

**Minutes 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019**  
**Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council**  
**Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET**

Present: Councillors: Nick Bell, Sally Fairey, John Gray (Vice-chair as Chairman), Mike Kirby and Martine Ward  
District Councillor: Gary Scott  
Also Present: Mrs Baxter (clerk) and 8 members of the public  
Not present: Cllr Beard

**19/100 Chairman's welcome**

Cllr Gray welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**19/101 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Beard, District Councillor Wiggins and County Councillor Guglielmi.

**19/102 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**19/103 Approval and signing of the minutes from 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 16<sup>th</sup> May April 2019 as true and accurate.  
Proposed: Cllr Kirby, Seconded: Cllr Bell, all in favour.

**19/104 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 not covered in this agenda.**

The clerk gave a verbal update including the renewal of the insurance policy with a new provider, Community Actions Suffolk, under a 3 year agreement.

**19/105 Public Speaking**

A resident of Alresford Road is concerned about the speed limit along there. A young lady was pushed off the road by a community bus. There's no path to walk along, it's a busy bus route and buses can't pass each other. The verge has grown back again.  
The clerk will contact Cllr Guglielmi to see if he can arrange the cutting of the verge again, and to find out what happened with the speed survey requested previously.  
Several members of the public were interested in joining the council and were asked to introduce themselves. Amanda Brennan, Steve Walsh and Trevor Gladwin gave brief explanations regarding their interests in joining.

**19/106 County Councillor report.**

See attached.

**19/107 District Councillor reports.**

Cllr Scott had received queries since the last meeting and updated on those: Regarding concerns of speeding along Chapel Lane he contacted NEPP (North Essex Parking Partnership) and has forwarded an e-mail suggesting that it was something the Local Highways Panel could consider. He had received a planning enquiry regarding the cutting down of a tree and contacted Clive Dawson, TDC's tree warden. Unfortunately the tree was not protected by a TPO.

Ian Davidson will be here on the 10<sup>th</sup> July, as part of his tour. He will have information on grants and section 106 regarding the new community centre project on Charity Field.

A resident has contacted Cllr Scott with concerns about the extension of the Wivenhoe Quarry, including lorry movements along the B1027. The resident is employing a consultant on his behalf and has returned comments to ECC.

There is a scheme from ECC where regions can identify 5 defects each to be fixed by ECC. The deadline for this is 31<sup>st</sup> July. This is because ECC saved money on road maintenance due to the mild weather. Cllr Scott has provided some further information.

The District Councillors have been on a tour of Tendring to see projects such as coastal defences, council houses and garden communities.

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Cllrs Scott and Wiggins have 3 places on committees, Cllr Scott is on the Planning Policy and Local Plan Committee and the Resources and Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Cllr Wiggins is on the Standards Committee. Cllr Stock is the leader of the Council and Cllr Land is the Chairman of the Council.

Cllr Bell asked Cllr Scott about the Local Plan. Cllr Scott responded that the their Council meeting has been postponed from 9<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August, but is hoping that something will be done by October. The Plan needs to be approved before the National Policy Framework increases the number of houses required to be built in a year.

Cllr Bell asked that the parish council be kept informed with a monthly report. Cllr Scott suggested that councillors come to the Planning Policy Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

**19/108 New Community Centre Committee**

- i) *A report from the meeting 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019, including a visit by Mr Ian Davidson (TDC Chief Executive) to Elmstead on 10<sup>th</sup> July and attendance at the Elmstead Primary School fete on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 3.15-6.00pm with a display to show the plans for the new community centre.*

There will be a small display on the new community centre for Mr Davidson, hopefully he'll be able to help with additional financing ideas.

- ii) *To consider a recommendation from the committee to hold an exhibition to display the plans to the village. It is proposed to have feedback forms at the exhibition in lieu of a questionnaire regarding the new community centre.*

It was resolved to hold an exhibition as above, date to be decided by the committee.

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

**19/109 Finding New Councillors**

- i) *Does the council wish to join the New Community Centre Committee stand at the School fete on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June?*

It was resolved that the council would be involved with the stand, Cllrs Gray and Ward will be there. Proposed: Cllr Gray, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

- ii) *To discuss an open day/morning event to provide information about joining the council. Date, format and method of advertising to be decided.*

It was discussed that open mornings have been held in the past on a Saturday morning and no-one came. It was suggested it could be a separate table at the new community centre exhibition. It was also suggested that it could be at the McMillan coffee morning in September.

The clerk is to find out about the McMillan coffee morning.

**19/110 Planning Applications**

*19/00808/FUL Land adjacent Finch Lane Bromley Road Elmstead Essex CO7 7BX. Erection of detached dwelling with garage. To decide any comments to return.*

There were no objections regarding the house or the garage but there were concerns about the natural habitat. It was resolved to second Clive Dawson's comments (TDC tree warden) regarding the protection of the trees. Proposed: Cllr Bell, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

**Determinations (for information)**

*19/00671/HHPNOT 38 Winterbourne Gardens Elmstead CO7 7FG. Proposed single storey side extensions height 3 metres x depth 6 metres. HHPN - Prior Approval Not Required.*

*19/00511/FUL 1 and 2 New Cottages Colchester Road Elmstead Essex CO7 7ES. Approval – Full.*

*Any others?*

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**19/111 Litter pick**

*To finalise arrangements for the litter pick on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June from 10am to 12pm.*  
Cllr Gray: we'll meet here, I'll give a quick safety brief, we'll issue the gear and allocate an area, come back here with the black bags and TDC will take them away. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**19/112 Speeding on Chapel Lane and Old School Lane**

*To discuss any suggestions as to reduce speeding along these roads.*  
Cllr Fairey: Has spoken to Cllr Scott about the problem. It's getting more dangerous, people are parking on a narrow road with no pavement on one side and cars are driving too quickly. There needs to be a restriction. There is the same problem on Old School Lane. Various ideas were discussed; speed bumps, small chicanes, bollards, and a "20 is plenty" sign. The doctors' surgery is on Chapel Lane, and this might become a full time surgery with the new houses.  
It was resolved to ask the LHP to consider speed restrictions along Chapel lane and Old School Road. Proposed: Cllr Gray, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.

**19/113 School Road Parking Restrictions**

*Any update on the NEPP proposal for a no waiting/no loading parking restriction Monday – Friday 8.30am-9.30am and 2.30pm-3.30pm along School Road outside Market field School? Any follow up actions for the council to take?*  
Cllrs compared the new proposal with the original proposal and felt that it was an accident waiting to happen. There are gaps that will allow parking which will still restrict the view of vehicles turning onto School Road from the School car park or the new Charity Field development.  
It was resolved that that the council disagrees with the revised proposal and that we request a site visit. Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.  
We will ask Ian Taylor to attend a site visit on a weekday at 9am or 3pm.

**19/114 Annual Governance Statement**

*To review and approve the Annual Governance Statement (Annual Return Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/19).*  
It was resolved to approve the above. Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Bell, all in favour.

**19/115 Annual Return**

- i) *To consider and approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19.*  
It was resolved to approve the above. Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Bell, all in favour.
- ii) *Signing of the Accounting Statements by the Chairman.*  
The statements were signed.

**19/116 Finance**

- i) *To look through the finance report and approve the payments for June. See appendix 1.*  
It was resolved to accept the finance report and approve the payments. Proposed: Cllr Bell, Seconded: Cllr Fairey, all in favour.
- ii) *To consider instigating a petty cash float to enable the purchase of items by employees and councillors within an agreed limit without having to use their own funds to do so.*  
After a discussion about the security of the clerk this is to be added to the agenda for July along with an item on an intercom with camera.
- iii) *To discuss a letter received from Lambert Smith Hampton regarding an increase in lease costs for the playing field.*  
It was resolved to write a strongly worded letter to LSH asking for the reasons why they did not meet the notice period for the increase and explaining that it has not been budgeted for. It was agreed not to sign their letter as they requested.

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

**19/117 Communications** *Items of interest for inclusion in our August Upmarket report in addition to the report of meeting.*

The exhibition won't be included until the dates are decided.

**19/118 Items for next agenda or for information only**

Cllr Kirby said that the kerbside weeds are very bad this year. Cllr Scott explained that ECC used to do the weed spraying but last year gave TDC £50k to spray the district. They did two thirds and then ran out of money. This year he doesn't think they have paid out for the weed spraying. He will make enquiries and e-mail the clerk.

Cllr Gray informed the council that the meeting between TDC, Go Homes and the PC has been arranged and we'll know the outcome by the next PC meeting.

**There being no further public business councillors were thanked for their attendance.  
The meeting closed at 8.53pm.**

**Date of next Parish Meeting: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
To be held in the Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead  
Minute written by Mrs. A Baxter  
Contact: 01206 827139**

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## ECC Report June 2019

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**New Domestic Abuse Helpline to access Community Based Services and Specialist Accommodation in Essex**

A new helpline has been launched to help people in Southend, Essex and Thurrock who are victims of or who have experienced domestic abuse.

COMPASS went live on Monday 1st April 2019 and is the new point of access for victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock; providing information, advice and guidance and, where appropriate assessment and access to specialist services. Its function is to increase accessibility to ensure victims of domestic abuse get the right support at the right time.

COMPASS is funded by Essex County Council in partnership with the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex to support victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock.

It will help women, men and young people aged over 16 to access specialist support including community-based services and specialist accommodation to help them recover and move on from domestic abuse.

COMPASS will be accessible 24hrs a day. Callers can speak with a trained member of staff and there will also be an online form for both public and professionals wishing to make a referral via the website and it will be delivered by Southend on Sea Domestic Abuse Projects.

The telephone number is 0330 333 7 444. The website is [www.essexcompass.org.uk](http://www.essexcompass.org.uk) Community services and specialist accommodation will be delivered by SOS Domestic Abuse Projects, Changing Pathways and Next Chapter. These community-based services are local hubs incorporating specialist accommodation such as refuges, IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors) and outreach work.

Greg Myddelton, Assistant Director for Commissioning at the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, said that it is vital that all victims of domestic abuse are able to access support to help them feel safe and to move on from an abusive situation. This new service uses local specialist organisations to deliver timely, expert help and support to those in need. If someone knows of anyone who may be experiencing domestic abuse, there is help out there which can be accessed by this new single phone number.

Assistant Chief Constable Andy Prophet at Essex Police, and Vice Chair of the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board, said that the new Compass contact number will help victims of domestic abuse speak to the specialists in their area to get the support they need. Essex Police is committed to breaking the cycle of domestic abuse and working with our partners across the county to protect victims of domestic violence and keep them safe.

Cllr Dick Madden, who was Cabinet Member for Children & Families at Essex County Council for 7 years said he was delighted to be able to offer one point of contact for people where they can access good quality information, advice and guidance, and most importantly to access the right support in a timely way to prevent or minimise the devastating impacts domestic abuse can have on people's lives.

**A120 campaign for £2.2bn economic boost**

The campaign to secure investment to dual the A120 has been reignited at a major stakeholder meeting headed by Witham MP Priti Patel and Essex County Council Deputy Leader Kevin Bentley.

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With the Government set to make key decisions in the autumn on future investment in major roads, Priti and Kevin are calling on all communities, businesses, elected representatives and local councils to come together and send a strong unified message in support of the A120. Dualling the A120 along a new route between Braintree and the A12 could provide the region with a £2.2 billion economic boost supporting businesses, job creation, inward investment and housing.

The scheme, to replace the current single-carriageway stretch, would also dramatically improve safety and reduce journey times during rush hour by an estimated 19 minutes, equating to a saving of ten days over the course of a year.

The A120 is a major economic corridor connecting businesses to hubs but for years it has been unsafe and the cause of accidents, congestion and delays. The stretch between Braintree and the A12 has not been fit for purpose for far too long; ten years ago the then Government scrapped a dualling scheme but there is now a new pot of money available from central Government which can be tapped into. ECC has put forward a strong and compelling case, but with competition from across the country this renewed campaign needs to be hard and water tight to secure Government funding.

Addressing a meeting at County Hall in Chelmsford, Cllr Kevin Bentley, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, said that the current A120 with only single-carriageway road which connects a major airport at one end and a major international seaport at the other it's simply not fit for purpose. This renewed push for dualling the carriageway between Colchester and Braintree will address this and unlock economic growth and other benefits to businesses and local communities equating to £4.5 million for every £1 million spent.

Because of the importance and popularity of the project, DfT and Highways England are being urged to provide funding for the scheme through the Road Investment Strategy programme.

If this is agreed in the Autumn, it is hoped construction, which would take three years, could start as soon as 2023.

**Supporting Children Services in Blackpool**

On the back of the recent Ofsted success of achieving an Outstanding rating, and an acknowledgement from the Children's Minister Nadhim Zahawi that the Essex model needs to be rolled out countrywide, Essex County Council has been chosen to support Blackpool in making improvements to their children services. Helen Lincoln our Executive Director for Children, Families and Education, and her team have been handed the role of Commissioner for Children's Services in Blackpool.

An Ofsted inspection in January in Blackpool Children Services found that some of the most vulnerable children were living in "chronic neglect" and was critical of the council which received an "inadequate" rating for the second time in six years.

It is fantastic news that again the government have recognised Essex as one of the top performing children services in the country. Helen's role will be to ensure that there is vast improvement at the council, utilising her skills and talent to turn around a failing service

**Youth Offending Service (YOS)**

As outlined previously, County Lines activity and its impact on young people and communities continues to dominate the caseloads of the YOS teams. However, small steps are being made towards creating a more coherent strategic response. The fledging Violence and Vulnerability Unit (VaVu) has now been set up with currently a Team Manager from the YOS and Detective Inspector from Essex Police working in collocated environment (hosted by Chelmsford City Council Community Safety Hub).

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As you may be aware violent crime is on the rise in Essex and there is a definite lack of a coordinated multi-agency approach to dealing with the issues of gangs and county lines. The Office of the Police, Fire Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) have the strategic lead and the small team will be joined by a coordinator who will work across the whole area to bring some synergy to our response to serious violence. A Strategic Board composed by Chief Executives and Directors, and supported by an Operations Board, will be chaired by the PFCC and will be also be attended by Cllr McKinlay, the New Cabinet Member for Children Services, and Cllr Gooding, Cabinet Member for Education, as well as our director for Children Services Helen Lincoln. I'm sure Cllr McKinlay will keep you all informed around how this goes.

ECC pledged £500k in the February Budget to help bolster funding for developing multiagency solutions to these issues.

A Task and Finish Group, led by me will also be looking at drugs, gangs, knife crime and county lines, and inform the Strategic Board of its findings; it will also contribute to the multi-agency strategy, gain assurance that there is an organised and robust system country-wide, whose aim will be to challenge and reduce the destructive impacts of gang culture.

**Cllr Madden's next position**

Cllr Dick Madden has moved on to a new Cabinet position of Performance and Partnership He came into the role when ECC's Children's Services were rated by Ofsted as inadequate and through the hard work of officers and of course the strong leadership of Helen Lincoln the service was completely turned around and it is now regarded nationally as one of the best performing Children's Service in the country with the lowest spend.

He has been involved with Children Services for the past 7 years and the portfolio has now been transferred in the safe hands of Cllr Louise McKinlay.

**Too good to throw away?**

There are renewed efforts to get people to recycle and if they are thinking of disposing of equipment to give ideas of how to do this in a way that will benefit others.

The links below will take you to the perfect place to find out how to reduce, reuse, repair and recycle your waste.

<http://www.loveessex.org/news-and-ideas/too-good-to-throw-away-pass-on-your-furniture-electricals-and-other-items/>

<http://www.loveessex.org/>

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