

ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on

Wednesday March 16th 2022 at 7.30pm

in

Elsworth C of E School Hall, Broad End, Elsworth CB23 4JD

PRESENT

Chairman	Peter Deer (PD)
Councillors	Victoria McNeil (VM) David Pope (DP) Margaret Stevenson (MSt) James Witherow (JW)
Clerk	Mrs. E Sim (ES)
In attendance	D Cllr Nick Wright D Cllr Mark Howell Paul Harding (PH) Village Tree Warden
Parishioner	1

2022/03-1 Apologies for absence

Alison Brolls (Unwell)
Rob Askham (Family member unwell)

2022/03 -2 Declarations of interest & requests for dispensations

- 2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.
- 2.2 For declarations of interest received, Councillors to inform the Chairman if they wish to speak on the matter at the agenda item prior to discussion. None.
- 2.3 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any). None
- 2.4 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. None

Public Participation/Forum

PH asked if there had been any response to the request placed in the Elsworth Times for volunteer help for various organisations and roles in the village. No responses had been received.

2022/03-3 To sign & approve the Minutes of the Council meeting dated 19th January 2021

It was proposed (DP, seconded JW) and unanimously **approved** that the Chairman sign the Minutes with no amendments.

2022/03-4 Reports and updates

- 4.1 **Cambridgeshire County Councillor**
Cllr Smith reported on help with the supply of equipment that was available for community flood groups and offered to sit on Elsworth's group to assist.
- 4.2. **South Cambridgeshire District Councillors** (Arrived 19:45)
Cllr Wright urged the Parish Council to register its comments with regard to the A428 upgrade as a matter of urgency. He noted that an appeal had been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate by the developer for Martins Farm-
- 4.3. **Clerk's Update**
The clerk reported that
 - A planning application had been received for 8 Spigot Lane.
 - An offer of equipment for litter picking had been received from Mr Stephen Booth. This would be passed on to the Litter Picking Group.
 - Clarification had been requested from planning officers about the planning requirements for installation of heat pumps and electric car charging points in domestic properties in a conservation area. No response had been received. Cllr Smith agreed to contact the relevant officers.

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4.4. **Community Flood Group.** No reports had been received from Philip Sleightholme either on the emergency flood plan or on progress in discussions with Pitt Dene. JW raised the issue of the holding pond at New Inn Farm which causes flooding in the village when it overflows. A visit from County officers to assess the problem that was proposed some considerable time ago has not transpired. Cllr Smith agreed to take this forward.

4.5. **East West Rail**

PD reported that

A report made to SCDC Council meeting on 22 February said that there had been a change in HMG's approach to the Ox Cam Arc and that it no longer wished to drive the project. There was no mention of the Arc in the Levelling Up White Paper, and while it is believed that ministers support the continuation of the project, they feel it should be locally led, if at all. Revenue funding has been made available to continue ongoing operations but there is no long-term commitment to this funding, and no commitment at all to capital funding.

This would seem to have obvious implications for EWR, in particular how it would be funded. As a business case for the railway has not been published by EWR, there was a move afoot to get HMG to order EWR to produce one. A number of South Cambs parishes-(35 as of Friday March 11th plus St Neots Town Council), County and District Councillors (including Nick Wright, Mark Howell and Mandy Smith) and organisations in Cambs and beyond, had agreed to be signatories to a letter which would be sent to Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport. This would press the case for publication of a business case but would not make reference to other matters such as route alignments or station locations. Cambourne Town Council had declined to sign as the council wants a station north of the A428.

***The Chairman noted that Cllr Wright was not intending to stand at the forthcoming elections and proposed a vote of thanks to him for his help and support to Elsworth over the past eighteen years.
Cllrs Wright and Howell left the meeting at 20:00***

4.6. To consider note and further action to be taken concerning

- **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Cllrs **agreed** that the new play area should be named the "Platinum Jubilee Play Area". Thanks were expressed to MS and RA for their work on this project. It was noted that RA was putting together a schedule for the removal of the old equipment and installation of the new.

Councillors **agreed** that a bulk order of wildflower seeds should be obtained for Elsworth Primary school and their distribution to the children arranged by the school. An elm in Fardell's Lane Reserve would be dedicated as a commemorative tree with a guard and a plaque and another Jubilee tree planted in the school grounds. PH would identify a suitable species and advise on costs.

Given these initiatives, it was not proposed to provide individual commemorative gifts.

MS reported that plans for the Jubilee celebrations were ongoing. Marquees and seating had been sourced and a band booked for a party. A picnic BBQ was planned. Councillors **agreed** to underwrite the costs of the celebrations up to £1,000.00 with the proviso that some of the receipts from bar and ticket sales for the party on the Saturday be returned to the parish council. (Prop JW Sec DP).

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DP described how an email address might be set up-where expressions of interest in tickets for the event could be lodged. Noted further that the email address and all data collected should be deleted after the celebrations.

- **Sports pavilion cleaning.** Noted the improvements being introduced by the Sports Club with regard to cleaning, bookings and the facilities in the Pavilion with the aim of making the pavilion more attractive for wider community use and increasing revenue. Councillors agreed a donation of £650 towards the cost of cleaning of the pavilion to supplement the cleaning which the Sports Club is already funding; in the first instance this was to be for one year (prop PD sec VM). The PC would have use of the pavilion free of charge for six meetings per year. Paul Harding and Roger Fensom agreed to publicise the sports club's accounts on the noticeboard after the AGM.
- **Grass cutting of the playing field.** Councillors agreed to consider a contribution to the cost of grass cutting of the sports field, including the outfield and other areas which are generally used for recreation by parishioners, when quotes had been obtained by the Sports Club.

2022/03-5 Finance

5.1. Payment of accounts.

Councillors unanimously **approved the following** payments (Prop DP Sec MSt)

27/01/2022	Stationery	Viking	76.13
01/02/2022	Clerk's remuneration	Parish Council	601.20
11/02/2022	Elsworth Times	Pendrill Publications	75.00
14/02/2022	Elsworth Times	Andrew Pope	30.00
16/02/2022	Computer equipment	HP Inc UK Ltd	11.49
16/02/2022	Data Protection Fee	Information Commissioners Office	35.00
01/03/2022	Clerk's remuneration	Parish Council	601.20
02/03/2022	Web site hosting	Guava Design	30.00
14/03/2022	General Village Maintenance	Neil Kenny	56.00
14/03/2022	Fardell's Lane Maintenance	Neil Kenny	137.50
15/03/2022	Postage and mileage	Parish Council	20.40

5.2. Receipts

Interest Main accounts	31/01/2022	0.12
Interest Section 106 The Causeway	31/01/2022	0.02
Interest Section 106 The Drift	31/01/2022	0.02
Interest Wakelin Donation account	31/01/2022	0.08
Interest Main accounts	02/02/2022	0.18
Interest Main accounts	28/02/2022	0.10
Interest Wakelin Donation account	28/02/2022	0.08
Interest Section 106 The Causeway	28/02/2022	0.02
Interest Section 106 The Drift	28/02/2022	0.02
Interest main accounts	02/03/2022	0.16

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2022/03-6 Planning

6.1. Planning Applications considered.

- 22/00706/HFUL 3 Brook Street Elsworth Cambridgeshire
Proposal: Retrospective installation of electric car charge point. *PC recommendation Support*
- 20/04791/FUL Land to The South Of 29 Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX
Construction of 2 No. detached dwellings, including demolition and re-construction of existing former shop and replacement of demolished barn to form a garage.
- 22/00571/HFUL7 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridgeshire CB23 4HU Mr & Mrs Paul & Serena Wyer. *PC recommendation: Support. Comments There is no mention of how the building works would be undertaken. Given that Church Lane is essentially a single vehicle width road, all builders' vehicles should be kept off road and accommodated on the property; this (and the times of vehicles arriving on site) should be required as conditions of planning permission, if given.*
- 21/05616/FUL 5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridge Mr & Mrs A Taylor. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 1no. replacement dwelling. *PC recommendation: Support*

6.2. Notification of Planning Appeal

- S/4521/19/FL APP/W0530/W/21/3282/388 Martins Farm 53 Boxworth Road.
Parish Council recommendation: Object, reasons previously conveyed to planning Authority

6.3. Applications for Works to Trees in a conservation area/ protected by a TPO

- 22/0161/TTCA 11 Cotterell's Lane T1 Field Maple – reduce crown height by approx. 3mand the spread by 2.5m. T2 and T3 Ornamental Cherry – Fell. *PC recommendation: No comment*

6.4. Applications determined/closed by SCDC

- 21/05189/LBC 3 Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX. *DC decision Granted Permission.*
- 21/05155/FUL 54 Boxworth Road Elsworth CB23 4JQ. *DC Decision Granted Permission*
- 21/05156/LBC 54 Boxworth Road Elsworth CB23 4JQ. *DC decision Granted Permission*
- 21/1637/TTCA 15 Brook Street Elsworth CB23 4HX Works to CA trees. *DC decision Have No Objection To.*
- S/1955/19/CONDD Pittdene Farm Rogues Lane Elsworth CB23 4JA. *DC decision Discharge Condition in Full*
- 21/05616/FUL 5 Church Lane Elsworth Cambridge. *DC decision Granted Permission*
- 20/04719/FUL Land to south of 29 Brook Street. *DC decision Granted permission*

Dates of Parish Council meetings in 2022.

May 18 th	Annual Parish Council Meeting
July 20 th	Parish Council Meeting
September 21 st	Parish Council Meeting
November 16 th	Parish Council Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:10.

Signed _____ (Chairman) Date _____