

Agenda
Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Date: Friday 13th December, 2013

To: Members of the Elmstead Parish Council

You are hereby summonsed to attend a meeting of Elmstead Parish Council at the Community Centre, Elmstead on Thursday 19th December, 2013 at 7.30pm

Agenda Details

- 1. Apologies of Absence** – To accept any apologies of absence
Apologies from: Cllrs Lloyd, Redding and Gray. Cllr Grotier said at the last meeting she might be late.

Other apologies: County councillor Carlo Guglielmi and PCSO Les Barnes

Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests- To note any declarations of interest from Councillors

- 2. Signing of the minutes from 21st November 2013**
It was Resolved to approve the minutes from the last meeting on the 21st November 2013.

Proposed -
Seconded -

- 3. Chairman's welcome** – To listen to a welcome from the Chairman Cllr.Bell
- 4. Police Report** – To hear the police report

Unfortunately Les Barnes cannot be here tonight as he is on a course.

Incidents in November

Noise Nuisance - Lucerne Road x 3

Disturbance - Colchester Road - (2 Males Fighting)

Motor Vehicle Interference - Clacton Road - (Vehicle locks damaged)

Old School Lane - (Vehicle locks damaged)

Suspicious Circumstance - Chapel Lane - (Male knocking on door and then hiding)

Lucerne Road - (Resident trying to get into his house after locking himself out)

Theft - Colchester Road, (Spar Q8) - (Shop Lifting)

Total 9 incidents in November

- 5. Date for Annual Parish Meeting**
It was Resolved that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the

Proposed –
Seconded -

- 6. Setting up of a Working Party for Marketfield** – To set up a working party for Marketfield
It was Resolved to set up a working party for Marketfield.

Proposed –
Seconded –

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7. Code of Conduct

It was Resolved to Adopt Tedring district Council's Code of Conduct.

Proposed –
Seconded -

8. Report from the District Councillors- To hear any reports from Cllr. Nicholls and Cllr.Heaney

9. Report from the County Councillor – To hear any report from Cllr.Guglielmi

Highways

The Cabinet Member for Highways, Cllr Rodney Bass has launched a new scheme for elected Members to enable face to face meetings with Parish and Town Council Chairmen through their County representative. These sessions are held every Tuesdays except full council meetings and holidays and can be booked through me.

Floods

Exactly two weeks ago our County was faced with the most challenging flooding events since 1953; The Council's emergency services team joined forces with the affected District Councils to ensure that as much protection to resident was given; a decision was taken to evacuate several areas as a direct result. Thankfully the combination of events did not materialize to the maximum extent and 100% safety was maintained in all area; the response from all emergency planning partners involved was outstanding with many TDC officers spending the night of 6th December and most of the Saturday on emergency cover duties and they must all be commended for their efforts.

CIF Granting

ECC has this year given out £1.440.000 in Community Initiative Funding to match fund projects led by Town and Parish Councils across Essex; the money was split between the 12 Districts equalling £120K each. This initiative has been running for several years and provided funding for many community groups across Essex, which is a primary reason why this has not been withdrawn. (yet..!)

China Links

ECC has long recognized the need of forging stronger links with China, who are currently one of the most successful economic powerhouses in the world; the direct result of this very strong established relation is the massive investment that China has already made in Essex, with Harwich being a prime example, and we have also secured Fire Prevention Training to officers from the Jiangsu province, which could potentially lead to considerable future opportunities. The Chancellor George Osborne announced an extra £50billion to boost foreign trade with a special emphasis on those markets, recognizing our own efforts here in Essex.

"Legal Highs"

ECC has launched an awareness campaign about the potential dangers of the so called "legal highs" or novel psychoactive substances; the Council's Trading Standards and anti-Drugs and Alcohol team are working with partners such as the police and crime reduction partnerships to ensure that the practice of selling these legal "cheap drugs" is terminated. All retailers have a duty of care to ensure that the products they sell are safe and not harmful to consumers who mostly happen to be young people.

Central Government is currently reviewing the UK's Laws and Enforcement against these NPS's; in most cases retailers are not at all aware of the potentially lethal contents of these legal stimulants and if they are unable to ensure that these products are safe to sell and meet all legal requirements they should stop selling or face action against them.

10. Clerk's Report – To ask any questions about the items on the clerk report

11. Financial – To listen to the financial report – Grit bins

12. Finance Committee Recommendations

New Mower

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It was resolved at the above Finance Committee to buy a new mower on the condition that Cllr Fairweather contacted Brightlingsea Town Councils and they were satisfied with the service they got from Upson Mowers. Refer to Cllr Fairweather for an update.

Handyman's Wages

It was resolved at the above Finance Committee to give the handyman Alan Dingwall a pay rise to Spinal Column Point 18 which is £9.01 per hour. Alan is currently on £8.60 per hour (which equates to Spinal Column Point 16). A review would be due in the next 6-12 months.

Yellow Book – Cost £55 from EALC

It was resolved at the above Finance Committee that the clerk bring her yellow book (**Charles Arnold Baker Local Council Administration 9th Edition**) to the full council meeting.

An extra bit about the book is below:

Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration is a complete statement of the law relating to parish and community councils, in the form of an extensive though succinct narrative accompanied by comprehensive statutory materials.

Now in its 9th edition, this work has been thoroughly revised and updated to take into account recent legislation, including:

- the Pensions Act 2008
- the Bribery Act 2010
- the Equality Act 2010
- the Charities Act 2011
- the Localism Act 2011
- the Growth and Infrastructure Act 2013
- the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations
- and the 2011 Code of Practice on Publicity

This is a key text for parish and community councils, local authorities and solicitors practicing in local government and public/administrative law.

Chainsaw Course – Alan Dingwall

It was resolved at the above Finance Committee to send handyman Alan Dingwall on a chainsaw course in Thorpe. This was Alan's preferred location for a course.

The breakdown for the course in Thorpe is:

Safetymen - Thorpe le Soken

ID badge and certification for 5 years

Mileage allowance - 45p per mile

Brightlingsea to Thorpe - approx 10 miles - 21 minutes (according to Google)

Total mileage = 20 miles

Total mileage cost = $0.45 \times 20 = \text{£}9.00$

Alan's hourly rate £8.60

Total travelling time = 45 minutes (rounded up from 42 minutes to 45 minutes)

Time at course - 7 hours 15 minutes

Total hours - 8 hours

Total cost for Alan's time = $8 \times 8.60 = \text{£}68.80$

Course cost - £149.00

Total expenditure - $\text{£}9.00 + \text{£}68.80 + \text{£}149.00 = \text{£}226.80$

Precept

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It was resolved at the above Finance Committee to keep the precept for 2014/15 at £29,988.

Budget

It was resolved at the above Finance Committee to add £500 into the budget under the heading War Memorial (update of War Memorial from Cllr Bell, if any) which would bring the figures for the 2014/15 budget from £28,888.44 up to 29388.44 which is still under the precept request of £29,988

Proposed –

Seconded -

13. Planning – To listen to a report of planning decisions made since the last meeting.

Decisions:

13/01078/FUL – Mr Suki Dulai – Proposed replacement dwelling with new vehicular access – Shaftesbury House, Clacton Road, Elmstead. **Full Approval**

13/01117/FUL – Mr & Mrs N Hilliard – Single storey extension to form garden room – Balls farm, Tye Road, Elmstead – **Full Approval**

13/00098/FUL - Retaining existing mobile home; touring caravan and utilities unit as a permanent planning permission. - Mr Tom Brown – Clacton Road, Elmstead – Appeal in Progress

An email was received by Mr Charles Gooch regarding the appeal. He is submitting his original objection to the inspector.

Mr Brian Jennings has also been in touch regarding the appeal.

The parish council did not originally get sent a notice of the appeal. Vikki rang the planning office to find out why they had not sent a notice out to the Parish council she was told that they had sent one out to us, we just hadn't received it yet. Vikki requested that they sent a copy out through email which they did.

It is recommended that the Parish Council send in their original objections to the inspector as they do not need expanding on and these are the two main reasons that TDC refused the application.

14. Moto Cross Activity in Church Road – To listen to an update from Matthew Lang

Dear All,

I am emailing to provide you with an update in respect of the Moto-Cross issue in Church Road, Elmstead Market.

We have now had the opportunity to meet with the owners of the site to discuss the issues that have arisen from their use of the land for Moto-Cross purposes. In response to our meeting we have received the attached letter from the owner which he has circulated to all of his staff.

As you can see the owners have agreed not to re-commence the use until April 2014 and only on 14 Saturdays throughout the year, avoiding Sundays/Bank Holidays. The land does have permitted development rights which enable its use for Moto-Cross purposes 14 days within a calendar year and the owners propose to keep within this limit. As such use of the land as proposed would not represent a breach of planning control. However, please be reassured that the site will continue to be monitored in terms of the number of days it is used and spot checks will continue throughout 2014.

In respect of noise levels, the owner has agreed to carry out his own noise measurements and will liaise with Environmental Health in this respect. For any action to be taken in terms of noise, Environmental Health would need to be satisfied that a statutory nuisance exists taking into account the frequency, duration and location of the events.

If you require any further clarification of the matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Kind Regards

Matthew Lang

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

Replacement committee members

Essex Student Union volunteering week

Allotments

War Memorial

Signed.....Clerk to the Council – Angela Baxter

All relevant correspondence has been circulated to Councillors and is available to the public upon request.