

# MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2009 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

**PRESENT:** Cllr Lythgoe (Chair), Cllrs Lee, Mitchell, McLaughlin, Strand and Mrs Coyle. The Clerk (R F Hill), Cllr Harrison, G Pollard (Press) and two parishioners also attended.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **COUNTY COUNCIL - CCLLR JOHN HARRISON**

1. The meeting with Brian Ashby of Highgate Sanctuary, sought by John Harrison, was conducted over the telephone. Mr Ashby wants to know the width taken by the utility services buried under the highway to assess how much land would be needed to widen the pavement at that point. The commercial arrangements for the land transfer remain to be agreed.
2. The Elvaston Castle Working Party next meets at Matlock on 29 January. There are still planning problems raised by English Heritage to be settled. Friends of Elvaston Castle have asked for a meeting with the Conservative Group at Matlock who have agreed.
3. There has been planning consent granted by North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) to hold Formula 1 events at Donington Park ever since 1977. The latest application submitted to NWLDC was for the approval of new buildings and track lay-out. The latest noise simulation exercise for Formula 1 activity there suggests that noise levels will not materially increase. It is expected that 75 lorries a day will be going to and from the site during the construction period which is expected to last no more than 69 weeks. There is a mandatory requirement on the organisers of such events to carry out an Event Management Plan which must include traffic movements. The current plan is for restricted access within a certain radius of the track for all but essential vehicles; all others wishing to attend the event must use the park and ride facilities which will be provided at the four compass points some distance from the venue.
4. In response to a question from Cllr McLaughlin, John Harrison said that the area currently occupied by the travellers on Snelsmoor Lane will be gated as soon as they leave to prevent further access.

### **DISTRICT COUNCIL - DCLLR HILARY COYLE**

1. Derby City's withdrawal of waste disposal sites (bottlebanks etc) is a cost cutting exercise.
2. The protected trees across from the Golden Gates entrance on the B5010 (formerly A6) were felled because they were diseased, so not needing planning consent to carry out the work. There is a requirement for them to be replaced one for one.
3. At the last Joint Highways Forum, Jim Seymour from DCC explained that South Derbyshire's roads are poor for historical reasons (mining and other heavy industry). At the next meeting, bus company representatives will outline how they plan to cope with the extra demand on their services arising out of the construction of 44000 homes over the next few years.
4. The next Area Meeting is on Monday 9 February, the same night as the next scheduled parish council meeting.

### **OPEN SESSION**

1. There are 5 liquid propane bottles in the ditch 50 yards north of Thulston Brook Bridge towards Shardlow.
2. Mr Waters asked for permission to speak at agenda item 10 - Gravel & Flooding.
3. Mr McBride of 9 The Pinfold complained about the bird scaring devices operating at unsociable times of the day.

### **POLICE REPORT**

(1 Dec 2008 - 8 Jan 2009)

One report of damage to a motor vehicle on Boulton Moor.

Two reports of abandoned vehicles in Elvaston and one report of a nuisance vehicle.

No reports of anti-social behaviour though recent incidents of graffiti have led to increased visible patrols.

Quarterly newsletters will henceforth be made available at parish council meetings.

## **NON-EXEMPT ITEMS**

### **1.01.09: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Atherton, Wainwright & Miss Russell.

### **2.01.09: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

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### **3.01.09: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The circulated minutes of the 8 December meetings (exempt & non-exempt) were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **4.01.09: ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

District Council:-

Item 4. Resolved: Clerk/Chairman to arrange a new date for the parish council meeting so that members may attend both meetings.

Open Session:-

Item 1. Resolved: Clean Team to be contacted.

Item 2. Resolved: permission granted.

Item 3. Resolved: Cllr Mrs Coyle to check the legal position with SDDC.

### **5.01.09: CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Parish Newsletter. The copier, because it needs servicing (cost £60 last time), will not produce sufficiently good copy for the newsletter. Choices are to have it serviced, buy/lease a replacement (purchase of a reconditioned machine would be about £250 and would include functions which would ease the printing of the newsletter of the current machine), or subcontract the newsletter printing job.

(See 7.01.09, Item 2 below).

2. Parish Councils now have a duty under Section 40 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERG) Act to conserve biodiversity. The lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership (BDP) has produced a leaflet offering additional help to fulfil the duty. If help is required, BDP's questionnaire needs to be returned by 1 March so that they can increase their staff levels (only one project manager at the moment to serve 162 local councils in Derbyshire). Resolved: agenda item for the February meeting.

3. One day training course for chairmen, Saturday 16 May 2009 at Hulland Ward V.H., 9.30 - 3.30. Cost of £20 per delegate includes buffet lunch. Resolved: agenda item for the February meeting.

4. Severn Trent have again been contacted about the rubbish at the Ball Lane sub-station and a reply has been promised by 16 January.

5. Ward representation (currently 6 for Elvaston Rural and 3 for Boulton Moor). SDDC's Elections officer has been asked what procedure needs to be followed to increase Boulton Moor's representation. Resolved: agenda item for the February meeting.

6. There is a Joint Meeting with Parish Councils at Swadlincote on Wednesday 14th at 6.30pm.

7. Thulston Roundabout Segregated Left Turn. Prompted by the Clerk's letter to the Highways Agency (HA), Mark Todd has written to HA asking for the accident statistics there, he being a regular user of this road and fully appreciative of the Council's concerns.

8. Model Publication Scheme - new 2009 version requiring the Council to make available as a matter of routine, certain information within defined classifications. Clerk will display notices specific to Elvaston P.C. on the notice boards in due course.

### **6.01.09: PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no new applications.

#### Decisions

9 2008 0903 FH - extensions at 6 Ambaston Lane, Thulston: Granted.

9 2008 1051 NO - erection of a reception building and formation of a car park at Beechwood Park, Elvaston: Granted.

#### Consultations

The future of South Derbyshire is being planned with the development of a new plan called the

'Sustainable Community Strategy'. There will be opportunity to offer views on this on Wednesday 4th February 2009 at a Visioning Event will be held at the Toyota Factory, Burnaston in the form of a 'drop-in session' between 9.00am and 12 noon.

**7.01.09: FINANCE**

1. The following accounts were approved for payment:-

cq 748 - P Casey, Lengthsman's wages, 5 weeks to 11 January 2009

£ 94.95

cq 749 - R F Hill, Clerk's salary for January

236.70

2. Acquisition of a new photocopier. Resolved: Clerk to be charged with acquiring a new copier, not to exceed £300.

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**8.01.09: BOULTON MOOR/ELVASTON MEADOWS ISSUES**

1. Children's playground. The Clerk has asked SDDC to include provision for one in its 2009/2010 budget.

2. Holes have been left at two locations (Snelsmoor Lane & south end of Broad lane, Thulston) where old road reflectors have been removed. Clerk to contact DCC Highways.

3. A barrier needs to be placed at the pedestrian only access from The Greenway to the A6 bus stop to prevent cyclists & motor cyclists using it. Clerk to contact DCC Highways.

4. Lorries persistently using the entrance to the allotments off the A6/Snelsmoor Lane roundabout are causing nuisance. Clerk to ask DCC Highways to take preventative measures.

**9.01.09: ELVASTON CASTLE**

1. Elvaston Castle & Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs): none of the trees on the estate are covered by TPOs mainly because the current owners are accountable to the public but this will be re-considered if and when the land becomes privately owned/tenanted.

2. The draft scope document (essential work survey) has been sent to tender.

**10.01.09: GRAVEL & FLOODING**

1. Mark Todd MP has recommended enlistment of the BBC's regional news programme to publicise the plight of Ambaston village and its risk to flooding. Members were not convinced that this course of action was desirable.

2. Tarmac has now handed its application to extract gravel north of Ambaston Lane to a consultancy group following the decision not to press for resolution before 2011. This opens up an opportunity to make the case to the Environment Agency to revert to its original stance regarding this application.

**11.01.09: ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

Cllr Strand said there had been one notice of termination and two additions to the waiting list. The policy of giving priority to parishioners over others was agreed. It was also agreed to proceed with Severn Trent's tender for laying on water at the allotments.

