

Minutes 21st June 2018
Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Councillors Jean Routledge (vice-chairman), Solma Ahmed, Nick Bell, John Gray, Mike Kirby and Martine Ward
Also Present: Mrs Baxter (Clerk), District Councillor Fred Nicholls and 1 member of the public.

18/118 Chairman's welcome

Cllr Routledge welcomed everyone to the meeting.

18/119 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Paul Beard, Bob Kavanagh and Jane Triscott sent their apologies as did District Councillor Rosemary Heaney

18/120 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests

None

18/121 Approval and signing of the minutes from 17th May 2018.

It was resolved to accept the minutes from 17th May 2018 as true and accurate.

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

18/122 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 17th May 2018 not covered in this agenda.

The clerk made a verbal update:

County Councillor Guglielmi had invited us to report Highways defects which have not been dealt with to him (item 18/104). The clerk has reported the pathway along Colchester Road from Alfells and the pavements in Alfells, Laurence Close and Pauls Crescent.

Item 18/105 regarding rubble on the verges of Clacton Road; as far as we know it is still there. The clerk is to ask Mr Dingwall if it has been cleared and if necessary follow up with the Essex Highways contact we reported it to.

18/123 Public Speaking

None

18/124 County Councillor report

Not present

18/125 District Councillor reports

Cllr Nicholls: One of the main concerns for Tendring residents is the strange decisions being made by the Planning Inspectorate which are causing unnecessary problems. It is hoped that the TDC cabinet will have a meeting with Sir Oliver Letwin (government planning department) to put their concerns to him. He is in charge of housing.

A committee is meeting on the 2nd July to discuss the issues with the car rally. Members of the public may attend but not speak.

Bernard Jenkin MP and Martin Fellows have been shocked by the state of the A120 particularly at Wix. It has been asked to be dealt with and is under scrutiny.

A TDC councillor has raised the issue of flying a flag on St Georges Day. There are protocols though as you need two flagpoles as you can't have the Union Flag and the St Georges flag on the same flagpole.

TROs have been put in for zigzag lines on School Road outside Market Field School and Bromley Road. The decision will be made in October but only 3 TROs are permitted for the whole of Tendring.

TDC will be issuing a community protection warning on a house in Holly Way which needs clearing. If nothing is done it will be a criminal offence and the owner will have to go to a criminal court.

The Local Highways Panel has agreed with the 20mph limit outside schools and may even pay for the signs and installation. They will write to schools asking if they want it and where

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they want the signs. Once they've done that they are going to look more into parking outside schools and make sure it is more vigorously enforced.

18/126 Planning Committee Report

A report from the last Planning Committee meeting held 14th June 2018.

Cllr Routledge: The committee discussed an application at Grange Farm to demolish a bungalow and build 9 homes, 6 to be alms-houses. The committee objected on the basis of the location and over development. Hopefully it will be turned down because TDC has its 5 year plan.

There is an application for the amendment of a condition for the footpath of Tye Road (for the planning for 32 houses there). The condition originally was that the footpath had to be built before development started, but it has been requested to change it to before occupation of the houses. There have been many site visits and at the last one there was doubt that the footpath could fit in and that it could damage the roots of the trees. The TDC planning Committee are coming to Tye Road at noon on the 26th June to inspect and it is on the agenda for their committee meeting that evening at Weeley. Cllr Nicholls will be speaking on behalf of the Parish Council, and he stated that it was essential that a member of the PC was there. Cllr Nicholls also suggested contacting Mr Gooch to get confirmation regarding the advice he has sought from a barrister.

Cllr Nicholls went on to say that we may have heard in the press that the Local Plan is being kicked out. This is not the case. The Planning Inspector requires more work to be done. It has definitely not been refused. If the PC would like he can ask Ewan Green, Director of TDC, to come to a meeting to talk to us. Cllr Routledge responded by asking how long it would take to resolve and that it would be good to hear from him.

Cllr Nicholls stated that TDC now has a 6.2 year housing land supply.

Cllr Ahmed arrived at the meeting.

With regard to Tye Road Cllr Nicholls will speak first at the meeting. He thinks that the only way the footway can be put in is if they take part of the width of the road, which can't be done as the road was made wider for the HGV lorries going to Allens Farm.

18/127 New Community Centre Committee

i) A report from the last Committee meeting held 7th June 2018.

Cllr Gray explained that there are two subcommittees, one looking at other community centres and raising finance and the other looking at the design. The design team met on the 31st May and spent a considerable amount of time looking through the previous designs. They prefer the Essex Barn style of the most recent picture and are looking at a build of brick and block with steelwork, to keep the costs down. They came up with dimensions based upon an ideal with a view to the best potential for renting it out and legal standards. Cllr Gray went through the dimensions with particular mention to the following; the main hall at 20m x 10m is longer than necessary but we want a stage for events. They've looked at providing shutters and a bar style area between the kitchen and halls. There will need to be 2 x sports toilets/showers/changing rooms and an official (referee) one too. The subcommittee are going to create a model to work out the layout, trying to keep the external walls straight to keep build costs down. They hope to have the design for the next PC meeting. At the planning stage the local fire authority will give advice regarding the maximum capacity of the halls but we estimate 180 for the main hall and 50 for the small hall. We may have to cut back on our ideal design depending on the finance.

ii) To hear a recommendation from the committee to open a bank account for income generated for the new community centre.

It was resolved to have a designated PC bank account for this purpose. Proposed: Cllr Routledge, Seconded: Cllr Kirby, all in favour.

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18/128 The PC and Speedwatch stand at the Primary School Fete, 7th July 2018 12-3pm.

To discuss arrangements for the event and agree on items to purchase.

Cllr Beard has received an "Elmstead Parish Council" banner at no cost which was displayed and well received. It was discussed that "Help us improve our village" could be a hook to encourage people to come up and tell us their ideas. It was agreed to provide a budget of £100 to purchase a gazebo and other sundries for the event and future events. Proposed: Cllr Routledge, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

It was discussed that having post it notes for people to write ideas on is a good idea. The speedwatch gun, CSW signs and high vis jackets will be there. Cllr Routledge will contact Mary Whiley to ask if she has any letters or information to support the CSW. Cllrs Bell and Gray will arrive at 10am to set up and Cllr Ward will also attend the event. Cllr Gray is to e-mail around the volunteers and make a plan. Cllr Routledge requested that the volunteers also speak to people about Elmstead in Bloom and their need for new members.

18/129 Budgens Bus Shelter

An update

The land registry map shows that the bus shelter does sit within the boundary of the Dormers property. Therefore the PC could not install a bench under the current situation.

18/130 Bluegates Donation

An update

Cllr Routledge: All the money has now been spent. The new chairs for the community centre are on order. It was resolved that the Bluegates working party be disbanded. Proposed: Cllr Routledge, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

18/131 Clacton Road – proposal for a 40mph speed limit order to act as a buffer before the 30mph speed limit starts

Anything to report?

Cllr Routledge: We have 2 x VAS and 2 x gates to install but if Essex Highways do put in a speed limit buffer the gates location will move with the signage. We could ask the Tendring Rangers if they will do two separate installations so we don't have to wait and see what will happen here. Cllr Routledge or the clerk will contact Tendring Rangers to ask.

18/132 Finance

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 Routledge, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

18/133 Closure of Marks & Spencer, Clacton

St Osyth Parish Council has requested our support in objecting to the closure of this Marks & Spencer. They have requested that we write to Ian Davidson, CEO of TDC, to confirm our support.

Cllr Routledge: St Osyth PC has written two letters (circulated) and is asking for our support.

Cllr Nicholls: It's not a matter for Ian Davidson, it's a decision for M&S, and it has nothing to do with TDC. M&S will be held to their 8/9 year lease which will cost them millions unless they can find someone else to take it on. TDC will not lose any money. It's likely other shops will follow shortly. Cllr Neil Stock is setting up a town centre working group to encourage Clacton town centre to remain stable. It was discussed that the PC has sympathy with the situation but doesn't believe it can have any impact by writing to Ian Davidson. It was resolved that we would contact St Osyth to let them know that the working party is being set up. Proposed: Cllr Routledge, Seconded: Cllr Ward, all in favour.

18/134 Planning Committee Member

Are any councillors interested in joining this committee? There is one vacancy.

It was agreed that Cllr Ahmed would join the committee. Proposed: Cllr Routledge, all in favour.

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18/135 Local Highways Panel Request

Cllr Routledge suggested that the PC asks Essex Highways for a bus shelter and streetlights for Clacton Road.

Cllr Routledge: This is for a bus shelter for the bus stop opposite the 32 new houses on Clacton Road. Also, there are no street lights here and none going in.

Cllr Nicholls: stated that he is on the Local Highways Panel. We should apply to Joe Hazleton. He'll send us a form to fill in. We need to get Cllrs Heaney, Nicholls and Guglielmi to agree it and then send it back to Mr Hazleton. Somebody in EH is looking into the necessity of filling out the forms. He suggested that we put in for it, EH might say that Go Homes should contribute towards it. Cllr Nicholls asked if they were required to sign a section 106 agreement and advised we check the agreement to see if there is any money in there which could be allocated to this.

It was agreed to review next month.

18/136 Signs on Lucerne Green - no parking

The EPC no parking sign on the green is looking old and worn, should we look into removing it or replacing it?

It was discussed that we could either remove or replace it. If we remove it we should ask the nearby residents if they have any objections. It was discussed that before there was a sign there was some parking on the green. It was resolved to look into a costing for a new sign.

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

18/137 Market Field Playing Field

To discuss issues the PC is having with being able to monitor and clear dog mess on the field.

Cllr Bell: Mainly does the monitoring, Cllr Beard also does it sometimes. The problem is where they are cutting long grass and then leaving it. It makes it difficult to see the dog mess. The grass was very long previously with the wet weather but the situation has improved now. Cllr Bell suggests that we leave it to see what happens and he will e-mail me with a report of his weekly check.

18/138 Communications *Items of interest for inclusion in our August Upmarket report in addition to the report of meeting.*

Cllr Kirby: Suggested the EIB request for more help. Cllr Routledge responded that EIB has asked her to ask the PC what the requirements would be if EIB folds. At some point they will not be able to carry on. The South Green watering takes 2 and a half hours. There are only 6 Elmstead in Bloomers who do everything. Cllr Ward: asked us to say something for Tony Vaughan.

18/139 Items for next agenda or for information only

Cllr Routledge: The request from EIB as to what are the requirements? Cllr Routledge has been asked for a list of what EIB does.

Cllr Ward: This year is 100 years since the end of the war, should we do something special. We could do a silhouette of a soldier, or something with poppies. Cllr Bell will speak to the British Legion to see if they are doing anything. Cllr Gray added that Remembrance Sunday is on the 11th November this year.

There being no further public business councillors were thanked for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Date of next Parish Meeting: Thursday 19th July 2018

To be held in the Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead

Minuted by Mrs. A Baxter

Contact: elmsteadparish@gmail.com 01206 827139

Signature

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Appendix 1

Elmstead Parish Council Finance Report	
<i>Closing Balances to 31st May 2018 are:</i>	
Current Account to end of month	£ 24,749.57
Total Expenses unpaid at end of month	-£ 1,350.00
Total of expenses below (May payments - request for approval)	-£ 3,085.51
Balance in current account after monthly expenses	£ 20,314.06
Deposit Account to Bank Statement Ref 153	£ 27,733.33
Active Saver Account (Bluegates Donation)	£ 10,076.60
Estimated Overall Closing Balance - Current and Deposit	£ 58,123.99
<i>Income Details for May 2018:</i>	
Signs of Cheshire	£ 1,587.00
Total income for the month	£ 1,587.00
Approval is requested for the following payments:	
Community Centre Hall Hire for May x 2	£ 32.00
Mr R Fairweather - sample chair £41.98, Induction Loop cabling, trunking etc £57.87	£ 99.85
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd - Strimmer Line for Mr Dingwall	£ 16.00
Colchester Electrical Wholesale Ltd - Induction Loop Kit & 2 x microphones	£ 307.25
Cllr M Ward - food and drink for the Annual Parish Council Meeting (May)	£ 38.38
Mr A Dingwall - petrol for strimmer	£ 6.70
Mrs A Baxter - office supplies £2.29, PC meeting refreshments £1.59, postage for annual return £1.89 & land registry search for bus shelter £6.00	£ 11.77
Zurich Insurance - annual insurance 18/19 year 3 of a 3 year contract paid 30/5/18	£ 1,102.40
Expenditure previously approved (PC agenda item 188/110) and paid in June:	
Front Row Furniture 130 x chairs £1818.70, 6 x tables £215.94, delivery £109.99 plus £428.93 VAT. VAT will be reclaimed and Community Centre has been invoiced for £322.63 excess over Bluegates funding of £1,822.	£ 2,573.56
Total	£ 4,187.91
Parish Council resolved to approve the above expenditure 21st June 18 meeting item 18/132	
Signed	
Examined invoices	

Signature

Date