

**Agenda**  
**Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

**Start time 19:34**

**Present:** Cllr Beecham, Cllr Bell, Cllr Redding, Cllr Fairweather and Cllr Brock

Also present: District Councillors Heaney, Nicholls, Mr Auger (speaking on item 14/019) and 3 members of the public

**14/014. Apologies of Absence**

There were apologies from Cllr Lloyd, Cllr Grotier and Cllr Routledge

**14/015. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests**

Cllr Bell, Cllr, Beecham and Cllr Fairweather declared a pecuniary interest in item 14/027 - Finance

**14/016. Signing of the minutes from 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

It was **Resolved** to accept the minutes of the last meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 to be true and correct.

**Proposed:**Cllr Fairweather

**Seconded:**Cllr Beecham

**14/017. Police Report** – To hear the police report

Cllr Bell read out the police report  
(see appendix 1)

Cllr Brock reported Joy riders in the village (down Church Road and into Church Road Car park)

Action: Clerk to email Les Barnes

**14/018. Elect a Vice Chairman**

Cllr Bell asked if there was anyone who wanted to be Vice Chairman of the Parish Council

Cllr Brock and Cllr Beecham both said they were interested.

Cllr Bell seconded Cllr Brock's nomination and Cllr Fairweather seconded Cllr Beecham's nomination

Cllr Redding said he was going to abstain. The clerk pointed out that the Chairman gets the casting vote.

Cllr Redding then voted for Cllr Beecham to become Vice Chairman

The vote was carried and Cllr Beecham became Vice Chairman by three votes to two.

**14/019. The Whitings/Bottle Hall**

Cllr Bell read out the updates about The Whitings/Bottle Hall. TDC are looking into it

Mr Auger addressed the Parish Council and gave his concerns about the property.

The clerk had arranged with Chris Stathers and Matthew Lang (enforcement TDC) to keep Mr Auger informed with any progress/updates,

The Parish Council will also keep Mr Auger updated.

Action:Clerk to contact RSPCA. Will wait for more information about the animal noises before reporting.

Mr Auger said he will keep the Parish council informed.

**14/020. Community Centre**

Cllr Beecham said that the Community Centre Committee will be holding a meeting next week to gather information about requirements for the new community centre

It was **Resolved** to write to Phase 2 to arrange a meeting end of April beginning of May.

**Proposed:** Cllr Bell

**Seconded:** Cllr Brock

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### **14/021. Dog mess – Elmcroft & Church Road**

The clerk had already contacted the dog warden at TDC about the dog fouling.  
It was Resolved to put an article in UpMarket and on the Parish Council Newsletter.

**Proposed:** Cllr Bell

**Seconded:** Cllr Beecham

### **14/022. Finance Committee Recommendations**

Cllr Redding went through the recommendations from the Finance Committee.

It was Resolved to accept all recommendations from the Finance Committee.

**Proposed:** Cllr Redding

**Seconded:** Cllr Bell

### **14/023. Planning**

**14/00118/AGRIC** – Lean to building constructed against the west elevation of an existing cow shed (no interconnecting link)  
Bottles Hall, Clacton Road, Elmstead, Colchester

**14/00139/FUL** – Single storey rear extensions and other alterations together with permitted change of use to new A1 food retail store  
Kings Arms, Clacton Road, Elmstead, Colchester

Action: The clerk to comment on the above application stating the following points:

- Worried about petrol Station closing down
- Effect on all local trade.
- Opening times – Can we stipulate opening times?
- Traffic –it will create more traffic by a busy junction
- Local village employment

**14/00174/FUL** – Formation of a new access and extension to existing driveway  
The Lodge, Clacton Road, Elmstead, Colchester

**14/024. Reports by District Councillors-** To listen to reports by Cllr. Heaney and Cllr. Nicholls  
(see appendix 2)

### **14/025. Marketfield Working Party update**

Cllr Beecham gave the Parish Council an update on the progress of Marketfield School working party.

### **14/026. Committees**

The Parish Council discussed the committees it has and the special responsibilities list.  
The following committees and special responsibilities have vacancies:

Planning – 2 spaces

Special responsibilities:

- Village Schools – 1 Space
- Dene Park – 1 Space
- Parish Paths -1 Space
- Health and safety – 1 Space

The following was **Resolved**:

- Planning Committee – Cllr Redding and Cllr Beecham with Cllr Brock and Cllr Bell as the main planning officers for small planning applications
- Village Schools – to ask Cllr Grotier if she will be willing to be responsible for this.

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- Dene Park – Cllr Fairweather to join Cllr Bell
- Parish Paths – Cllr Fairweather to join Cllr Bell
- Health and Safety – Alan Dingwall to join Cllr Beecham

**Proposed:** Cllr Bell

**Seconded:** Cllr Brock

### **14/027. Finance Finance Report**

(See appendix 3)

**Proposed:** Cllr Redding

**Seconded:** Cllr Brock

### **Lighting Contract**

Because of the high cost of Cartledge it was **Resolved** to go with A & J Lighting and sign a 5 year contract.

**Proposed:** Cllr Fairweather

**Seconded:** Cllr Redding

Proposed Cllr Redding

Seconded Cllr Brock

### **14/028. Report from County Councillor Guglielmi – To listen to County Councillor Guglielmi's report**

(See appendix 4)

### **14/029. Public Speaking**

There was no public speaking

Cllr Redding asked why the Public Speaking had been put at the end of the meeting. The clerk explained that in her opinion items on the agenda were sometimes being discussed before the item agenda had come up.

Cllr Redding said that he thought it would put members of the public from attending if they had to wait until the end of the meeting.

The clerk said that she will put the public speaking back at the beginning of the agenda.

### **14/030. Matters Raised by Councillors for the next agenda or for information only**

Cllr Bell reminded Councillors and members of the public about the travellers appeal at Weeley council offices on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

There was a policeman with a speed gun outside The Lymes. He caught at least two people speeding

Cllr Beecham said that the manhole cover in the car park had been replaced.

Meeting Closed:21:34

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**Appendix 1- Police Report**

Incidents in Elmstead Mkt for January 2014

Nuisance Neighbour - Lucerne Road x 9

Car Fire - Colchester Road

Suspicious Circumstances - Oatlands - (Male in a vehicle looking at properties)

Animal - Bromley Road x 2 - (Dog loose in the road)

RTC Tye Road

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**Appendix 2 – Reports By District Councillors**

**Rural project Panel.**

The new leader of the council at TDC – Cllr Mick Page, has set up a Rural Project Panel. This is a panel that Parish Councils can approach for help with Rural Projects.

**The Old Post Office**

English Heritage have asked for a Historical Survey to be done before anything else can be decided. So, everything is on hold until this survey is completed.

**Appendix 3 – Finance Report**

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*Last reconciled closing Balances to end January are:*

Current Account to Bank Statement Ref 642	£22865.38
<b>Less cheques below</b>	£14346.88
<b>Total Balance in current account after cheques</b>	<b>£8518.50</b>
Deposit Account Bank Statement Ref 133	£27,672.97
<b>Estimated Overall Closing Balance</b>	<b>£36191.47</b>

Payment Approval is requested for the following:

		£
20/02/14	Mr Nick Bell – Flowers and Mileage – 19 miles@0.45p per mile=£8.55 +£15.00 Flowers	23.55
20/02/14	Mr Ron Fairweather – Gritbins x 2 £259.99 + Flowers -£15.00 + mileage 30 miles@0.45 per mile = £13.50 + Sand/Cement - £10.20	298.79
20/02/14	Vikki Howard - Expenses	34.40
20/02/14	Mr Alan Dingwall – Padlocks x 4	39.96
20/02/14	Safetymen – Chainsaw course (paid)27/1/14	178.80
20/02/14	Cartledge	246.90
20/02/14	Community Centre Hire	28.00
20/02/14	Mr Stan Beecham – Manhole Cover	41.59
20/02/14	MarketField School	905.88
20/02/14	Information Commissioners Office – Data Protection	35.00
20/02/14	Mr Ron Fairweather – Chainsaw & oil	62.72
20/02/14	Ride on Mower - Upsons	9900.00
20/02/14	Insurance for Mower - AON	263.94
20/02/14	Vikki Howard – Laptop, Printer & software (Subject to approval)	637.95
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12696.88</b>

### Grants

		£
20/02/14	Baby & Toddler Group	200
20/02/14	Elmstead in Bloom	200
20/02/14	Elmstead Gardening Club	50
20/02/14	Knitting Group	100
20/02/14	Young at Heart	100
20/02/14	Elmstead Cricket Club	200
20/02/14	Elmstead Athletic	200
20/02/14	1 <sup>st</sup> Alresford & 1 <sup>st</sup> Elmstead Scouts	200
20/02/14	Trinity Methodist Church	100
20/02/14	St Anne and St Laurence	100
20/02/14	UpMarket	200
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1650</b>
	<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>14346.88</b>

Report prepared by V Howard

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# ECC Report for February 2014

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## **Full Council 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

The budget for 2014/15 was agreed at this meeting; amongst the many announcements which included millions of pounds of additional funding for road and footpath repairs, schools, apprenticeships and flood management, the council tax will be frozen for the fourth successive year.

The Council had originally proposed a 1.49 per cent Council Tax increase, but decided to freeze it after receiving additional income from greater council tax collection figures by the County's Borough, District and City councils, which is a direct result of economic growth.

The specific extra fundings were:

- £2 million for flood management across the county for protective measures after the recent unprecedented and prolonged bad weather with a further £1m of emergency funding which has already been released to tackle road flooding across the county.
- £1 million for a Essex School Improvement Fund to give children the best start in life through raising standards and leadership in schools – especially primary schools.
- Providing an extra £17 million for repairing our roads after the recent bad weather over and above the £95 million already budgeted.
- A pot of £1 million to provide more equipment and better facilities for young people.
- £1.4 million for providing care and support to people with physical and learning needs to enable them to live as independent a life as possible.
- £500,000 to support young people looking for jobs through helping to provide an additional 260

Apprenticeships through the Essex Apprenticeship Programme – this will give an overall total of 515 under the programme during 2014/15 in key areas like engineering, digital technologies and care services.

The Council needs to save at least £235 million by 2017; this budget forecasts to produce savings of £107 million in 2014/15.

## **Part Night Lighting**

After an unsuccessful call in of the decision to implement part night lighting between midnight and 5.00am the new start date in Tendring will be Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March; it must be stressed that it is proposed that lights will continue to be lit through the night in locations meeting the following exception criteria, which amounts to around 30% of streetlights:

- Sites where there is a large number of conflicting traffic movements (eg roundabouts).
- Sites where street lights are installed as a result of accident remedial measures.
- Town Centre areas where there is one or more of the following features:
  1. Publicly maintained CCTV
  2. A high proportion of high security premises (eg banks, jewellers); areas of high crime risk;
  3. High concentration of people at night such as transport interchanges, nightclubs etc.
  4. Main approaches to town centre areas where there is a mix of development between residential and commercial/industrial
  5. Sites where the police can demonstrate that there is likely to be an increase in crime if the lights are switched off (eg remote footpaths and alleys linking residential streets.
- 6. And where there is a statutory requirement to provide lighting

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As reported to you earlier a trial in Maldon and Uttlesford proved very successful to the point that crime has actually fallen by 20% and 5% respectively after the switch off, with residents feeling safer now than 2006 when the lights were still on.

#### **New IT system to be installed at Essex County Council.**

Fujitsu has been awarded a five-year contract to replace Essex County Council's ageing back office IT systems. This will bring about millions of pounds of savings over the coming years.

This £16.6 million this contract is the culmination of two years' hard work to replace the 30 old disjointed IT systems which will ensure the council has fully integrated and modernised IT services in a number of key areas, including finance, payroll, procurement and HR.

The improvements will also benefit Essex residents and businesses as savings made here will be redirected to vital frontline services, it will also ensure that residents can access jobs and public services in a more efficient and sustainable way.

These new systems are hoped to be up and running within the next financial year and will remove frustration and unnecessary administration, duplication and repetition and it will make easier work for companies who do business with ECC as well as streamlining the online financial processes.

#### **Flood issues Church Road**

This site has been put forward by TDC for inclusion in the £1million extra emergency funding released by ECC just before the budget announcement. Mike Badger has been liaising with your clerk and chairman to keep you up to date. ECC will provide the necessary pipes and the farmer, Mr Mitchell, will be carrying out the necessary work; it must be said that this site has taken priority over many others because of its history but it must be appreciated that because of the extreme wet spell many, many more areas in Essex are now in the same situation. Cllr Bass, the Cabinet Member responsible, is very aware of this problem and over the last weeks he has been holding emergency talks with Members and local authorities affected to deal with this problem bearing in mind the limited funding available.

In many cases especially when local knowledge can inform ECC that landowners are responsible for ditches not been cleared or any other such information, enforcement action will be taken against them.