

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

## **Present:**

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman), Cllr R Russell, Cllr T Mansfield, Cllr M Beadle, Cllr C Hurt, Cllr R Strand, 5 members of the public and J Irons (clerk).

## **In Attendance:**

District Cllr Peter Watson and County Cllr R Davison.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

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

### **01.01.15. Apologies**

Cllrs S Lee and S Spenser (both having work commitments).

### **02.01.15. Variation of Order of Business**

None.

### **03.01.15 Declaration of Members Interests**

None

### **04.01.15 County Councillor Report.**

#### **Cllr Rob Davison**

1. Cllr Davison thought the recent meeting with Persimmon Homes to be positive and cathartic.
2. a resident on Boulton Moor reported an all quiet period over the festive season on the Buttercup Leys estate as regards noise and disruption from the developer; clean roads were evident.
3. Hospital problems abound throughout the UK with the NHS struggling to cope in some areas. However, Derbyshire is bucking the trend; Adult Care is efficient and more patients are being referred into care rather than hospital.
4. Cllr Davison would like an update on HS2 if possible, which is further down the agenda and by which time he will have left the meeting.

Cllr Strand asked of progress with the market review in September of DCC's Digital Derbyshire scheme; Cllr Davison's response is one of exasperation with DCC and he is trying to obtain updates.

### **05.01.15 Public participation**

1. A resident reserved a place to speak at item 10.
2. DCllr Watson believed the meeting with Persimmon Homes successful but was furious that noisy pumps began operating again on 7<sup>th</sup> January disturbing neighbours. He wrote to the MD of the company warning that these must be switched off otherwise an enforcement notice would be issued. The SDDC environment officer then visited the site to ensure this had been done; the pump remained off all last weekend. DCllr Watson is unimpressed with the PH management and believes that the chain of information lacks. That said, it is vital that liaison meetings are continued and the next will be held in May.
3. DCllr Watson reminded Council that SDDC has funding available for community projects: clerk to enquire.

4. SDDC's portion of the Council Tax is to be frozen in the forthcoming year; and contributions to parish councils and charities will rise in line with RPI. Unemployment in the area is under 1%, below the national average.

The Chairman thanked DCllr Watson, especially for arranging the meeting with Persimmon Homes

#### **06.01.15 Boulton Moor Housing**

This was discussed above.

#### **07.01.15 Digital Derbyshire**

Cllr Strand suggested that the wireless mast erected at the caravan park, Elvaston may be eligible for SDDC's community funding; the mast is operating but emits a poor signal and a financial investment may improve it. Clerk to enquire and to invite Tony Whaling to the next meeting. As the clerk received no reply from Telefonica after asking for their assistance in improving the phone reception in these villages Cllr Strand suggested the clerk write to Heather Wheeler for her input.

**08.01.15 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014.** These were approved and accepted as a true record (pp Cllr Russell), after which they were signed by the Chairman.

#### **09.01.15 Police Report**

The clerk reported that 5 minor incidents in Boulton Moor and 2 in the Rural Ward had been logged on the police website for November. Details are available at <http://www.police.uk/derbyshire/DS03/crime/>.

Derbyshire Alert reported:

Theft of copper & lead from a property being renovated in Thulston, have you seen any suspicious activity? Sometime between Thursday 18 December 2014 & Thursday 1 January 2015 a burglary took place at a property under renovation on Thulston Fields Farm, Thulston. Entry gained into the property copper piping & cylinders were stolen from inside causing damage also, Lead was stolen from the roof, CR/129/15.

Clerk to invite the local PC to all meetings in future and copy the request in to the Melbourne sergeant.

#### **10.01.15 Flooding and Gravel**

An Ambaston resident reported that the EA had installed lockable gates on the flood bank to deter joyriders and horse riders. One gate was stolen but thankfully replaced by EA within 5 days. DCllr Watson commented he will raise this at the next Flood Liaison meeting despite the fence having been replaced.

#### **11.01.15 Chairman's Report**

Terry Gorman will attend the next meeting to report on the Parish Plan Committee's intended activities in the coming year (WW1 Centenary event etc).

#### **12.01.15 Matters for Decision or Discussion**

**12.1** Council's financial responsibilities over the cleaning of the Village Hall. **Resolved:** to reduce the grant award by one-third in the coming year (2015/16) and by one-third again in the following year (2016/17). Clerk to inform the VHC.

**12.2** To sign Form A, the request for the forthcoming year's Precept. **Resolved:** held over until the 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**12.3** To trim and cut the Ball Lane to London Road footpath at a cost of £200. **Resolved:** agreed (pp Cllr Mansfield, seconded Cllr Strand) and clerk to arrange for the contractor to cut bushes on the footpath leading from the village green.

**12.4** HS2 update – nothing new.

**12.5** Report from the website group meeting. **Resolved:** now to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> January at Nunsfield House.

### 13.01.15 Cycle Scheme Investment

Nothing to report as Cllr Lee was absent.

### 14.01.15 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Strand reported a fallen tree on the footpath between Sturges Lane and the B5010. Clerk to report to Elvaston Castle grounds men.

Cllr Beadle reported fly tipped rubbish on the A6 near the Thulston roundabout, however Cllr Russell has already told the Clean Team to clear.

Cllr Mansfield was pleased a road sign had been straightened but was dismayed that although Ball Lane verge had been cut the debris was strewn over the footpath. He witnessed errant parking at the Elvaston war memorial and asked if DCC or SDDC would provide a parking prohibition sign; Chairman to enquire at the next Area Forum meeting. He wondered if the lengthsman can clean road signs on his litter picking rounds; clerk to ask. Cllr Mansfield met DALC earlier this day who said the clerk should have a separate parish email address in preference to his personal one; clerk to set-up.

Cllr Hurt thought the new metal fence by the brook on Colwell Drive looked impressive.

### 15.01.15 Clerk Report

1. EA installed a new metal fence on Colwell Drive, Boulton Moor. However, a resident complained because it encroaches on his land and he was not consulted first. The Chairman will visit the resident.
2. Highways have reviewed the road safety record at the Grove Close / Brook Road junction and confirmed that in the past 3 years – the standard test period – no personal injury collisions have been recorded. Therefore road markings will not be painted.
3. Clerk again requested of Telefonica that it positions its field of radio transmission from its mast and cabinet at the Thulston roundabout. In light of no reply clerk to write to local MP Heather Wheeler as suggested earlier.
4. Clerk asked SDDC for a litter bin to be installed at the post box on Main Road, Elvaston and reminded them earlier today.
5. Clerk reminded DCC to supply a grit bin at Ambaston, as per the request in October. Clerk to also request that an independent contractor fill 3 grit bins on Boulton Moor (1 Colwell Drive, 2 on Sevenlands Drive).
6. Clerk to ensure the re-enamelling of the existing letters on the war memorial will be finished in black paint.

### 16.01.15

#### Derbyshire Association of Local Councils – newsletters

Circular 27/14 had been emailed to all Cllrs previously.

### 17.01.15

Cllr Hurt left the meeting at 9.15pm.

### 18.01.15 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee	£	VAT	Total
001073	J Irons – Clerk's salary in December*	442.99	-	442.99
001073	J Irons - clerk home allowance £18 pm	18.00	-	18.00
001074	N Mansell - Lengthsman pay December	174.00	-	174.00
001075	HMRC – clerk's tax	110.80	-	110.80
001076	Staples account - ink and envelopes	43.38	10.68	54.06
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>789.17</b>	<b>10.68</b>	<b>799.85</b>

\* Includes 10 hours overtime and a one-off non-consolidated payment of £21.62 agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) as part of the national salary award 2014-2016.

(b) **Income** – Western Power wayleave payment £4.60

(c) **Direct Debits** – Severn Trent Water £122.08

**Bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> December 2014    £22,022.22**

**19.01.15 To consider planning applications:**

9/2014/1167 – ALTERATIONS/EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING GARAGE AT 18 MAIN STREET AMBASTON. **Resolved:** no objection.

**20.01.15 Items for Information only**

Clerk offered items for members' perusal.

**21.01.15 Agenda Items for next meeting**

- Signing of the precept;
- Boulton Moor;
- Broadband;
- Receive an update on the Parish Plan from Terry Gorman;
- Report from the website group meeting (if held);
- Report from the finance meeting (if held).

**22.01.15** The next Council Meeting is on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30pm

The Chairman closed Part 1 of the meeting at 9.00pm.

**PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

**23.01.15** to sanction an increase in the Lengthman's paid hours to 6 per week and to be paid every 4 weeks. **Resolved: agreed.**

**24.01.15** Report from the finance group meeting with DALC earlier this day. **Resolved:** finance group to meet with the clerk on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January with **delegated powers** to agree a salary package with the clerk.

There being no further business the Chairman closed Part 2 of the meeting at 9.50pm

Signed .....

Cllr P Bickerton (Chairman)