

# **Minutes of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON**

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

**In Attendance:** DCllrs Peter Watson and Neil Atkin, CCllr Rob Davison, 6 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

## **PART 1 – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

### **01.11.16 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr C Hurt (work commitments) and DCllr Hilary Coyle.

**02.11.16. Variation of Order of Business**                      None

**03.11.16 Declaration of Members Interests**                      None

### **04.11.16 District Councillor Peter Watson**

1. Noise complaints have been received about the conveyer at the gravel site and DCllr Watson has written to DCC to air these grievances. Elsewhere in the Trent Valley conveyers are not used at such sites because dumper trucks are deemed a better alternative.

2. A resident was concerned about flooding once Derby City's OCOR scheme is completed. Phase 1 relates to the city; phase 2 concerns Ambaston, Shardlow and further downstream the works of which must be finished first.

3. SDDC's planning officer has taken a proactive approach by warning developers at Buttercup Leys that mud on vehicles and roads will not be tolerated.

4. The next persimmon Liaison Meeting is on 24<sup>th</sup> November at the village hall (6pm). DCllr Watson has asked both the environment and planning officers to attend and will ask Persimmon's operations manager the same. He stressed that no one can force developers to attend these meetings. Cllr Mansfield asked if public presence at the meeting is acceptable to which the district councillor replied it was. Cllr Strand is concerned that under the upcoming boundary changes this parish will fall into the Derby South constituency which may affect services. DCllr Watson explained that the changes are linked to numbers of MPs in Westminster, which will be reduced from c660 to 600. Each MP represents around 75-85k electorate; most areas exceed this number but Derby South is a lower figure, hence the proposed change. That said, the Aston ward is represented by an SDDC member although the MP may change.

The chairman asked whether a bridge intended to be built at Thulston Brook will go ahead; DCllr Watson will respond at the Persimmon meeting on 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **County Councillor Rob Davison**

1. Alluding to an earlier point CCllr Davison favours liaison meetings (quarry, developers etc) believing them to create a collaborative approach.

2. Provision of care services are getting worse and help for the infirm and disabled is lessening. Due to a shortage of carers DCC is trying to make a career in social care a more worthwhile and attractive proposition.

3. Every health and care system in England will produce a multi-year Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), showing how local services will evolve and become sustainable over the next five years. The NHS, city council and county council want central government to become more open.

4. The county councillor is unhappy with the proposed parliamentary boundary changes and considers that a Derby MP should not represent the electorate of this area.

5. He is also unhappy with the recent Swarkestone causeway renovations.

6. Plans to build a new secondary school at Thulston Fields have been submitted although it lies in greenbelt area. SDDC is a statutory consultee and may refuse the plan. Should it do so the alternative site of Lowes Farm would be adopted. DCllr Watson added that the school is included in the Local Plan; the planning committee will decide on the most favourable outcome and consequently will proceed even if the site lies in greenbelt. No decision has been taken yet.

#### **05.11.16 Public participation**

A resident complained of inconsiderate parking on Brook Road saying that some cars block her driveway. When asked to move most of these drivers are abusive. Cllr Davison believes that unless double yellow lines are present or the vehicle causes an obstruction which makes such parking illegal, little can be done. The chairman suggested that 'residents' only parking' signs can be erected to deter the act however Cllr Davison thought these involved buying a permit and do not always achieve the desired effect. He wished to see a private members bill passed in parliament which might help banish the problem. Cllr Mansfield thought the parish could pass a bylaw to address the issue. Clerk will invite a local police officer and Hardyal Dhindsa, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, to attend the next meeting.

Another resident announced that the cycle track near to the bridge at Borrowash will close soon for repairs.

**06.11.16 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016.** These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Russell, seconded Cllr Beadle).

#### **07.11.16 Police Report**

The clerk reported that 1 minor incident in Boulton Moor and 5 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for September. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>. Members rued the lack of support being shown through non-attendances of officers which can be raised with the invited guests as mentioned above.

#### **08.11.16 Website maintenance**

As the present web developer is somewhat lax in his approach council wish to review the current site. Eve Wilson offered to ask her website provider if he is willing to prepare a new site for the council.

#### **09.11.16 Boulton Moor Housing**

Attendees were reminded that the Persimmon Liaison meeting is on 24<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm.

**10.11.16** – Cllr Spenser left at 8.50pm.

#### **11.11.16 Elvaston Communities Group**

Eve Wilson was pleased to announce that the recent coffee morning was a success and raised £259. The ladies fashion show due to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> November was cancelled due to lack of interest and she thought a different starting time may be appropriate. Eve asked attendees for ideas over new events.

She thanked council for its generous donation towards the new gazebos which are on order.

More work on the sensory garden will begin soon.

The cricket club wish to raise money to build an extension and Eve thought the council and Communities Group could work together and use it for their own events. Mike Tong will discuss this with the club. DCC has set up the Communities Priorities Programme, a fund to support local communities; county councillors can apply for funding for projects in their area. Eve asked if the parish would support an application to which the chairman replied it would in principle. Cllr Strand added that a resident has experience in such applications and will ask them for advice.

Carol singing at the Harrington Arms will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The chairman asked if the intended New Year walk will happen to which Eve replied that it should.

Ray Jeffries stated that SDDC supply trees (crab apple and cherry) for planting and asked members where they would like them to be placed.

#### **12.11.16 Flooding and Gravel**

Kevin Birch had concerns about the the conveyer mentioned above saying it will be close to the flood bank, noisy and may be in place for 10 years. He has written to Vikki Webb at DCC. He also asserts that dumper trucks are not an option.

He announced that he had attended recent flood meetings at both county and district councils. Many parishes have created Emergency Planning Committees but he thought this unwise because these actions might interfere with main responders such as EA, police, DCC etc. Kevin would rather maintain an information service to residents, which includes posting updates and essential bulletins on Facebook and the community website. He deems it essential that ample warning is relayed in a flood event because once water reaches 4ft below the top of the flood bank it is considered a 'threat to life'. He has issued a copy of his recent flood plan to the National Flood Forum and thought it may need distributing to residents. Sand bags and plastic slats for doors are needed; Cllr Loakes added that Ambaston has bags but no sand. Kevin will give an update in due course.

**13.11.16 Elvaston Castle Development Board** Cllr Strand had nothing to report.

**14.11.16 Chairman's Report** None.

#### **15.11.16 Matters for Decision or Discussion**

**15.1** Consideration of village entry signs and boundary sign at Colwell Drive. **Resolved:** This item to be held over to the next meeting.

**15.2** Purchase of more speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** Cllr Mansfield will count the number required and report in the next meeting.

**15.3** to circulate bank mandate forms to members that are non-signatories. **Resolved:** clerk gave new forms to Cllrs Beadle, Mansfield and Loakes. As Cllr Spenser left early he will be furnished with a copy in the next meeting.

**15.4** storage of the Communities Group's new gazebos. **Resolved:** This item was discussed briefly earlier but will be continued in the next meeting.

**15.5** letter of thanks to Peter Waters for his role as lead flood warden **Resolved:** clerk to write and deliver.

**15.6** To consider new notice boards at Boulton Moor. A resident asked if 2 older notice boards at Colwell Drive and the Greenway can be replaced. **Resolved:** as these are fit for purpose it is unnecessary to replace them; clerk to inform the resident.

**15.7** registration of the village green. Cllr Beadle instructed Alexander & Co. solicitors to proceed. Evidence in the form of a questionnaire is required from residents confirming that it has traditionally been used as a green for recreational purposes.

**15.8** South Derbyshire Pre-Submission Local Plan Part 2. **Resolved:** no comment.

#### **16.11.16 Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Strand noted that at the recent Gravel Liaison meeting it was mooted to replant the avenue of trees. Fly-tipping was present at the bus stop opposite the Golden Gates and on a lay-by on the A6; clerk to report.

Cllr Beadle alluded to Gill Forester's reply mentioned below and noted that she did not see any traffic cones or signs to deter parking.

Cllr Loakes reported that fly-tipping on Ambaston Lane had now been cleared. He witnessed poachers in the same area.

#### **17.11.16 Clerk Report**

1. Clerk highlighted the recent reply from Gill Forester over errant parking on Main Road. She assured that her team did everything to deter people from parking on the verges and within the village- to no avail. She added:

*'We placed cones out the evening before, but these were removed by individuals by early morning prior to them parking on the very area they were designed to protect. We discussed and arranged well in advance for the enforcement team to attend over the weekend and in particular in the mid- morning when traffic generally reaches its peak. Unfortunately they were unable to attend. We did place additional signage out and that too was removed or turned faced down so as not to be seen. We will of course continue to do whatever we can to alleviate the problems for the community- it is unfortunate that it appears to be those more local to the estate that persist in such selfish actions. I am continuing talks with DCC's traffic management team. If the parish felt that it would be beneficial, they could contact them directly as well, to raise the collective concerns around congestion as a result of inappropriate parking at bank holidays and major events'.*

Members **agreed** that the clerk should write to DCC's traffic management team.

