

# **MINUTES of the ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at the VILLAGE HALL, ELVASTON**

## **Present:**

Cllr T Mansfield (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr R Strand, Cllr M Beadle, Cllr S Spenser.

## **In Attendance:**

DCllr Peter Watson, 5 residents and J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

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

### **01.10.15. Apologies**

Cllr P Bickerton (another engagement), Cllr C Hurt (work commitments) and Cllr Rob Davison (unwell).

### **02.10.15. Variation of Order of Business**

To move agenda item 9 to item 6.

### **03.10.15 Declaration of Members Interests**

None

### **04.10.15 Police Report**

The clerk reported that 3 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 8 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for August. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>.

## **05.10.15 District and County Councillor Reports**

### **District Councillor Peter Watson**

1. DCllr Watson clarified a point on housing numbers made by Cllr Davison in the last meeting (see point 5 below).
2. Persimmon Homes: Paul Eastwood and Luke Simmonds have left the company; DCllr Watson has arranged a liaison meeting with Mr Eastwood's replacement, Tony Clarke, to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm. DCllr Watson made Mr Clarke aware (and served a notice on the company) that further recent Sunday working by scaffolders was unacceptable. This was the second warning and he made it clear that a third breach will constitute being removed from the site. Matt Holford, SDDC's environmental officer, will attend the November meeting.
3. OUR CITY OUR RIVER: DCllr Watson and an Ambaston resident, Kevin Birch, met Vickie Candlish from EA on 25th September to discuss final proposals. Flood banks will be lifted to 500mm at Ambaston, this takes into consideration climate change and the effects of the Derby City improvements. Raising of the bank is to be completed before the latter are finished and will be under the supervision of an EA engineer.
4. The planning briefing session that was to be held this coming Wednesday at SDDC is now cancelled. The sports and recreational briefing will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October. The Melbourne Area Forum and Safer Neighbourhood meeting is on 29<sup>th</sup> October at Melbourne Assembly Rooms. The Gravel Liaison meeting will be held at Shardlow village hall on 21<sup>st</sup> October.
5. Local Plan: Derby City officials will meet with SDDC's planning inspector on 23<sup>rd</sup> October to decide on the feasibility of 12,500 new homes to be built in the area by 2028.

An Ambaston resident believes that the intended flood defence work only addresses the north of the village, not the south. Also, there appear to be 2 low points within the bank that will require more topping. DCllr Watson replied saying he will revisit the drawings to confirm.

### **06.10.15 Digital Derbyshire**

Cllr Strand asked DCllr Watson to hear his concerns in the absence of Cllr Rob Davison. He is dismayed that DCC's Digital Derbyshire project was rolled out 5 years ago; 3 years later, after having been given an assurance that the existing BT green box was adequate to handle the communications it now appears it isn't. The Phase 2 upgrade is imminent yet the rural ward will see no improvement until 2018 -2020, which is totally unacceptable. Cllr Strand will visit County Hall next week to discuss but believes the parish has 3 options: wait 3-5 years for DCC's service, pursue

an independent company's installation programme, or pursue both at the same time. Cllr Strand has produced copies of a questionnaire to deliver to residents in the area (see below). A wireless mast exists in the caravan park that could be used for obtaining a signal. Other options include a receptor atop the church, atop Elvaston castle or at the village hall. A resident thought Bellington Hill to be the highest local point while another resident added that permission for a tv ariel at the church had been refused. All would probably involve a planning application and Cllr Strand asked DCllr Watson for SDDC's help in this regard. DCllr Watson said he would adding that Weston have experienced similar issues which seem to have been overcome. He will also write to DCC regarding delays in implementation of the service.

Cllr Strand reiterated the importance of a speedy resolution and that lack of communications adversely affect not only local businesses but also property prices. He asked members to peruse the questionnaire and respond with their comments to him within 2-3 days (before his trip to Matlock) after which members may deliver to houses in the rural ward which was agreed. Cllr Beadle offered to insert the document on to the website page; the Chairman thanked both members for their input.

#### **07.10.15 Public participation**

Nothing further to add, see above.

**08.10.15 To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015.** These were approved and accepted as a true record after which they were signed by the Chairman (pp Cllr Strand, seconded Cllr Russell).

#### **09.10.15 Boulton Moor Housing**

Nothing further to add, see above.

#### **10.10.15 Parish Plan Steering Group**

Mike Tong was pleased to announce the success of the recent McMillan coffee morning and thanked all contributors; the total raised was £460. The recent Woodland Crafts event was well attended but he is unsure if it will be held next year. Some bad publicity arose, namely the new annual car park passes were invalid thereby preventing entry to those that had them. As a result this naturally reduced attendance figures. Also, the increased price of parking was unwelcome. The Chairman believed that organisers should be made aware of these anomalies for the future. Mr Tong will write a letter of thanks to Gill Forester for her assistance and support.

#### **11.10.15 Elvaston Castle Development Board**

Cllr Strand will attend the next meeting on Thursday having missed the previous one.

#### **12.10.15 Flooding and Gravel**

A further item was raised by the clerk in addition to issues already mentioned above. In light of Peter Waters wishing to relinquish his role as flood warden in Ambaston, Kevin Birch and his wife wish to undertake the role with the Parish Council's permission. They are also keen to develop a flood plan for consideration by the Council. **Resolved: granted.**

#### **13.10.15 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported the reoccurrence of a parked car on Grove Close which now encroaches on recently planted trees. Cllr Russell offered to ask SDDC for notices that may be placed on windscreens to deter such parking.

#### **14.10.15 Matters for Decision or Discussion**

**14.1.** To consider quotes for hedge and foliage trimming works at the village green. **Resolved:** clerk has now received 2 quotes and awaits a third from SDDC's maintenance manager.

**14.2** To consider speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins. **Resolved:** clerk to obtain quotes for these; and members to discuss the purchase of VAS signs in the next meeting.

**14.3** To consider a proposal from a resident for a dog bin to be installed at Grove Close, Thulston. **Resolved:** clerk to ask Gill Forester at the park whether she can install.

**14.4** Budget figures to be perused by the finance committee. **Resolved:** clerk to circulate to members again for their (and especially the finance committee's) comments in the next meeting.

#### **15.10.15 Councillor's Reports**

1. Cllr Strand reported that the hedge at 18 Grove Close still overarches the pavement and footpath despite being cut back after the clerk wrote to the resident. **Resolved:** clerk to write again.

All but the tops of hedges surrounding the bus stops on the B5010 were cut by DCC. **Resolved:** clerk to request. Cllr Strand rues the road humps on Church Drive leading to the village hall and beyond. Council believe this to be a private road and so removal would prove difficult. **Resolved:** to place as an agenda item for the next meeting so as DCllr Watson and CCllr Davison may be asked.

2. Cllr Beadle reported that the 'please drive carefully' road sign outside Beechwood Caravan Park is obscured by trees/ foliage. **Resolved:** clerk to ask the owner if it is his responsibility to trim.

#### **16.10.15 Clerk Report**

1. In the last meeting council requested details in layman's terms regarding the registering of half of the village green at the Land Registry, who require proof of ownership. **Resolved:** Cllr Beadle to ask a work colleague (a solicitor) for advice.

2. Clerk confirmed he had followed up issues raised in the last meeting as he was absent.

3. Clerk recently applied to become clerk to Willington Parish Council and asked members for their consent which was **granted**.

4. Clerk asked SDDC twice whether Beechwood Caravan Park had applied for a late night music licence but received no reply. After asking DCllr Watson earlier it seems the officer the clerk asked has left the district council. DCllr Watson provided another contact for the clerk to pursue.

#### **17.10.15 Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters**

Circular 23/2015 had been emailed to all Cllrs previously.

#### **18.10.15 Finance**

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

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total £</b>
001119	J Irons – Clerk's salary in September	493.60	-	493.60
001119	J Irons – Clerk's home allowance	18.00	-	18.00
001120	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay in September	174.00	-	174.00
001121	HMRC – clerk's tax	53.20	-	53.20
001122	Royal British Legion poppy appeal	150.00	-	150.00
001123	SDDC – dog bin emptying	223.08	44.62	267.70
001124	Vic Venus – village hall lawn cutting	103.00	-	103.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1214.88</b>	<b>44.62</b>	<b>1259.50</b>

(b) **Income**  
None

(c) **Direct Debits**  
None.

**Bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**£29,163.74**

#### **19.10.15 To consider planning applications:**

The clerk circulated copies of the latest Derbyshire County Council October newsletter.

#### **20.09.15 Items for Information only**

None.

**21.10.15 Agenda Items for next meeting**

- Boulton Moor;
- Broadband;
- Parish Plan Group;
- Elvaston Castle Development Board;
- Quotes for speed/slow down stickers on Wheelie bins and to discuss VAS signs;
- Response, if any, from Gill Forester over installation of a dog bin at the park;
- finance committee’s comments on the budget figures;
- Road humps on Church Drive.

**22.10.15** The next Council Meeting is on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7.30pm.

**PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**23.10.15.** The following resolution was moved ‘that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that both press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw’.

**24.10.15.** To consider a complaint from a resident. **Resolved:** the outcome of the SDDC investigation has been completed with no further action intended.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Signed .....  
Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman).