

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

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday March 20th 2014

14/031. Apologies of Absence

There were apologies from: Cllr Brock

There were also apologies from District Councillor Rosemary Heaney and County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi

14/032. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests

14/033. Signing of the minutes from 20th February 2014

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the 20th February as a true and accurate record.

Proposed Cllr Redding

Seconded Cllr Beecham

14/034. Police Report

PCSO Les Barnes read out the police report (see appendix 1)

14/035. Public Speaking – 5 minutes of public speaking. Please note that any questions that are to do with items on the agenda will be answered under the appropriate agenda item

14/036. Mr Michael Woodhouse – to talk about the plot of ground adjacent to the Saresta Care Home on Bromley Road and to answer questions posed by the Parish Council

Mr Woodhouse addressed the Parish Council. (see appendix 2)

Cllr. Redding asked about the village envelope and how it got in without the Parish Council knowing about it. District Councillor Fred Nicholls said it was in the Local Plan and the Council should have been aware of it.

Cllr. Grotier asked what sort of dwelling would be built?

Mr Woodhouse replied he did not know at this point, but thinks it will be a single storey dwelling to fit in with the surrounding properties.

14/037. Updates – To listen to updates since the last meeting

- **New Mower**

It has been delivered and we have the manuals and certificates. Alan has been cutting the grass in stages.

Alan has given the village grass a cut. He said it is much more comfortable and safer to drive. It also seems to be better on fuel.

- **Broadband** and new email address clerk gave an update

The clerk said that the Parish Council has now changed its broadband and telephone to TalkTalk. It will now cost us £75 a quarter instead of £160-£170 a quarter

- **Annual Parish Meeting**

There was general disappointment with the amount of people who attended. It was agreed that the Parish Council need to talk and suggest ideas for next year.

- **Recycling Centre Consultation**

Essex County Council have a consultation going on at the moment.

14/038. Planning – Reports by the Parish Council planning officers

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There were no planning applications or decisions.

Action – the clerk to contact Matthew Lang regarding hard-core at The Whitings

14/039. Reports by District Councillors

District Councillor Nicholls reported that the Rural Projects panel had had a meeting – and the main point of the panel was to do whatever they can to help Parish Councils. Some of the things that might be useful were:

- Cheaper electricity and gas and oil – shared buying schemes
- Lack of sewerage was discussed – Working with Anglia water
- Local buses were discussed – trying to improve services
- Overgrown hedges etc – TDC rangers may be able to help but will have to get approval from ECC.

He also said that a £1m additional funding from Essex County Council had been discussed.

The next meeting of the Rural Projects panel is the May 13th and Parish Councils have been asked to channel queries through Mr Taylor chairman of TDALC.

14/040. Marketfield Working Party update

(see appendix 4)

Cllr. Beecham gave an update on the working party. He said it had all gone very well. There were just some questions that needed answering which were:

- Grass cutting – who will cut the grass?
- Ask Ecc if it will be renewed. – The field is currently leased until 2017.

14/041. Finance – To agree invoices to be paid and to be updated on the current balances

(See appendix 3)

Proposed: Cllr. Routledge

Seconded: Cllr. Beecham

14/042. Report from County Councillor Guglielmi

There is no report

14/043. Public Speaking

There was no public speaking

14/044. Matters Raised by Councillors for the next agenda or for information only

Selling of strimmer.

TDC – Services invite Mark Westall to next meeting.

Best kept village – do we wish to enter?

Action print newsletter 800

Ring Mike Badger about Tye Road rubbish left from flooding.

Thanks to Cllr. Redding for producing the newsletter.

Cllr. Grotier mentioned that the school 40 in September and there will be celebrations in July and on Saturday 12th July there will be a party for 16 years +

There are plans to turn the school into museum with an early to late 70's theme, The Parish Council are invited

There have been more complaints about the Parking problems around the school – there have been letters from residents in Holly way and Elmcroft

Meeting closed at 21:23

Signed.....Clerk to the Council – Vikki Howard

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

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Appendix 1 – Police Report

Incidents for Elmstead Mkt for February

Animal - Orchard Close - (Dog loose in street)

Suspicious Circumstances - Tye Road - (Male asleep in vehicle)

RTC - Colchester Road

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Mr Woodhouse said his father in law had owned the piece of land for 35 years and himself and his partner (landowner's daughter) are hoping to relocate to Elmstead.

Mr Woodhouse said he did not intend to deceive the Parish Council or TDC regarding the plot of land. He apologised for any trouble caused. In hindsight he said he thought it would have been a good idea to talk to the Parish Council and neighbours.

- The hardcore was to make a vehicular access, due to the muddy nature of the access into the field.
- The concrete base was for a few stables
- The septic tank was dropped in the hole and popped back up as the ground was so wet. It was intended to be a waste facility for the static caravan.
- Mr Woodhouse said that they have no connections with either The Whitings or any travelers.
- Appropriate channels will be followed in future.
- The land is classed as agricultural land, so will need to apply for change of to residential.

All work has now stopped and a planning application will be forthwith for a single residential house, as the land is in the village envelope.

The design will be discussed with TDC and the Parish Council.

Mr Woodhouse went on to say that as soon as they are able to tidy up the site they will. The stop notice is in place until the 28th March.

Under the guidance of the planning officer he saw earlier, the application will include the work they have already done. They will then have to apply for outline planning permission.

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Appendix 3 – Finance Report

Closing Balances to 14th March 2014 are:

Current Account to Bank Statement Ref 656	£7418.68
<i>Less unpaid cheques below</i>	£ 765.67
Total uncashed cheques	£1673.55
Total Balance in current account after cheques	£ 4979.46
Deposit Account Bank Statement Ref 135	£27672.97
<i>Estimated Overall Closing Balance</i>	£32652.43

Payment Approval is requested for the following:

28/02/14	Vikki Howard – Wages	520.00
28/02/14	Angela Baxter – Wages	518.32
28/02/14	Alan Dingwall Wages	406.97
28/02/14	HMRC	12.00
20/03/14	UpMarket – Advertising for Feb/March 2014	25.00
20/03/14	Vikki Howard – Expenses (Microsoft Access software)	92.92
20/03/14	Elmstead Community Centre December invoice 03C x 2 @ £14.00 = £28.00 February invoice 05C x 3 @£14.00 = £42.00	70.00
20/03/14	Lambert Smith Hampton Field Rent	500.00
20/03/14	CIlr Ron Fairweather (expenses) Safety Clothing	77.75
	Total Cheques	765.67

Appendix 4 – Marketfield School Working Party

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A meeting was held on 5th March in the community centre at 12 noon with the contractors, along with the representative for Hamber Smith Hampton and Neil Pendreigh. Also present were Nick Bell, Jean Routledge and myself. We were shown the building plans that are to be presented to TDC. Basically the school have asked to be able to take an area twenty metres from the present rear boundary eastwards, and to run south to the field hedgerow. We were assured that during the build contractors cars will be parked on the site and not in School Road.

We could see no reason to object and informed their team we would seek full approval at the next full council meeting on March 20th.

Three questions I would like to ask before approval are:

- 1) Will we be seeking any financial reward for the downsize in the field area from Essex County Council or the school for the remaining rental period?
- 2) Will we be seeking to pay a smaller amount to have the remaining field area cut once the school is completed?
- 3) Who will cut the grass during the build programme?