

Elton Parish Council

COUNCIL SUMMONS

Dear Member

You are HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a Meeting of the Council to be held in **ELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SCHOOL LANE, ELTON** on **MONDAY 14 MARCH 2016** at **7.00pm** for the purpose of transacting the business set out on the agenda below.



Parish Clerk

7 March 2016

Members of the public and the press are welcome to attend for the “Part 1” section of the agenda. Any reports in “Part 2” contain confidential information and only Councillors and the Parish Clerk can be present.

If you have any general enquiries about the meeting please contact Pauline English, Clerk to the Parish Council (Tel: 0151 338 1405; Mob: 07890 140412; email: engy02@ntlworld.com)

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, they should declare any personal interests they have in any matter to be considered at the meeting. The declaration should be made before the matter is considered or as soon as the Councillor becomes aware that a declaration is required. If the interest is a prejudicial one, this must be declared and the Councillor should withdraw from the meeting. It is the Councillor's responsibility to decide whether or not a matter should be declared, although the Clerk will offer advice on the interpretation of the Code if required.

3 OPEN FORUM

Members of the public are invited to raise issues not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda. The time allowed is at the Chairman's discretion. Members of the public may not take part in the meeting itself unless invited to do so by the Chairman, when Standing Orders will be suspended.

4 ELTON LIBRARY CONSULTATION

Cheshire West and Chester Library Services are undertaking a review of library provision in Elton. The consultation started on 8 February and will close on Monday 4 April. Details are available at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/eltonlibraryconsultation. Rachel Foster, Libraries Manager, Cheshire West and Chester Council will attend the meeting to explain what is proposed and to answer any questions

5 MINUTES

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8 February 2016 as a correct record.

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

To update the Council on any matters arising from the Minutes which are not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

7 PLANNING

(1) **Applications:**

16/00626/OUT - 8 or 9 dwellings including demolition of existing house and garage (Outline) on land at The Willows, Ince Lane, Elton, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4QB

(2) **Decisions:** None

(3) **CWaC Planning Consultations:** Under the current system Local Councils are notified by email and a full set of paper plans is sent for every application. This amounts to around 2,800 applications every year. CWaC do not make any decision until after 21 days following the notification and if Local Councils request more time this is granted on a case-by-case basis as long as it doesn't delay the application, which would be unfair on the applicant. The Local Planning Authority is required by law to **notify** Local Councils of applications and to allow 21 days for them to respond. There is no legal responsibility to **consult**. Notification does not always require a paper copy of the application to be sent – often there is very little paperwork and what there is can be easily accessed on the internet.

CWaC are now proposing to do things a little differently. Their new proposed offer is:

- Continue to notify by email and allow 21 days for a response
- Continue to allow more time for a response on a case-by-case basis, subject to sound justification (e.g. an initial appraisal of the development has identified specific material planning considerations requiring further discussion). Additional time will not be granted for simple applications such as conservatories if the only reason for requesting more time is to fit in with the Parish Council's meetings programme. Local Councils will have to make alternative arrangements to ensure that they are able to respond to applications, if they so wish (not every application requires a response).
- A conversation will be held with Local Councils about their requirements with regard to paper plans.

8 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Zebra Crossing in School Lane: Despite assurances from Cheshire West and Chester Council that the crossing would be installed during the half term holiday, work has not yet begun on the pedestrian crossing on School Lane. Electrical connections required from Scottish Power before the other works can begin have not yet been done. CWaC did consider installing the ducting, dropped kerbs and red tactile paving in preparation for the connections, but were advised by Road Safety that it would not be acceptable to install a controlled crossing without the appropriate signal equipment (beacons). At the request of our Ward Councillor, Rob Brooks, Senior Manager for Place Network and Environment Management, has now taken a lead on this project and has met with the contractors responsible for the delivery of the project. Our Ward Councillor has been given a commitment that this project will be launched on Monday 4 April. He has also been assured that School Lane, between Parkland Drive and Ince Lane, will be included in the first series of roads across the borough to be considered within the new 20mph policy.

9 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SURVEY

Transport for many people across the Borough remains a major issue. For many people getting to the doctors or hospital or just going shopping is a difficult task and this issue will continue to grow. With this in mind Cheshire Community Action are carrying out a Cheshire wide survey related to community transport. The link to the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/communitytransport2016>

10 LITTER IN COMMUNITY CENTRE CAR PARK

The Parish Council's attention has been drawn to a problem with litter from the community centre car park being blown into the preschool and reception children's (age 2-4) outdoor play area through the gaps in the fence line. This can be discarded food wrappers such as MacDonald's, cans, cigarette boxes, plastic bottles etc. It needs to be removed primarily because it is a safety issue for the children. During a recent daily check, the School caretaker found a needle in a MacDonald's food bag. This has safety implications for both the caretaker and other users of the car park. The police have been notified and have been asked to increase patrols in the area.

11 ACTIVE CHESHIRE

Active Cheshire have launched a 'Movers & Shakers' fund, to support town/parish councils, community groups, schools and businesses in encouraging people to be more active. Grants of up to £500 will be available to any group/organisation who organise a community gathering of more than 100 people within the boundary of Cheshire and Warrington. Existing events (festivals, fetes etc.) are eligible. In return for the grant applicants are asked to say how they'd intend to 'activate' their event - to encourage people to get active whilst having fun. This could be a fun competition, a walk, an egg and spoon race, a football match, dancing etc. Events must be insured, and organisers must be willing to adopt the 'Movers & Shakers' branding within their communications and allow Active Cheshire a space at the event to promote getting active locally. Funding will be allocated to more than 25 events across Cheshire and Warrington. The panel will meet on 20 March to decide on successful applicants.

12 UPDATE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

- (1) Police
- (2) Community Centre
- (3) Play Area / Parish Field / Jubilee Field
- (4) Encirc / Essar / CF Fertilisers
- (5) Protos
- (6) Frodsham Wind Farm
- (7) Thornton Science Park
- (8) Allotments
- (9) Website / Social Media
- (10) Parish Council and Police Surgeries

13 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Publications:** Clerks and Council Direct – March 2016

14 FINANCE

To receive the report of the Finance Working Group and to approve payments of salaries/wages and invoices for goods and services received, note any receipts and note the balance in the bank at 14 March 2016

15 ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 April 2016 at 7.00pm at Elton Community Centre