# MINUTES of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

#### **Present:**

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr R Strand, Cllr M Beadle, Cllr T Mansfield, Cllr P Loakes and Cllr S Spenser.

#### In Attendance:

DCIIr Hilary Coyle, CCIIr Rob Davison, 7 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

## PART 1 - NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

#### **01.06.16.** Apologies

Cllrs C Hurt (work commitments) and DCllrs Peter Watson and Neil Atkin.

#### 02.06.16. Variation of Order of Business

None.

#### 03.06.16 Declaration of Members Interests

As Cllr Strand was absent from the last meeting he signed his declaration of office form (vice-chairman).

# **04.06.16 District and County Councillor Reports**

## **District Councillor Hilary Coyle**

- 1. DCllr Coyle announced that in his absence DCllr Peter Watson wished to remind members of the upcoming Persimmon Homes Liaison meeting on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June. He recently held a meeting with EA in which the flood bank at Ambaston was discussed.
- 2. The Local Plan Part 1 has been officially adopted and Part 2 will be progressed further in December with a decision expected some months later.
- 3. DCllr Coyle reminded attendees of the forthcoming women's cycle race (Aviva Women's Tour 2016) taking place at the weekend.

Cllr Loakes mentioned horse-riding on the Ambaston flood bank (see minute 12.06.16).

## **County Councillor Rob Davison**

- 1. To inform residents present CCllr Davison explained the relevance of a Persimmon Homes Liaison meeting; it addresses complaints such as noise, Sunday working etc and encourages PH's compliance with regulations.
- 2. He reiterated his comments from previous meetings on his preference for a new secondary school to be sited north of the river Trent (and perhaps adjacent to the A50 and nearer to Swarkestone).
- 3. He generously offered to help fund a 'welcome to Boulton Moor' sign. Unfortunately a 'no access' message (to deter learner drivers, see 5 below) requires a licence/ consultation which cost considerably more although he awaits a reply from Stuart Bachelor at SDDC to confirm. That said CCllr Davison's resources would not meet the cost of the latter.
- 4. He is aware of the recent concern shown by the community over the possibility of fracking for shale gas being conducted locally. CCllr Davison believed areas to be considered follow the A50 but will not affect this parish. Whilst understanding its controversial nature it is a process the UK must contemplate because of increased diverse energy needs.
- 5. Several Boulton Moor residents have recently complained about learner car drivers continually reversing, uturning and blocking some roads. CCllr Davison sympathised but declared this will continue because the test centre in Derby has relocated warranting 2 new routes. That said, the centre employs test-approved instructors guiding learners professionally. If residents consider any of these unsafe their only recourse is to take photos and/or phone the police 101 number. One upside to this is that fewer burglaries should ensue due to inspectors regularly being able to observe any suspicious behaviour. DCllr Coyle added that this may be a topic to be raised at the Safer Neighbourhood meeting.
- 6. He congratulated both the council and Communities Group for organising 2 recent public events (fete and Queen's birthday picnic); the chairman thanked him for his attendance and support at these.

Cllr Strand asked of any further news on Digital Derbyshire to which CCllr Davison replied he had none. The chairman thanked the county councillor for his report and appreciated his offer to part-fund a BM sign.

## 5.06.16 Public participation

Several attendees voiced concern over the possibility of proposed fracking, its impact on housing foundations and water supplies. One resident announced that there is much local opposition to the prospect while another wondered if householder's insurance would be affected if subsidence occurs as a result. CCllr Davison believed it to be a safe activity and, in a similar vein to noisy aircraft at the airport, companies may incur penalties for non-compliance of regulations. However, he accepts that he is not an expert in the field and will investigate further, perhaps asking Persimmon its opinion in Thursday's meeting.

A resident complained of overgrown hedges on the footpath from Elvaston to Castle car park main entrance to Borrowash. These appear to be the responsibility of the county council, clerk to report.

**6.06.16 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016.** These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Loakes).

#### 07.06.16 Police Report

The clerk reported that 7 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 5 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for May. Details are available at http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/.

The district council's weekly crime report noted 2 incidents at BM, both involving property being stolen. One of these resulted in the arrest of 2 males. Cllr Mansfield reported the theft of patio furniture from a property on Oak Road on 28<sup>th</sup> May; he was unsure whether the victim had told the police. The chairman reminded members that any concerns can be raised at the Safer Neighbourhood meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## **08.06.16** Digital Derbyshire

The clerk stated no further news had been received from Robert Rowan at DCC's Digital Derbyshire scheme regarding the submission of questionnaires completed by residents; Cllr Strand said he will ask. Cllr Strand explained that an alternative broadband provider ('Big Blue Rocket') servicing Aston and Chellaston has signed 14 households in Elvaston and 4 in Thulston. Both download and upload speeds appear to be exceptionally fast. A discussion took place over whether council should help promote this via notice boards, leaflet flyers etc. This idea was **rejected**; however it was **agreed** that BBR may arrange and hold its own promotional event at the village hall and the council will offer to display its posters on the notice boards. Also, assuming BBR hold such an event, the Communities Group offered to circulate the date, possibly on its Facebook page.

Cllr Strand will ask BBR to contact the clerk for further explanation.

#### 9.06.16 Elvaston Castle Development Board

Cllr Strand recently explained the remit of the Board to the Communities Group and thought regular updates to them should occur. The Board is going to advertise for a local person to sit on the Management Committee. The chairman thought it timely to invite the Board's chairman, Tony Palmer, to the October meeting which was <u>agreed.</u>

## 10.06.16 Boulton Moor Housing

As no complaints have been received recently there is nothing to report.

#### 11.06.16 Elvaston Communities Group

Eve Wilson announced that May was a busy month with 2 events held. The fete was successful (1200 people attended, bar drinks and food ran out) and she considered publicity through Facebook helped in this regard. The Castle has warned that car parking at the cricket club field will not be available in future which comes as a disappointment; a different arrangement is now sought. The chairman commented that he and CCIIr Rob Davison have already discussed the intended withdrawal of parking facilities.

The Queen's birthday celebration picnic provided refreshments, games and a raffle for charity. Although Eve was disappointed in the numbers of attendees she felt the event raised awareness of the Group. The next event is a 40/50/60s evening on 13<sup>th</sup> August at Nunsfield House, Alvaston.

## 12.06.16 Flooding and Gravel

Cllr Loakes conveyed apologies from Peter Waters; although Mr Waters highlighted that horse-riding had occurred on the flood bank at Ambaston and believed fencing may deter this. However, Tarmac/ Lafarge promised fencing which has yet to materialise. Cllr Coyle thought this may be an issue for EA and asked Cllr Loakes to furnish her with more details.

The clerk reminded members that he gained an extension to the time limit for comments over the minerals plan (which includes fracking) to 3<sup>rd</sup> July and asked them to either make individual comment themselves or forward a collective council comment to him which can be submitted.

#### 13.06.16 Chairman's Report

None.

## 14.06.16 Matters for Decision or Discussion

- **14.1** Parking around Silver Lane. **Resolved:** to be raised at the forthcoming Safer Neighbourhood Meeting (including a request for 'inconsiderate' car parking notices)
- **14.2** Volume of forwarded emails. Cllr Strand is dismayed at the number and frequency of emails, many of which appear to be of little relevance. **Resolved:** clerk to filter these more stringently (especially those from Derbyshire CVS) and to send any involving funding to the chairman.
- **14.3** Consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive. **Resolved:** Clerk circulated a quote for such signs which was well received by members. **Resolved:** this to be forwarded to Cllrs Bickerton, Strand and CCllr Rob Davison
- **14.4** Outcome of the communication between council and a resident concerning her overreaching hedge at Grove Close. Council believed that 2 members should visit the resident to discuss. **Resolved:** clerk to ask the resident if she accepts this offer to resolve the dispute if so Cllrs Russell and Mansfield to visit.
- **14.5** To consider speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** Cllr Mansfield is about to buy a sample of stickers to be tested on bins.
- **14.6.** Clerk is mindful of the obligation to provide a pension to the lengthsman if he so wishes. **Resolved:** Clerk to ask him again.
- **14.7** Clerk explained a recently prepared update on budget figures although a discrepancy appeared in one section. **Resolved:** clerk to amend and recirculate.

#### 15.06.16 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Russell has not yet received a reply from the ambulance service regarding its checking of the defibrillator at Ambaston. She and Cllr Loakes inspected it and now have a code to open its cabinet. She mentioned that she now has some dog fouling notices.

Cllr Beadle commented that the grass on Broad Lane verge was overgrown although Cllr Strand seemed to think it had been cut this day. Cllr Beadle to let clerk know if that is not the case.

Cllr Loakes believes that the overgrown verges on Ambaston Lane pose a hazard and urgently need cutting. Clerk to inform SDDC.

Cllr Spenser complained that the footpath at the lake in the park on the Castle side needs cutting; clerk to ask Gill Forester.

#### 16.06.16 Clerk Report

- 1. Gill Forester is arranging for the first speed hump on Stables Drive to be replaced with one lower in height.
- 2. Culvert at the village green. Phil Lenton from SDDC and Steve Foulk from the EA inspected the culvert in May; apart from a couple of bricks that were dislodged the main section below ground level was found to be in surprisingly good condition. Therefore in Steve's view no work was necessary at this time.
- 3. Clerk is in the process of creating a council Freedom of Information Publication to be posted on the website.

## 17.06.16 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters

Members had received recent circulars from the clerk.

## 18.06.16 Finance

(a) Accounts for Payment – the following cheques were approved and signed:

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001159	J Irons – Clerk's salary May	481.61	-	481.61
001159	J Irons - clerk home allowance £18 pm	18.00	-	18.00
001159	J Irons expenses – postage questionnaires & ext. audit	3.60	-	3.60
Stand order	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay May	192.00	-	192.00
001160	HMRC – clerk's tax	61.80	-	61.80
001161	DCC – clerk's pension	124.78	-	124.78
001162	Robert Lewis Signs – notice board at Snelsmoor Lane	795.00	159.00	954.00
001163	Staples – ink, envelopes and paper (less £7.50 coupon)	32.46	4.99	29.95
Direct Debit	Severn Trent Water – (allotments)	58.49	-	58.49
	TOTAL	1767.74	163.99	1924.23

(b) Income

(c) Direct Debits

Payment - Severn Trent Water (allotments) on 7<sup>th</sup> June £58.49

Bank balance as at 31st May 2016

£32,854.64

## 19.06.16 To consider planning applications:

None.

## 20.06.16 Items for Information only

No new of items of interest had been received by the clerk

#### 21.06.16 Agenda Items for next meeting

- Derby & Derbyshire Minerals Plan (and Fracking for shale gas in particular);
- Boulton Moor;
- Digital Derbyshire;
- Elvaston Communities Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board;
- Purchase of speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins;
- consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive;
- SDDC's supply of car parking notices and parking issues in general;
- Any other issues to be raised at the upcoming Safer Neighbourhood Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July;
- Reply (if any) from Tony Palmer to visit October's meeting.

## 22.06.16 The next Ordinary Council Meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

Signed	Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman)
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