



ELTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10 April 2017 in Elton Community Centre

Present: Councillors Tony Mills (in the chair), Ruth Ackroyd, Colin Crispin, Martin Dickinson, Margaret Lockhart, Ian Miller, Pauline O'Reilly and Ron Reading

In Attendance: Pauline English (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

17.39 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Ryan Cash, Martin Dickinson and Maureen Wilson

17.40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Crispin, Miller and O'Reilly declared an interest in Minute 17.47(2) as they were Trustees of the Community Centre.

17.41 OPEN FORUM

The Parish Council considered issues raised at the Annual Parish Assembly held prior to the Parish Council meeting. Firstly, thanks were given to Lou Ellis of Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Council's Road Safety Unit who had given an interesting presentation on the work currently being done with the children at Elton Primary School on road safety issues.

The member of the public was concerned that the Police were not enforcing the current laws, although it was recognised that a lot of progress had been made through Jake Connolly, the previous PCSO. This was being continued by the current PCSO, Sue Veers. It was noted that the Byelaws sign had gone missing from Greenbank. The Clerk would find a copy and ensure it was put back. There were six bollards missing from the pathways including two from the path from The Rigger. The Parish Council promised to have these replaced. Concern was expressed about the trees in the village that had been blown over by "Doris" and it was confirmed that Andy Raynor, CWaC Principal Engineer, had this matter in hand. A question was asked about the Street Orderlies' work schedules and whether they could cope with the amount of work. The Parish Council was looking at work schedules and it might be necessary to increase the hours of the current orderlies or recruit a fourth to ensure all areas were covered adequately. Councillor Ackroyd was keen to see the school children and the Scouts involved in any organised litter picks. Another issue raised was about the number of HGVs travelling through the village. It was explained that this was due in part to the information provided on SatNavs and it was noted that Encirc were changing their post code to prevent vehicles visiting their site from taking the wrong route. The final issue related to the precept for 2017-18. It stated on the Council Tax bill that the Parish Council had increased its precept by 12.35%. The Parish Council were concerned about how this figure had been arrived at as the intention had been to increase it by 4.5%. The Clerk would ask CWaC to provide details.

17.42 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2017 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to it being noted that Councillor Ackroyd was the Church representative on the Community Centre Committee.

17.43 FINANCE

(1) Payments

Method		Amount
BACS	Staff costs	993.60
S/O	Igoe – website hosting fee	6.99
BACS	CC Playing Fields Association – Membership	22.00
BACS	ChALC – Training (Councillor Crispin)	35.00
BACS	Scouts – Delivery of Newsletter	100.00
BACS	ChALC – Membership fee	970.90
BACS	HMRC – Income Tax	127.00

BACS	Kestrel Image Makers – Printing of Newsletter and additional pages	290.00
BACS	AJE – Hire of digger and Flail attachment for clearing of field	1,100.00

(2) **Receipts**

Cheshire West and Chester Council – Precept and CTRS	33,804.00
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(3) **Balance** as at 10 April 2017 £73,808.63.

17.44 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

17.45 PLANNING

(1) **Applications** received for consideration and comment

	Proposed Single Storey Extension to front of dwelling at 53 Parkland Drive, Elton, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4PG
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(2) **Decisions** made by the Borough Council since the last meeting

17/00768/FUL	Detached double garage at Avenlie, Marsh Lane, Elton, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4LP – APPROVED
16/05126/FUL	Construction of a drive through kiosk and associated roadworks on land fronting Shell Petrol Filling Station, Hapsford Interchange, Elton, Chester - APPROVED

17.46 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Up to date information on the proposed traffic calming measures around the junction at the end of Parkland Drive / School Lane would be provided by Councillor Ste Smith and Andy Raynor, CWaC Principal Engineer. Councillor Smith had agreed to commit the whole of his Members' budget for 2017-18 to this project and the Parish Council would have to find the additional £15,000.

17.47 UPDATE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

- (1) Police: In March, a bike marking event had been held at the Church Hall. This was a great success with a total of 22 bikes being marked up. A similar event was planned for some time in May. The Panna cage would be coming back to Elton in June and more events were planned for the summer months. Posters had been placed on the Parish Council and the Church Notice Boards advertising the Herbert Protocol, a scheme adopted by many police forces in the UK. It related to dementia sufferers who went missing and the Protocol was a document, kept at the person's home, that could be completed by a family member or carer giving vital and often life-saving information about the missing person to the police.
- (2) Community Centre: The main issue currently was getting access to the funds held in the Community Centre's bank account because the former signatories were not available to enable the account to be handed over.
- (3) Play Area / Parish Field / Jubilee Field: It was confirmed that the Jubilee field was about 1.5 acres and that ¼ would be given for the dog walking area with the remaining ¾ being turned into a planted woodland walk area. Councillor Dickinson currently had a number of whips ready to be planted by the Woodland Trust.
- (4) Encirc / Essar / CF Fertilisers: Meetings were to be arranged at all three of these sites in the near future.
- (5) Protos: The Community Benefit Fund was running well. The AGM was due to be held in June and Councillor Mills would be nominated to continue as Chairman.
- (6) Frodsham Wind Farm: Meetings were now being held quarterly. Two of the units had been faulty and had been replaced. The Wind Farm had been closed down during the recent storm "Doris".
- (7) Thornton Science Park: There had been a mix-up over the dates for the meeting and although this had been sorted out, attendance had been poor. A new date was being sought.
- (8) Allotments: Consideration was being given to cutting back some of the plots to try to increase the number of plots let. A new chairman had been appointed. He was Mr Mike Hulse, a former Parish Councillor. The Parish Council was requested to

continue to meet the cost of cutting the grass pathways, as they had done last year. Quotes would be available at the next meeting. This was agreed.

- (9) Website / Social Media / Newsletter: Councillor Cash had missed a number of emails in the last month due to work commitments and asked that at least one other person be available to monitor emails coming into the Parish Council so that things weren't missed. He also reported that a lot of job adverts had come through from Chester University. These had not been put on the web because there had not been time to check what was acceptable. No changes had been made to the website as Councillor Cash had not had time to look at it. He asked whether this could be allocated to someone else. He had not managed to speak to Tim Igoe about training a Councillor and the Clerk to upload documents to the website. A meeting was needed specifically to look at the email, Facebook and website to discuss how to manage it better in the future.
The Newsletter, together with the additional page, had gone to print.
- (10) Parish Council and Police Surgeries: The main issues raised related to litter and dog excrement. It was noted that another bollard had been hit by a vehicle at the shops. This would be re-set and a new bollard would be put in. Councillors were reminded about the new rules on speeding which would come into force on 24 April.
- (11) Ward Walk: Several issues had been identified including the removal/replacement of a dead tree outside Nos. 8 and 10 Alvanley View, request for the removal of old fencing barriers on Old Hall Lane coming off the A5117, request for the replacement of the 'Give Way' sign at the Junction of Parkland Drive and Old Hall Lane as the existing sign is barely visible, and the removal of posts which no longer had signs on them e.g. B5132 Cryers Lane, Pool Lane.

17.48 ACTIVE CHESHIRE PROJECT

Councillor Mills had met the local team from Active Cheshire. They would draw up a consultation document and come back to the Parish Council.

17.49 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8 May 2017 at 7.30pm

