15th June 2015

Appendix B

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New Community Centre Working Party Meeting held
on 28th May 2015 at Elmstead Community Centre at 7.30pm

Those Present: Nick Bell, Jean Routledge, Ron Fairweather
Cathy Brock, Stan Beecham.

A discussion took place and during the meeting the following points were put forward by the members present.

1. That we should strive to get the developers to provide us with a completed building fit for purpose and ready to move into.
2. Items to be discussed with the developers;
Eco friendly facilities such as waterless toilets, L.E.D Lighting, Under floor heating, Sprung hall floor, Door entry system, Fitted kitchen, Alarm system.
3. What to do with the old community centre;
 - a. One proposal is for the Parish Council to develop the existing site and build affordable housing for the benefit of the village.
 - b. Another is to demolish and rebuild it as a doctor's surgery.
4. Having been given an indicative time scale by Knights Developments. It was suggested to ask the developers for a meeting with them, to discuss what the final plans are, before they apply for planning permission in the autumn of this year.

With no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signature

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