

Elton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10 October 2016 at Elton Community Centre

Present: Councillors Tony Mills (in the Chair), Ryan Cash, Martin Dickinson, Margaret Lockhart, Ian Miller and Maureen Wilson.

In Attendance: Pauline English (Parish Clerk). There were no members of the public present

16.112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ruth Ackroyd and Neil Hughes. Councillor Claire Thornton was absent from the meeting.

16.113 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

16.114 OPEN FORUM

No issues raised

16.115 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 September 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

16.116 VACANCIES FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS

An application had been received from Mr Ian Miller. He fulfilled all the necessary criteria and it was resolved that he be co-opted to fill one of the vacant seats on the Parish Council with immediate effect. Councillor Miller signed a declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed onto the Parish Council.

16.117 PLANNING

(1) **Applications Received** for consideration and comment (documents can be accessed on Cheshire West and Chester's website):

16/04231/FUL	Single storey front / side extension at 1 The Cross, Ince Lane, Elton, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4NA
16/04315/FUL	Side and rear extensions at Roughshoot, Station Road, Elton, Chester, Cheshire, CH2 4NJ

(2) **Decisions** since the last meeting of the Parish Council:

16/03092/OUT	Erection of 2 No. Dwellings - Outline on land at South Bank, Ince Lane, Elton, Chester – REFUSED – The proposed development is considered to represent inappropriate development in the Green Belt...contrary to Policy STRAT9 of the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan and Policies HO6 and HO4 of the Chester District Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. Lack of information submitted to illustrate that the development can be built without causing undue harm to the mature road frontage trees which are a significant tree feature and provide significant visual amenity in the Streetscene...therefore contrary to Policy ENV2 of the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan and Policy ENV21 Chester District Local Plan.
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(3) **Decisions Awaited:**

16/01006/FUL	Change of use of the bakery and sandwich shop (A1) to A5 in the evening for a hot food takeaway at 5 Elton Shopping Precinct, Ince Lane, Elton, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4QB
16/03295/FUL	Four one bed apartments within a two storey building on Land adjacent to 24 Whitefields, Elton, Chester, Cheshire
16/03516/FUL	32 standby generators with ancillary structures including a DNO metering station, transformer compound, switchroom, store room and oil storage tanks on land off Ash Road, Elton, Chester
16/03777/FUL	First floor extension to side at 1 Firbank, Elton, Chester, Cheshire, CH2 4LY

16.118 CWaC PLANNING PROTOCOL 2016

The Parish Council considered the proposed protocol between Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) Council's Planning Department and Local Councils. Confirmation was needed about what was to be sent by email and what would come by post. Recent applications received by the Parish Council had contained plans but had not contained paper copies of planning documents such as Environmental Impact Assessments, which were needed to put applications into context. The Parish Council needed to see all relevant documents to enable comments to be made. The requirement to submit comments within 21 days did not make it clear whether this was from the date of receipt of the notification by email, the date paper copies were received by the Local Council or from the date that all of the relevant documents were available on the website. These comments would be forwarded to CWaC.

16.119 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The Parish Council had been advised of a proposal by Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) to create a 20mph zone covering School Lane North, School Lane South, Dairy Bank, The Courtyard, Ryecroft, Farmdale Drive, Glendale Avenue, Glebecroft Avenue, Whitefields and Brackendale. The Parish Council welcomed the introduction of the 20mph zone but were concerned about how it might be policed. The speed restriction would probably slow down the already careful drivers, but was considered unlikely to deter those who already drove at speeds in excess of the limit. There were still problems around the school, particularly with parking and speed continued to be a major issue especially along Ince Lane and Ash Road where speed reduction measures were necessary.

16.120 APPLICATION FOR GRANT

At the last meeting it had been proposed that a grant of £1,000 be made to the Church to enable them to employ a youth worker to run the Youth Club for three hours a week. The proposal was made subject to an annual review. The Parish Council confirmed approval of this grant.

16.121 UPDATE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

- (1) **Police:** Councillor Lockhart reported in the absence of a police representative. Issues related to traffic problems around the school, youths acting irresponsibly on bikes at the Shopping Precinct and thefts from the Service Station at Hapsford.
- (2) **Community Centre:** Councillor Margaret Lockhart submitted a letter of resignation from the Parish Council and left the meeting.
It was resolved that Councillor Maureen Wilson should take over as the Parish Council's representative on the Community Centre Board.
It was reported that, with the £15K grant from Essar, the Community Centre were going ahead with much needed work on fire alarms, outside and emergency lighting and fire doors. Once these had been completed consideration would be given to improving facilities. It was agreed that Ian Cotton (Essar) should be informed that the Parish Council had been made aware of and had approved this work, that appropriate quotes had been received and that work had begun.
- (3) **Play Area:** The aerial runway was running too slowly. Attempts had been made to rectify the problems but it still didn't run correctly. It was agreed to ask Phil Davies if it could be fixed and also whether he thought it had been misused. A quotation was to be requested to rectify this and other problems raised in the recent inspection.
- (4) **Parish Field:** Sarah Dobbins, CWaC Senior Localities Officer, had suggested that a grant might be available for a BMX track. A meeting was to be held on 11 October with a designer from CWaC to discuss options for an adult gym area.

- (5) **Jubilee Field:** Andy Eardley would clear the site for the dog walking area at a cost of £1,690. Options for a dog training area which could raise some income for the Parish Council would be explored.
- (6) **Shops:** Once the planters were installed photographs would be sent to Benmill with a request for a contribution towards the cost.
- (7) **Encirc / Essar / CF Fertilisers:** The proposed liaison meeting with Encirc had been postponed three times and a final date was still awaited. The Parish Council was still waiting for notification of dates for meetings with Essar and CF Fertilisers.
- (8) **Protos:** The surfacing of the Grinsome Road roundabout was due to take place overnight. British Rail had confirmed that the railway bridge was structurally sound. Traffic management during the road works was considered to be very poor. HGVs had been sent through Elton on roads where there were weight restrictions, although it was noted that the routes had been agreed by CWaC. Essar had agreed to send vehicles out in the opposite direction during the closure. Signs should have been placed seven days before the closure but had only been put out five days before.
- (9) **Frodsham Wind Farm:** Currently being tested. A meeting had been called at 24 hours' notice about the Community Benefit Fund. A Board had been selected and a new meeting date was awaited.
- (10) **Thornton Science Park:** A meeting was due.
- (11) **Allotments:** The AGM had been held at the end of September and had been attended by nine people. The grass cutting was to be reviewed at the November meeting. Councillor Cash to get quote.
- (12) **Website / Social Media / Newsletter:** It was noted that the security certificate for the website had expired. Councillor Cash would advise what needed to be done. Councillor Cash had produced a final draft of the Newsletter which was circulated for comment.
- (13) **Parish Council and Police Surgeries:** With the resignation of Councillor Lockhart, it might be necessary to revert to Saturday morning Parish Council surgeries. The Wednesday morning Police surgeries would continue.
- (14) **Elton Ward Partnership Meetings:** Councillor Miller expressed an interest in these meetings and it was agreed that Councillor Miller should attend the next meeting.

16.122 CORRESPONDENCE

None received

16.123 FINANCE

- (1) **Payments:** The following payments were noted/approved:

Method	To whom paid	Amount
BACS	Igoe – Monthly website hosting fee – July	6.99
BACS	Staffing costs – July	914.93
BACS	HMRC – Income Tax July	119.40
BACS	BDO – External Audit Fee	240.00
BACS	Parish Clerk – expenses October	32.33

- (2) **Receipts:** There were no receipts
- (3) **Balance:** The balance in the bank at 11 October 2016 was £52,094.38.

16.124 ISSUES RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION OR FUTURE ACTION

No issues raised

16.125 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 14 November 2016 at 7.00pm at Elton Community Centre