

**ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH**  
**NOVEMBER 2011 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Lee (Chair), Cllrs Bickerton, Coyle, Russell, Sharp, Spenser & Strand.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** DCllr Peter Watson, CCllr John Harrison, G Pollard (Press), R F Hill (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – PETER WATSON**

1. Donington Racetrack. North West Leicestershire District Council has temporarily granted the Racetrack an increase from 40 to 60 race days, 20 of which will be unsilenced. It is for two years with a review after one.
2. SDDC will not object to the parliamentary constituency boundary review as it affects South Derbyshire (see 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011 minutes).
3. Central Government has passed all responsibility for housing stock down to local government bodies leaving SDDC to find the £60M needed to shoulder the burden.
4. Winter Gritting. DCC has classified the county's roads into 3 types for gritting purposes: PRIMARY (roads having bus services, hospitals, schools and other essential services along them) and these will be gritted overnight; SECONDARY (other main roads) and these will be gritted during the day; TERTIARY (all other roads) and these DCC is encouraging farmers and others to participate in helping to keep them clear by offering financial incentives.
5. Cardboard refuse disposal. SDDC is re-tendering the collection of materials to include cardboard, plastic etc) with a view to introducing a new scheme in 2013.

**OPEN SESSION**

1. The laying of the new sewage pipe immediately south of the River Derwent has wrought changes which may have repercussions on the drainage of the land thereabouts through the channel and valve adjacent to the power station lane gates.
2. The plans to improve the flow of Thulston Brook through its upper course (upstream of its intersection with Snelsmoor Lane) will put greater burden on the downstream section. It would have made better sense to start with such plans from the point where Thulston Brook discharges into the River Derwent.
3. Why is there still no bus shelter by the Golden Gates entrance on London Road?
4. Why is there still no sign of the footpath being widened on Borrowash Road?
5. Why has there been nothing done to restore the Avenue of Oaks to its former glory?
6. Were the recent erections on the cricket field approved by the planning authority?
7. Do the members of the parish council not realise that the fact of there being only one parishioner present at the meeting indicates that they are failing to connect with the very people they are supposed to serve? Would not a newsletter delivered to every home in the parish spark some interest?

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – JOHN HARRISON**

1. In response to the complaint in Item 4 of the Open session, CCllr Harrison said he would check where matters lay.
2. Elvaston Castle. The Cabinet Office in Whitehall has recommended that since circumstances have changed since the tendering process which selected Highgate Sanctuary to develop the facility, the County Council should tender anew. He said that the Options Appraisal Report, expected to be available anytime now, will lead the parties – Highgate Sanctuary, DCC, SDDC and English Heritage – into meetings the purpose of

which will be to agree a plan which meets English Heritage's demands for the inherent character of the Castle and grounds to be preserved and also give Highgate Sanctuary sufficient commercial incentive to proceed.

3. There has been significant development in Swadlincote; Aldi, Green King, Poundland and Primark have all opened new outlets there; there is also a new multiplex cinema. The Food and Drink Fair held in recent years at Hardwick Hall will in 2013 transfer to Calke Abbey.

### **POLICE REPORT**

Incidents during September:-

Burglary (offences where a person enters a building in order to steal)

1 on Orchard Close.

Anti-Social Behaviour

1 on Sevenlands Drive

1 on Main Road, Elvaston

Vehicle Crime (includes theft from or interference with a vehicle)

1 on Grove Close, Thulston

Violent Crime (includes common assault, grievous bodily harm & sexual offences)

2 on Meadow Nook.

### **NON-EXEMPT ITEMS**

#### **1.11.11: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Cllr Harper.

#### **2.11.11: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **3.11.11: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Proposed Cllr Strand seconded by Cllr Sharp and agreed that the circulated minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> October meeting be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### **4.11.11: ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF 'PUBLIC PARTICIPATION'**

District Councillor's Report

1. Noted.
2. Noted.
3. Noted.
4. Noted.
5. Cllr Sharp asked why SDDC had not adopted the system already in use in Derby where cardboard is collected in sacks. DCllr Watson said he would investigate.

Open Session

1. The Clerk said he would ask SDDC what progress they had made with the Environment Agency and ask them to meet on site to review the effect of the recent pipe laying activity.
2. Clerk to check where responsibility lies for ensuring that the brook's course is kept free of blockages.
3. The Clerk said he would write to Mr Madeley to explain why installation had been delayed.
4. See Item 1 of the CCllr's report.
5. The Clerk said he would include an explanation in the letter to Mr Madeley.
6. Clerk to ask SDDC's Planning Enforcement Officer to visit.
7. Cllr Strand said that the parish council had launched its own website in a bid to make itself more visible to the public. DCllr Watson said that the situation at Elvaston was no different to that nationwide and if anyone could suggest ways to generate some interest

in the public at large for day to day local government matters, those who do choose to get involved would be very grateful.

#### County Councillor's Report

1. Noted.
2. Noted.
3. Noted.

#### **5.11.11: CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Bus Shelters: DCC's Public Transport Unit has advised the minimum dimensions of the area required to accommodate a shelter at the Derby bound stop by the Golden Gates entrance. The Clerk has invited the landowner to divert the hedge in order for the space to be created and his reply is awaited. If agreement is reached, a Wayleave Agreement needs to be negotiated and signed.
2. The post box at Ambaston has been taken away. The Clerk has asked Royal Mail for an explanation.
3. Footpaths: Footpath No 1 off Yew Tree Lane – the stile at the entrance is rotten and needs replacing. It has been reported to the Footpaths Officer at Matlock.
4. Donington Park: the next consultative forum is on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 6.30pm in the Race Control Media Suite at the race circuit.

#### **6.11.11: PLANNING**

There were no new applications or decisions.

Consultation re. the National Planning Policy Framework: Heather Wheeler MP said that she had made the Minister aware of the concern expressed by residents and parish councillors about the erosion of the safeguards that currently protect green belt land that will result if the proposed changes are implemented and she hopes that the final document will address this.

#### **7.11.11: MATTERS FOR DECISION**

- 7.1. To decide/authorise the requirement/acquisition of 3 grit bins for Boulton Moor: conditional upon the bins being in place in time for the onset of winter, members unanimously agreed to the proposed acquisition.
- 7.2. To make a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Fund. Resolved: to donate £100.

#### **8.11.11: FINANCE**

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Wages & salaries	£347.50
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Fund, donation	100.00
Balance at bank as at 19 <sup>th</sup> October: £11,828.53	

#### **9.11.11: WEBSITE**

Cllr Strand said that more people were needed to help in updating the website, both old and young, in order to invest the process with new ideas. It was also resolved to look at the websites of neighbouring parish councils for comparison purposes and to suggest to DALC that they might run a course on the subject for clerks and councillors.

#### **10.11.11: GRAVEL AND FLOODING**

In the absence of any news on the subject the Clerk said he would contact the Environment Agency to see where matters stood between them and Derby City Council on the Lower Derwent Flood Risk Management Strategy.

#### **11.11.11: COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr Strand said there are a number of estate agent sign boards which needed to be disposed of: Clerk to contact those concerned.

#### **12.11.11: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

The Clerk circulated a list of the items received since the last meeting.