

# DRAFT

## ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2010 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON

**PRESENT:** Cllr Lee (Chairman), Cllrs Lythgoe, Mitchell, Russell, Spenser & Strand.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** R F Hill (Clerk), PC. Deborah Croxall, G Pollard (Press) & 6 members of the public (Kathryn Wall & Messrs Chaplin, Madeley, Shaw, Waters & Whewell).

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

##### **OPEN SESSION**

1. Mr Waters asked to speak at agenda item 10 - Gravel & Flooding.

2. Mr Whewell:

2.1, asked if the parish council could do anything about parking in front of the Silver Lane notice board;

2.2, complained about the County Show organisers allegedly chopping down hedges and filling in ditches.

3. Kathryn Wall:

3.1, asked if youth facilities could be provided on Boulton Moor to give young people somewhere local to ride their BMX bikes.

3.2, said that it had become apparent that street lighting had not been adopted by the relevant local authority prompting one to wonder what else still remained in the hands of the contractor{s).

4. Mr Shaw:

4.1, asked if private landowners had any obligation at law to control ragwort.

4.2, asked if the Council was aware that dog excrement had been "de-classified" and could now be disposed of in standard litter bins.

5. Mr Madeley:

5.1, said that he had walked the entire length of the Avenue of Trees (both the northern and southern lines) and his inspection showed that the northern line retains 30 original oaks, 18 limes and 4 horse chestnuts (both varieties SDDC planted), 4 replacement oaks, 3 diseased or dead trees and 15 gaps where trees had not been replaced; the southern side retains 31 original oaks, 21 limes (SDDC), 6 horse chestnuts (SDDC), 1 replacement oak, 2 diseased/ dead trees and 15 gaps. Compare this, he said with Tarmac's avowed intention on assuming responsibility that the Avenue would be conserved in accordance with the original concept namely that the Avenue should comprise oak trees only.

5.2, said that he was pleased that the Clerk had posted the latest crime report in the notice boards but he was concerned that there had been a crime wave in the Borrowash Road/Elvaston Castle area, borne out by his enquiries of his neighbours many of whom had suffered at the hands of those bent on criminal activity. He expressed concern that this spate of rising crime had not produced reaction from the police in the form of more frequent patrols in the area.

At this point, the Chairman welcomed the arrival of PC Deborah Croxall and he closed the Open Session in order give her the opportunity to state the case for the police.

##### **POLICE REPORT**

The crime and incident report for June, also displayed on all notice boards, is appended to these minutes: it indicates more arisings than usual both in the rural ward (especially in and around the Elvaston Castle Country Park) and in Boulton Moor. PC Croxall said that the problems at the caravan park, which appears to be the focal point for crime, have been exacerbated by the poor security measures there. However, she said that extra police patrols had been introduced and liaison between the police and the Castle's security personnel was now much better. She said that if members of the public have any concerns or have information which could lead to convictions, they should contact the police on 0345 1233333

or, alternatively, dial 999.

The Chairman said that her visit had been extremely beneficial and he asked PC Croxall if she would attend the next meeting; shift patterns permitting, she said she would.

### **NON-EXEMPT ITEMS**

#### **1.07.10: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Cllrs Coyle (family holiday), Spenser (business commitment) and CCllr Harrison (competing local council commitment).

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#### **2.07.10: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **3.07.10: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Cllr Russell proposed (seconded by Cllr Mitchell), that the circulated minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2010 be approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the proceedings. All agreed.

#### **4.07.10: ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF "PUBLIC PARTICIPATION"**

##### Open Session

1. Granted.

2.1 Cllr Russell said that if the opportunity arose, she would speak to offenders and the Clerk said that he

would put an item in the notice board asking people not to obstruct the notice board with their vehicles.

2.2 The Clerk undertook to raise the matter with the County Show committee.

3.1 Cllr Coyle has undertaken to seek out specialist advice and will report as soon as possible.

3.2 See Minute 5.07.10 (4). Clerk to find out what has been adopted and what has not.

4.1 Clerk to ascertain the legal position.

4.2 The Council was not aware but was agreed that the commitment agreed at Minute 9.06.10 to purchase

a dog waste bin should still go ahead.

5.1 Clerk to present the findings of Mr Madeley's inspection to the appropriate departments at SDDC & DCC

in furtherance of the council's agreed policy of campaigning for the restoration of the Avenue of Trees

to the original concept.

#### **5.07.10: CLERK'S REPORT**

##### 1. COUNCIL VACANCIES

Two replies so far:- Mr R A Sharpe, 35 Colwell Drive - a retired accountant (FCMA);  
Mr G Chaplin, 122 Sevenlands Drive - business/software consultant.

##### 2. AVENUE OF TREES

Cllr Mitchell's assertion that the matter should be pursued with DCC in to make sure that the planning

condition that the Avenue be of oak is not amended or withdrawn, was agreed.

##### 3. JET SKIS

Mr Waters has contacted Tarmac to report jet skiers on the lake at Bellington Hill.

##### 4. ADOPTION OF MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY

It transpires that street lighting on Meadow Nook is still the responsibility of the developer,

Taylor Wimpeys: it has not transferred to the appropriate local authority. The question arises as to

what else may not have been transferred on Boulton Moor and Elvaston Meadows.

#### **6.07.10: PLANNING**

1. There were no new applications
2. The following applications have been granted planning permission;-
  - 9 2010 0258 FH - erection of extensions at 51 Mill Hill, Boulton Moor;
  - 9 2010 0349 FH - erection of a conservatory at 15 The Pinfold, Thulston;
  - 9 2010 0428 FH - erection of an extension at 8 Oak Road, Thulston.
3. Members agreed that if they had any comments regarding the Derbyshire Local Transport Futures Questionnaire 2011 - 2026, they would submit them to the Clerk for collation and submission.

#### **7.07.10: FINANCE**

1. The following accounts were approved for payment:-

cq 825 - P Casey, Lengthsman's wages 4 weeks to 11 July	£ 97.37
cq 826 - R F Hill, Clerk's salary for July	239.78
cq 827 - Elvaston Cricket Club, Parish Plan event (8 July) expenses	450.00

2. The Precept, 2nd half 2010/11 (£5000) has been received.

#### **8.07.10: WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT**

Cllr Strand announced that the Parish Council website, [www.elvaston-pc.org.uk](http://www.elvaston-pc.org.uk), has been launched and it is vital, he said, that it is updated regularly and not allowed to become stale. There are sections on parish council matters, local news, a local entertainment guide and links to other websites. He hoped that local public services and businesses would consider it worthwhile advertising on the website. meantime, he asked that if members had any suggestions regarding website content, please to let him know. Cllr Lythgoe suggested jamcams and consultations.

#### **9.07.10: BOULTON MOOR/ELVASTON MEADOWS ISSUES**

There were no new issues to consider.

#### **10.07.10; GRAVEL & FLOODING**

1. Mr Waters expressed concern about matters connected with the Tarmac application to extract gravel north of Ambaston Lane: the Avenue of Oaks will suffer from compaction of the ground by heavy vehicles and earth moving equipment, also the arrangements for parking on Ambaston Lane. It is important that the conditions hard won on previous applications through local consultation carry through on the current application and that the Council and members of the public are consulted at every stage. It is therefore worrying that there has to date been no follow-up meeting to that held with CCllr Harrison and officers of DCC's planning department over two months ago. He said that if all else fails, the council could institute a judicial review, though costs at a minimum would be £20000, or appeal to the Health & Safety Executive.

2. Cllr Mitchell reported that Tim Ives had been replaced by Ann Jacob as the Environment Agency's Lower Derwent Project Manager and Sarah Fowler is now the Area Manager. The project to strengthen the parish flood defences should be published in late August/early September and Ann Jacob has promised to visit after its launch. The Environment Agency is adamant that despite the national financial hiatus, the flood defence project will survive.

#### **11.07.10; ELVASTON CASTLE**

The survey report on the castle buildings repair estimate has been completed and has been put out to tender.

#### **12.07.10: COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr Lythgoe,

- a) said that he had attended a meeting with Messrs Roberts & Waters to determine the Council's response on the Minerals Core Strategy document and items had been passed to the Clerk for submission;
- b) reported that estate agents' signs (IMS & Haart) had been snapped off and deposited, one on his car and one at the roadside by his house;

c) that if the council wanted to submit a response to the Boundary Commission's recommendations for South Derbyshire, the deadline is 19 July.

**13.07.10: FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Next parish council meeting - Monday 9 August at 7.30pm.

**14.07.10: ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

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