

Minutes 19th January 2017
Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Councillors N Bell, P Beard, R Fairweather, M Kirby, J Routledge and M Ward
District Councillors F Nicholls and R Heaney
Also Present: Mrs Baxter (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

Cllr Bell announced that Cllr Beecham has resigned from the Parish Council. Cllr Bell said that it was a sad day and that Cllr Beecham did a lot of work for the village, and asked that a thank you for all that he did be recorded. .

17/001 Election of Chairman

Cllr Bell stood down as Chairman, thanking Mrs Baxter for her help in his time as Chairman.

It was resolved that Cllr Beard will be the new Chairman.

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

Cllr Beard read a speech regarding his plans and aspirations for the PC – see attached. Cllr Beard thanked Cllr Bell for the excellent job he has done and said that he is pleased Cllr Bell is remaining on the PC as a councillor.

17/002 To receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr Beard signed the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office.

17/003 Election of Vice-Chairman

It was resolved that Cllr Routledge will be the new Vice-Chairman.

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

17/004 Apologies for Absence

District Cllr Heaney sent apologies that would she be late as she was attending the TDC Local Plan Committee Meeting first.

17/005 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests

None

17/006 Approval and signing of the minutes from 15th December 2016.

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 15th December 2016 as true and accurate.

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

17/007 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 15th December 2016.

The clerk went through the actions of the December meeting. It was discussed that the question of a grant for the upkeep of the churchyard at St Anne and St Laurence Church will be included on the agenda for the February PC meeting. Ref item 16/229 as Cllr Beecham has resigned Cllr Fairweather will organise a doorbell and sign for the PC office.

17/008 Public Speaking

None

17/009 County Councillor report

Cllr Guglielmi was not at the meeting. Please see report attached.

17/010 District Councillor reports.

Cllr Nicholls: Regarding the TDC Local Plan the public consultation period has been moved from February to June to ensure that the critical evidence documents are completed. Colchester and Braintree Councils are doing the same. The adoption date for the plan remains the same.

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For the planning application for the 62 houses on School Road, Cllr Nicholls has spoken to Graham Nourse at TDC planning and this application will have to go to the Planning Committee.

Cllr Nicholls advised that if the PC gets an application that it does not like it could go to an architect and ask for their view of the application.

Regarding the Ward boundaries, Great Bromley and Elmstead will be one ward with one District Councillor. It could possibly be Cllr Nicholls depending on what happens in the next few years and at the next election. Cllr Beard commented that it will be a disappointment to lose both Cllrs Nicholls and Heaney and that we hope one stays. Cllr Bell added his thank you saying that the information and cooperation from Cllrs Nicholls and Heaney has been brilliant.

Cllr Heaney arrived at the meeting and discussed the methodology of TDC in houses being counted towards the 5,000 houses needed to demonstrate a 5 year housing supply. They currently have 3,866 and if the appeals are added in at the end of March this will be equivalent to a 4.4 year supply. AT the moment the houses in the local plan are not included but some may be by March, after a site survey. They didn't count any developments of less than 10 houses.

17/011 Planning

To complete any discussions and decisions to be made from the agenda for the planning committee meeting being held immediately prior to this meeting.
Not necessary.

17/012 Finance

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

Cllr Bell commented that Cllr Beecham had done a superb job of refurbishing the village sign.

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

Proposed: Cllr Bell, Seconded: Cllr ward, all in favour

- ii) *To approve a new signatory for the PC bank accounts following Mr. Redding's resignation.*

It was resolved that Cllr Routledge will be a signatory for the PC bank accounts.

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

17/013 Finance Committee – 2017/18 Budget and Precept and internal auditor.

To hear a recommendation from the finance committee for the 2017/18 budget and the amount of precept to set for 2017/18.

Cllr Fairweather (Chair of Finance Committee): The total budget figure has increased to £32,001.00 which will be an increase of 3.1% for a Band D property. This is due to rising costs eg staff costs, insurance, training, etc. It was discussed that there had been no increase in precept in the 4 years prior to 16/17 and that cuts had been found and made to offset rising costs in those years.

Cllr Beard requested that a projector and screen be added to the budget, and Cllr Fairweather added that the Community Centre team were willing to pay 50% of those costs. It was resolved that a £200 expense would be allocated from the reserves and that Cllr Fairweather will purchase the items.

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

It was resolved to agree the finance committee recommendation for the 2017/18 budget and precept.

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

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To hear a recommendation from the finance committee regarding our internal auditor for 2016/17.

It was resolved continue with Mrs Jan Stobart as our internal auditor for the 2016/17 financial year.

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

17/014 New Councillors

Mr Redding and Mr Beecham have both resigned their positions as councillors. We have a total of 6 councillors out of a total full council potential of 11.

To discuss the status of any residents who have expressed an interest in joining the council.

To discuss ways to recruit more councillors.

Cllr Beard: The PC could have a maximum of 11 councillors. It needs to look for a good mix of people with different backgrounds. Cllr Routledge wrote a good article for the January Upmarket and Cllr Beard will write an article for March. Cllr Beard would like to meet with landowners and local businesses, and try to get them involved.

17/015 Church Road/Charity Field Developments

To discuss the current status and agree a way forward with regard to these developments.

Cllr Beard would like to invite the developers to our PC meetings starting next month.

Cllr Fairweather pointed out that the Church Road sec 106 agreement was signed off in December.

17/016 Market Field

An update. Any further actions?

Cllrs Bell and Beard will be meeting with ECC to discuss a draft agreement the PC has received. It will be made clear that any decisions need to come back to the PC for agreement. One item will be to see if the dog fouling can be quantified. Also to question the one week's notice if there is an issue with dog fouling. The dog bins on the far side of the field will need to be moved outside of the gates.

17/017 Speedwatch

Mr. Beecham will no longer be coordinating Speedwatch. To discuss how Speedwatch will be taken forward.

Cllr Bell will keep the equipment and Cllr Routledge is happy to do the doodle poll for volunteers. Cllr Routledge will contact the volunteers on the last e-mail address list to let them know the changes and ask if they are willing to continue, what sort of commitment they can make and what times suit them. Cllr Ward is to find out who is the trainer for Speedwatch volunteers.

17/018 Tendring District Local Plan – East Colchester/West Tendring fringe garden community

Next steps?

It was discussed that our biggest issue is the boundary, and that Ardleigh is in the same position. It was decided to get back in touch with Ardleigh PC, Cllr Bell will contact their Chairman.

17/019 Clerk's Correspondence – For information

None

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17/020 **Communications** *Items of interest for inclusion in our March Upmarket report.*
Cllr Beard's article. Speedwatch. A thank you to Mr Redding and Mr Beecham.

17/021 **Items for next agenda or for information only**
Speedwatch, Market Field, invite developers, Bluegates, Grant for Churchyard, ideas for the Annual Parish Meeting.

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

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Date of next Parish Meeting: Thursday 16th February 2017

To be held in the Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead

Minuted by Mrs. A Baxter

19th January 2017

Contact: elmsteadparish@gmail.com

01206 827139

Signature

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Appendix 1

Elmstead Parish Council Finance Report

Closing Balances to 31st December 2016 are:

Current Account to Bank Statement Ref 819	£29,481.38
Total uncashed cheques	£2,826.65
Total of cheques below (December payments - request for approval)	£162.19
Balance in current account after cheques	£26,492.54
Deposit Account to Bank Statement Ref 153	£27,714.65
Active Saver Account (Bluegates Donation)	£10,020.61
Estimated Overall Closing Balance - Current and Deposit	£64,227.80

Income Details for December 2016:

Elmstead Primary School Grass Cutting	£180
EALC Clerk's bursary	£37.5
EALC Clerk's bursary	£56.25
Business Account Interest	£3.45
Total income for December 2016	£277.20

Approval is requested for the following payments:

Elmstead Community Centre – hall hire December x 2	£32.00
Cllr R Fairweather – guttering for community centre	£9.95
Cllr N Bell – food and drink for December PC meeting	£108.89
Mr A Dingwall – refuse sacks	£4.75
Mrs A Baxter	£6.60
Total Cheques	£162.19

Report prepared by A Baxter – Clerk & RFO
 18th January 2017

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ECC Report January 2017

New Park and Ride

A new Park and Ride bus service for staff, patients and visitors to Colchester General Hospital was launched on Monday 9th January.

Colchester Park and Ride buses heading from the site off Junction 28 of the A12 will now serve the new stop along Northern Approach Road.

A day ticket to use the new stop, which forms part of the route into the town centre, will cost just £3 for an adult ticket and will be free for concessionary pass holders after 9am from Monday – Friday and all day Saturday.

Detailed ticket and timetable information is available online at www.essex.gov.uk/parkandride

Colchester General Hospital offers a vital service for residents across north Essex and ECC has been able to work with them to offer this quick, clean and convenient transport link to the hospital.

The Park and Ride is only in its infancy in Colchester but it is growing daily and there is a growing confidence this new move will open the bus service to a whole new market.

Discounted rates are available for children while concessionary pass holders can travel for free after 9am.

Chris Howlett, Director of Estates and Facilities at Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust, said: “I am delighted that through working in partnership with Essex County Council, the Park and Ride service is now available for our patients, visitors and staff at Colchester General Hospital.

“The service will help to ease site congestion and provide a convenient alternative to all those who need to travel to and from the hospital site and to the Primary Care Centre located on Turner Road.”

Access to and from the Colchester General Hospital site by people using the Park and Ride facility will be via a public right of way that is linked directly to the Northern Approach Road.

ECC funded and installed two bus stops either side of the road at the end of last year (2016), linked by a pre-existing signalled crossing.

In preparation for the new Park and Ride stops, Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Colchester General Hospital, has installed signage and also raised the height of the section of the right of way that in the past was prone to flooding and resurfaced it.

In addition, trees and hedges adjoining the right of way have been trimmed back to maximise the impact of lighting.

Public Consultation on Replacement Waste Local Plan

A six week public consultation on the proposed changes to Essex’s Replacement Waste Local Plan has begun.

The consultation started on Thursday 5th January until Thursday 16 February 2017 and will give residents the opportunity to feedback on key aspects of the plan.

The Plan is a joint document between Essex County Council and Southend-On-Sea Borough Council and proposes 19 possible sites in Essex for future development.

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The sites, once developed, would help divert waste away from landfill and help manage commercial waste produced in Essex and Southend.

Around 80% of the waste material produced and disposed of across Essex annually comes from building sites, businesses, restaurants and hospitals and it is this waste which is catered for by the proposed sites. Approximately 20% of Essex and Southend's waste is generated by households. No new sites are proposed for household waste.

The allocation of sites across Essex is very important as it provides communities and the waste industry with certainty about where waste will go and how it can be treated.

As this is a focused consultation, only comments made on the potential modifications and the two supporting addendum reports will be taken into account in the Inspector's report.

Information on how to contribute to the public consultation and where to view the consultation documents is available online at www.essex.gov.uk/wlp

The Replacement Waste Local Plan is a planning policy document, containing site allocations, covering the administrative areas of Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council. Once adopted, all waste-related planning applications will be determined in accordance with this new Local Plan. It will replace the existing Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan (adopted September 2001) and enable both Councils to assess waste management-related planning applications using an up to date, locally derived, document.

The website www.essex.gov.uk/wlp will be updated regularly throughout the process. Paper copies of the proposed main modifications and related addendum reports are available at County Hall, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council offices and at all Essex and Southend libraries and district/borough/city council offices.

A six week public consultation on the proposed changes to the Replacement Waste Local Plan runs from Thursday 5 January to Thursday 16 February 2017. In summary, the proposed modifications are:

- Modifications to policies and supporting text for clarification purposes;
- Amendments to allocated sites and Area of Search designations to reflect on-going communications with local planning authorities and site promoters;
- Boundary accuracy amendments;
- Inclusion of additional 'Development Principles' to further address local concerns;
- Factual updates to reflect up-to-date site phasing and capacity information;
- Insertion of a previously unallocated site (Dollyman's Farm, Basildon/Rochford) to further satisfy the waste needs of the Plan area, at the Inspector's request.

Nominations now open for Who Will Care? Awards 2017

The prestigious Who Will Care? Awards will make a much anticipated return in 2017 and nominations are now open.

The date of this year's awards has now been confirmed as Wednesday 24 May 2017 and will see a celebration of volunteering across the county.

The awards bring together communities and individuals across Essex who are working to make Essex an even greater place to live, work and visit.

This is the second year these awards will be given and they will recognise the unsung heroes in Essex, from young to old, and from individuals to voluntary groups and businesses.

By entering someone that has made an impact on their community and improved the lives of others residents will be helping recognise their dedication and hard work as well as highlighting the importance these volunteers make to their communities.

This year there are seven categories:

The Business Award – For commercial organisations who have made an impact in their community.

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The Voluntary Community Service Award – Reflecting innovation or outstanding service delivery by a third sector organisation.

Individual Volunteer Award (Young Person) – For volunteers aged under 18 who have demonstrated outstanding commitment within their community. This may be something they have done independently or in connection with a charity/community group or employer.

Individual Volunteer Award (Adult) – For volunteers aged 18+ who have demonstrated outstanding commitment within their community. This may be something they have done independently or in connection with a charity/community group or employer.

Individual Volunteer Award – For volunteers who have overcome adversity to contribute to a group or community despite the challenges they have faced.

Volunteer Team Award - A group of two or more volunteers of any age who have made an outstanding contribution to their community either independently or with a charity, community group or their employer.

Innovation Award - For social enterprises, commercial organisations and individuals who have demonstrated innovation to support the community.

If there is a business, charity or individual that you feel deserves recognition for their volunteering efforts in Essex then nominate them now by filling in an online form on the link below. Nominations close Friday 3rd March 2017 at midnight.

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/Partners/Adult-Social-Care-providers/Pages/Who-Will-Care-Awards-2017.aspx>

Residents urged to re-think the drink in January after the excess of Christmas

With the festive season now behind us Essex County Council is urging people to get their 2017 off to a positive and healthy start by signing up for Dry January.

Dry January is a national initiative run by charity Alcohol concern, which encourages people to sign up to go alcohol free for 31 days.

The plea comes following the findings of a new survey which shows nearly 1 in 10 of people believe it's acceptable for a child aged 10 or under to drink alcohol at Christmas.

The survey, conducted by Alcohol Concern, also shows 1 in 4 adults have been drunk in front of a child at Christmas.

For many, alcohol is a big part of the festivities, but often this can lead to excessive consumption and negative consequences, studies show that having a break from alcohol gives people the opportunity to think about what they're drinking, break those bad habits and in the long term cut down and improve their health.

The survey also found that during the festive period, people are most likely to be drunk in front of our partners or work colleagues. Around two fifths of people have been drunk in front of a colleague and over a fifth in front of a boss.

To sign up for Dry January visit www.dryjanuary.org.uk

If you are concerned about your drinking, Essex County Council has also designed an online tool which can tell you if your drinking is risky. DBIU is an innovative alcohol screening, advice, intervention and referral website, leading the field of online alcohol interventions in the UK. Visit <https://dontbottleitup.org.uk/> for information and to take the alcohol test.

For tips to help you cut down on your alcohol intake, head to:

<https://dontbottleitup.org.uk/worried-about-alcohol/tips-for-cutting-down>

FROM ALCOHOL CONCERN

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2141 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken on 24th and 25th November 2016. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+).

For more information please contact cbarrett@alcoholconcern.org.uk or call 0203 815 8923.

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Findings of the survey:

- Nearly 1 in 10 (9%) of us believe it's acceptable for a child aged 10 or under to drink alcohol at Christmas
- More than 1 in 5 (21%) of us think it's acceptable for a child aged 12 or under to drink alcohol at Christmas
- 1 in 4 adults have been drunk in front of a child at Christmas
- Half of adults think it's acceptable to give a child alcohol under the age of 15
- Charity urges drinkers to take a break with annual Dry January campaign
- Around two fifths of us (39%) have been drunk in front of a colleague and over a fifth (22%) in front of a boss
- Half of us have been drunk in front of a partner
- A fifth of us have been drunk in front of a partner's parents
- Over a third of us (36%) have been drunk in front of our own parents
- Over a quarter of GB adults (26%) have been drunk in front of their child and/or a family member or friends child during the Christmas period, with 17% doing this in front of a child under the age of 12.

Alcohol and health harms

- Alcohol is a causal factor in more than 60 medical conditions, including cancers; high blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver, stroke and depression.
- Alcohol can cause seven types of cancer – breast, liver, bowel, pharyngeal (upper throat), laryngeal (voice box) and oesophageal (food pipe). Research shows having just one or two standard alcoholic drinks per day increases your risk of several cancers. Each drink per day increases the risk in women of developing breast cancer by between 7% - 12%.

Dry January

- Dry January is Alcohol Concern's annual campaign (since 2012) challenging people to go booze free for 31 days
- It is aimed at the social drinker, encouraging them to give up alcohol for a month - it is not a medical detox programme
- This year we saw over 50,000 people sign up to the campaign
- It's estimated that 1 in 6 people in Britain attempted a Dry January in 2016

A120 consultation begun on 17 January 2017

A map detailing nine possible options for a new stretch of the A120 was released ahead of a public consultation in the New Year.

The options – which run from Braintree to the A12 near Colchester – were unveiled to make sure residents are aware of the important study to improve the vital road link and the public consultation on route options next year.

The nine options, which have been distilled from numerous alternatives that have been considered, represent the current thinking and may be refined before the consultation goes live in mid-January 2017.

Cllr Kevin Bentley, Essex County Council Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Growth & Partnerships, said that this much needed improvement work will not only help journey times, it will also help grow local businesses not just in Essex but across East Anglia as it is vital we get this right so we can continue to grow the local economy and prove Essex means business.

Upgrades to this road are long overdue and we are keen to get views from residents and business on how best to do this.

We have spent almost a year working up route options for a public consultation and wanted to share the most up-to-date results to get everyone motivated to take part in early 2017.

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It is vital that residents and businesses from across Essex and East Anglia engage in this consultation in January to help create a modern road that is fit for purpose.

Find out more about the upcoming consultation by visiting www.a120essex.co.uk

A PDF of the nine options is available through the link below

<http://collateral.vuelio.uk.com/RemoteStorage/EssexCC/Releases/5985/FINAL%209%20options%20for%20A120.pdf>

This consultation was launched on Tuesday, 17 January 2017.

Residents will be able to give feedback by filling in an online/hard copy questionnaire or by writing and sending their views via email and post.

The consultation will run for eight weeks.

Information will also be available at 11 public information events:

- Monday, 30 January – Bradwell Village Hall
- Thursday, 2 February – Silver End Village Hall
- Monday, 6 February – Rivenhall Hotel
- Tuesday, 7 February – Marks Tey Village Hall
- Friday, 10 February – Charter Hall, Colchester
- Saturday, 11 February – Spring Lodge Centre, Witham
- Tuesday, 14 February - Feering Community Centre
- Wednesday, 15 February – Civic Centre, Chelmsford
- Saturday, 18 February – Alec Hunter Academy, Braintree
- Saturday, 25 February – Coggeshall Village Hall
- Date and venue to be confirmed – Cressing

For more information or to share your views once the consultation is live please visit www.a120essex.co.uk

New push to improve local roads sees dramatic pothole reduction

The number of potholes on local roads has dropped by a fifth over the last six months following major investment.

Following previous improvements to Essex’s main roads, additional funding was provided to repair potholes on local roads from July until the end of December 2016.

Pothole numbers on these local roads throughout Essex dropped from 4,954 to 3,961 during this period, despite the extra problems caused by worsening weather conditions.

During this time crews fixed more than 3,200 potholes, with fewer potholes developing thanks to a record-breaking road surfacing programme over the summer.

The improvements come as the Government has announced an extra £1,869,000 for Essex as part of the national Pothole Action Fund for the financial year 2017/18.

With more than 5,000 miles to look after across Essex, it is important that key routes are kept in the best condition possible to keep Essex residents and businesses moving.

But this should not be at the expense of our local road network; thanks to this extra funding the council will have teams out on a daily basis fixing potholes across the county this winter.

This complements our long-term approach to improving our roads which saw a record 3.24 million square metres of road surface dressing last summer alone.

The latest road condition survey, which includes laser survey data from all Essex roads, shows that only 2 per cent (down from 6 per cent in 2013) of priority routes require maintenance, and local roads are down from the target level of 13 per cent to 12 per cent.

To report a highways issue, please visit www.essex.gov.uk/highways

Signature

Date