

MINUTES OF THE ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th OCTOBER 2014 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

Present:

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr T Mansfield, Cllr M Beadle, Cllr C Hurt, 10 members of the public and J Irons (clerk).

In Attendance:

District Cllrs Peter Watson and Neil Atkin; and County Cllr R Davison.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing the above Councillors.

PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

01.10.14. Apologies

Cllr R Strand (holiday), Cllr S Spenser (work commitments) and Cllr S Lee (work commitments).

02.10.14. Variation of Order of Business

None.

03.10.14 Declaration of Members Interests

None

04.10.14 District and County Councillor's Report.

The Chairman announced, and members **agreed**, that in light of a vote of no confidence in District Councillors passed in the last meeting, reports from them will not be required. However, they are welcome to comment or answer questions in 6.10.14 - public speaking – should the Chairman allow.

Cllr Rob Davison

1. Cllr Davison advised that a site meeting regarding Boulton Moor issues, such as mud on roads, drainage and sewers etc will be held at Snelsmoor Lane on Thursday at 10am. Three residents present said they would attend.
2. The vegetation encroaching onto the railway bridge at Borrowash will be trimmed back.
3. Combined Quarry and Waste Disposal Committee Meeting on Weds 22nd October at Shardlow Village Hall.
4. Cllr Davison circulated a 2014 Area Summary Profile Quilt breakdown for 2013 Electoral Divisions (showing many facets including levels of deprivation, crime, children in care, unemployment etc).
5. Digital Derbyshire – progress is slow although Cllr Davison had hoped that Tony Whaling, our local digital representative, would have attended to update.

05.10.14 Boulton Moor Housing

Cllr Bickerton reported that several issues of concern were listed on a flyer, recently distributed to households on BM. Frank McArdle, Chief Executive of SDDC, will attend the next parish meeting to answer questions, in particular Permission's request for a sales cabin to be erected before expiry of the statutory consultation period.

06.10.14 Public Speaking

Questions from residents followed on closely to the above comments from the Chairman i.e. those concerning Boulton Moor.

A resident complained of the lack of, or difficulty in accessing, information on the SDCC planning portal; details were vague. Another resident believed increased traffic congestion will result from the development but rued that information over this was scarce. Further complaints included: Persimmon Homes' sales office has been abandoned; and an objection registered on the portal seems to have been ignored. The Chairman responded to say these items will be raised with Frank McArdle in November and in the meantime will endeavour to answer these concerns, asking these residents to leave their contact details.

One resident complained that travellers regularly visit the Thulston roundabout site and wondered if they could be deterred. DCC's enforcement officer visited earlier in the week to remove them but advised that boulders or concrete slabs placed at the entrance are not practical because access is always required by various agencies.

A resident complained of dangerous pot-holes on Ambaston lane, towards Shardlow. When showing and speaking to a Highways inspector he was told that these holes are not sufficiently deep enough to warrant in-filling.

DCllr Watson was granted permission to speak by the Chairman. He was concerned that he had not received a copy of the flyer, which he believed had been agreed. Having now seen it, of the 13 topics listed, 3 were SDDC's responsibility; roads are DCC's. Dust and noise complaints have been investigated by SDDC who subsequently instructed Persimmon to address these. Flooding issues are within Severn Trent's and the Environment Agency's remit. Regarding a programme of works, the Parish Council previously received this some time ago. He also asked why liaison meetings between Persimmon, SDDC and the parish council had not been held recently (the last being 14th August) as these are being held in other parishes where Persimmon are involved in development. The Chairman agreed to arrange. DCllr Watson also wished to see answers given to residents by the Charman over the above issues, to which the Chairman agreed.

On other issues, DCllr Watson inspected the subway (Raynesway) lighting before attending the meeting and reported that most are now lit. A public enquiry will be held at end-November to assess if an additional 3,500 new homes to be built in South Derbyshire is acceptable. A South Derbyshire sports award ceremony was being held this night to recognise exceptional achievements; and Cllr Mansfield was dismayed that open water swimming is not permitted for sports people like him to which DCllr Watson will enquire.

07.10.14 Digital Derbyshire

Nothing to report. Tony Whaling (possibly) to be invited to the next meeting for an update.

08.10.14 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8th September 2014. These were approved and accepted (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Hurt) as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman.

10.10.14 Police Report

The clerk reported that 3 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 4 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for August. Details are available on the Police website at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>.

11.10.14 Flooding and Gravel

An Ambaston resident reported that a trailer of hounds entered the flood bank a few days earlier and he has informed Lafarge.

12.10.14 Chairman's Report

Further to our meeting with Proludic the Chairman asked members to give thought to a possible play area and equipment for installation at Boulton Moor.

13.10.14 Matters for Decision or Discussion

13.1 request to DCC over issues at Ambaston (dog bin, grit bin & play signs).

Reply from DCC 'Access only signs need to be backed up by a Traffic Regulation Order. This involves a lengthy process of consultation and usually costs in the region of £3,000 before considering the cost of the signing itself. This process will only be undertaken if there is an on-going safety issue which I am not aware of in the Ambaston area.

With regard to play area signing please let me know where these are proposed and I'll have a look'.

Resolved: clerk to arrange for DCC to provide a new grit bin with the first fill of salt at a cost of £240.37. It will be located on the verge at the entrance to Ambaston on the flood bank side.

13.2 Cllr Hurt duly signed his Register of Interests form;

13.3 £50 Contribution to Vitalise (pp Cllr Mansfield, seconded Cllr Russell);

13.4 Council's service commitments to VHC. **Resolved:** Cllr Russell to ask VHC to complete a new grant form each year;

13.5 budget update. **Resolved:** held over to the next meeting;

13.6. Introduction of a local Flood Warden Scheme. **Resolved:** a resident will consider adopting this role;

13.7. Contribution to RBL for Remembrance Day and poppy wreath. **Resolved:** contribution of £150.

14.10.14 Cycle Scheme Investment

Nothing to report as Cllr Lee was absent.

15.10.14 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Beadle considers that give-way lines should be painted on the road at the junction of Brook Road and Grove Close; cars do not always stop creating a hazard. Clerk to enquire and arrange.

Cllr Russell was pleased to report that the Harrington Arms agreed to have the defibrillator sited on its front wall and local resident Dr Black will conduct weekly checks.

Cllr Mansfield observed that the grass verge on Oak Road (on the left hand side from Thulston to Elvaston) has not been mowed; clerk to report.

He highlighted cars parked on the grassed area by a Grove Close resident; clerk to write to the owner.

16.10.14 Clerk Report

1. Clerk reminded A-one+ (agents of the Highways Agency) about the broken lights in the pedestrian underpass at the Boulton Moor end of Raynesway. DCllr Watson said earlier (see above) that most of these are now lit.

2. *Elvaston Castle Property Services* met with the owner of the overhanging hedge on Stables Drive who agreed to it being cut back. DCC have agreed to a one-off cut on his behalf but all future cuts are his responsibility. Also, PS will write to all tenants and other known users of this route asking them to adhere to the 10mph speed limit; and is looking into measures to avoid vehicles having to reverse into the highway when they meet a vehicle attempting to leave the site.

3. DCC visited the Thulston roundabout site last week to remove travellers.

4. Clerk sent Lucy Stephens, reporter at the Melbourne Village Voice, reasons for the vote of no confidence in the Aston Ward councillors for insertion.

5. Clerk requested a review of the speed restriction on Snelsmoor Lane. Reply:

'Having visited I note that whilst new accesses have been constructed onto Snelsmoor Lane the character of the route remains essentially rural. As such whilst the construction traffic has no doubt had an impact on the area to a driver unfamiliar with the area the existing national speed restriction remains appropriate. I note your Councils' support for a reduced restriction; however, we must remain cautious that any changes are realistic. I would not therefore support a reduction of the speed restriction at this time though I will continue to monitor the area as the buildings develop'.
Mike Hawkins Project Engineer.

6. *Derbyshire County Council Winter Service Scheme for 2014/15.* Council declined participating in clearing snow and ice during periods of extreme weather due to unfavourable insurance implications/ claims that may arise.

7. Clerk reminded Hannells to remove a sale sign on Broad Lane, Thulston (opposite the Harrington Arms pub).

8. Clerk told BT of the tree on Oak Road that has telephone cables running through it. This is DCC's responsibility and the clerk has reported it accordingly.

9. Resurfacing of Church Drive Elvaston. Reply - "The road to which you refer has been inspected and although not in ideal condition it is not in such a condition that a high priority can be assigned to further repair. I realise that the above will not be what you wish to hear but I regret that in this time of severe financial restrictions all funding has to be carefully considered and only those areas which represent the best value for money can be recommended for repair' - D N Hickman - Asst. Director (Highways Management).

10. *Combined Quarry and Waste Disposal Committee Meeting* on Weds 22nd October at Shardlow Village Hall starting at 6pm.

11. Elvaston Castle drop-in Event (proposal to bid for Heritage Lottery Fund monies) on 30th November, 10am-3pm.

12. A list of street name preferences for development off Snelsmoor Lane, Boulton Moor was circulated to members by the clerk for comments, of which there were none.

14. EA will assess the hazardous fence at Colwell Drive and make the repairs within the next month.

17.10.14 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters

Clerk offered Circulars 17 - 22/14 which had been emailed to all Cllrs previously.

18.10.14 Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment – cheques to be approved and signed

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001053	J Irons – Clerk’s salary in September*	425.77	-	425.77
001054	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay September	152.25	-	152.25
001055	HMRC – clerk’s tax	106.40	-	106.40
001056	Noel Baker Printing Services - flyers	34.00	-	34.00
001057	J Irons - clerk home allowance £18 pm	18.00		18.00
	TOTAL	736.42	-	736.42

* includes overtime @2.5 hours per week (x4 weeks) = £118.26

(b) **Income** - None

(c) **Direct Debits** - None

Bank balance as at 30th September 2014 £27,845.00

19.10.14 To consider planning applications:

9/2014/0814 – demolition of existing farm building and replacement with 2 dwellings on similar footprint and associated external works at Castle Court Elvaston. **Resolved:** no objection.

9/2014/0866 – conversion of a garage into living accommodation at 20 Colwell Drive Boulton Moor. **Resolved:** no objection.

9/2014/0953 – erection of extensions and alterations including a detached garage (amended scheme to previously approved application 9/2014/0630) at 12 Main Street Elvaston. **Resolved:** no objection.

Peter Waters suggested council write to residents in the vicinity of a planning application ensuring their awareness. **Resolved:** accepted and Cllr Mansfield offered to create and deliver these letters.

20.10.14 Items for Information only

None

21.10.14 Agenda Items for next meeting

- Preparation of questions for Frank McArdle;
- Non-receiving of district councillors reports;
- Budget update;
- Confirmation of Council’s meal at Harrington Arms on 11th December.

22.10.04 The next Council Meeting is on Monday 10th November 2014 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Signed
Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman)