

ELMSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Thursday 20th June, 2013

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. Bell, Cllr. Beecham, Cllr. Sly, Cllr. Redding, Cllr. Lloyd

District Councillor Rosemary Heaney

Clerk: Not present due to illness

Public: Mr. Vaughan and Mrs. Grotier

Meeting chaired by Cllr. Bell

Meeting Commenced at 7.30pm

1. Chairman's welcome

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr. Gray, Cllr. Brock, District Councillor Fred Nicholls

3. Declaration of interests in items on the agenda

Cllr. Beecham: item 16 (secretary of the South Green Residents Association)

It was discussed whether Cllr. Beecham's interest is pecuniary or non pecuniary. Cllr. Redding stated that if the Parish Council were to make a contribution to the repair of the South Green tracks then all of the frontagers would effectively accrue an indirect financial gain as their potential contribution to the overall cost of the maintenance works would be reduced.

Cllr. Bell proposed a motion that Cllr. Beecham be allowed to vote on item 16 as would be the case if the interest was non pecuniary. However the motion was not seconded.

No vote was taken on the question of the interest being pecuniary or non pecuniary.

Action: include on the agenda for July and circulate relevant information regarding pecuniary interests before the meeting.

4. Co-option of Mr. R Fairweather

Council voted unanimously that Mr. R Fairweather be co-opted. Mr. Fairweather was invited to join the Council.

5. Police Report

PCSO not present.

There is a Police and Crime Commissioner meeting on 4th July 17.00 - 19.00pm at the Town Hall, Station Road Clacton. Councillors interested in attending will contact the Clerk. Cllr. Bell and Cllr. Beecham both expressed an interest.

Have we had an update on the PCSO hours lost with the change from Les Barnes to our new PCSO? It looks like there has been no reprieve for Les.

6. Comments from District Councillors

DC Heaney: A new planning enforcement officer is to visit 19 Holly Way with DC Heaney and a PC representative. There are rotting cars outside the property. The case has been reopened due to having a new enforcement officer.

The Old Post Office – English Heritage have not yet met TDC.

Travellers site – The planning application has been turned down.

Action: E-mail TDC planning to ask when the residents are going to leave.

Broadband in Tendring – Broadband cards are to be distributed to the village to try and get a faster service.

7. Matters raised by Members of the Public

It was queried that at the end of term the School in School Lane closes for 1 year.

8. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting from Thursday 16th May 2013.

It was proposed that the Minutes of the Parish Meeting of Thursday 16th May, 2013 be agreed and accepted as a correct record:

Proposed Cllr. Redding Seconded Cllr. Beecham Carried

9. Clerk's Report

On matters from the last meeting. Any business requiring a decision is listed on this agenda.

No questions.

10. Financial

10.1 Finance Report prepared by Clerk

The Finance report was approved.

10.2 Due to Mrs Mason's resignation Council needs to appoint an additional bank signatory. Council is required to authorise this in a meeting.

Decision deferred to the Finance Meeting.

10.3 Clerk's wages were to be reviewed in May. This will be looked at in the upcoming finance meeting and Cllr. Bell's suggestion is to increase the Clerk's wages to £10/hour.

It was proposed that the Clerk's wages be increased to £10/hour.

Proposed Cllr. Bell Seconded Cllr. Beecham Carried

11. EMCHAT

The first car boot sale was disappointing, but there is another one in July.

12. Planning

12.1 New Planning Applications Received

13/00536/FUL Thistledoo Church Road, Reduce 2 oak trees in rear garden by 30%

13/00610/FUL Mitchells Farm Shop School Road, Proposed 200 ground mounted polychrystalline cells
No objections

Any Others - None

12.2 Decisions in the Month

13/00496/TPO Elmstead Cricket Club, Oak, Ash and Sycamore (approx 23 trees) on boundary of cricket field. Selectively lifting the branches overlaying the playing area to give good clearance above ground level and removing epicormic growth. Full Approval

13/00488/FUL 36 Church Road, Proposed Rear Extension. Full approval

Any Others –

13/00098/FUC Clacton Road (Travellers Site) retaining mobile home, touring caravan and utilities as a permanent planning permission. Full refusal.

13. Old Post Office

Cllr. Brock suggests that we write to Baroness Andrews, the chair of English Heritage to ask for assistance in getting a resolution from English Heritage about the Old Post Office.

It was agreed to write to Baroness Andrews.

Action: Cllr. Bell to compile a letter for circulation.

Bernard Jenkin is to raise the matter with both parties (TDC and EH) and DC Heaney will also write to Bernard Jenkin.

14. Travellers site in Clacton Road

Write to TDC regarding the movement of the present residents on the site. They should have left on 3rd March 2013.

15. Village Plan working party update

Report from Village Plan working party.

Two additional subscriptions are required for RCCE subsections to have access to different departments of knowledge. Cllr. Beecham to call RCCE on 21st June.

16. South Green

Cllr. Beecham (secretary of the South Green Residents Association).

Is Council prepared to contribute financially to the repairs to the South Green tracks?

Council spent a long time discussing this subject without reaching any conclusions. It was discussed whether posts should be put at the western end of the track to stop through traffic. It was agreed that Council are to write a letter to Mr Gooch requesting a meeting between the three parties. Cllr. Beecham is to provide the costs for equipment and labour.

17. Community Centre

An update on the repairs required and the possible application for a grant to fund those repairs.

Cllr. Beecham has received a document with questions regarding this.

18. Matters Raised by Councillors for the next agenda or for information only

Cllr. Sly would like allotments to be added to the July agenda.

Cllr. Bell: the handyman has requested training to be using weed killer and for health and safety purposes.

The question of when posts would be put up on North Green was raised. Cllr. Bell will look at previous minutes on the posts.

The lower branches of the trees on the North and South Greens and also the tree by the Community Centre need looking at. Cllr. Bell asked Mr. Brian Jennings to look at and quote a price.

There being no further business Councillors were thanked for their attendance.

Date of next Parish Meeting: Thursday 18th July, 2013

To be held in the Community Centre, School Road CO7 7ET

Minuted by Cllr. Bell and Cllr. Redding,

20th June, 2013

Contact: elmsteadparish@btconnect.com

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Appendix to the original Minutes:

Finance Report prepared by the Clerk.

All other relevant correspondence has been circulated prior to the meeting and available upon request.