



**ELTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 13 March 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, Ron Reading and Maureen Wilson

In Attendance: Pauline English (Parish Clerk), PC Joe Duckworth (Beat Manager, Cheshire Police) and one member of the public

17.28 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Ryan Cash,

17.29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Dickinson and Miller declared an interest in Minute 17.34(2) as they were Trustees of the Community Centre.

17.30 OPEN FORUM

The Parish Council welcomed PC Joe Duckworth, who introduced himself as the new Beat Manager for the Chester Rural and Frodsham area, which included Elton. PC Duckworth explained his role and went on to talk about issues specific to Elton. There had been a spate of criminal damage to vehicles in Elton and Ince and the community were being asked to provide information. There had also been some instances of bullying and assault but the victims were unwilling to come forward.

17.31 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 February 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

17.32 PLANNING

(1) **Applications** received for consideration and comment: None received

(2) **Decisions** made by Cheshire West and Chester Council since the last meeting

16/03295/FUL	Four one bed apartments within a two storey building on land adjacent to 24 Whitefields, Elton, Chester, Cheshire - APPROVED
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(3) **Appeal:** An appeal had been made against the decision of CWaC to refuse to grant planning permission for one dwelling on land at Orchard Cottage, Ince Orchards. The appeal would be determined on the basis of written representations which were required by 12 April 2017.

17.33 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

It was reported that the tree branches were very low on the pathway between The Rigger and The Spar. This was land owned by Benmill. Councillor Mills would speak to them.

It was agreed to discuss proposals for traffic calming on Parkland Drive based on information provided by Andy Raynor (CWaC Principal Engineer) at the next meeting.

Sharon Marshall (CWaC Localities Officer) had reported the following matters to CWaC following a site visit with PCSO Sue Kears:

- Fallen tree which has taken up a footpath along an alleyway next to No 48 Old Hall Lane, Elton. The tree has fallen down in property no 27 Ince Lane.
- Next to no 10 Alvanley View, Elton - dead tree - could this be replaced with another tree.
- Outside no 2-8 Dairy Bank, Elton there is a layby-could this be looked at as in poor condition.
- The bins at the back of the Community Centre off School Lane are not being picked up regularly-could this be looked into and monitored.
- There has been some fly tipping taking place at the bottom end of School Lane off the A5117. It is garden refuse and waste. It is apparently CWaC land-could a fly tipping sign be placed here to help resolve the issue.

- There is a lot of litter in the alleyways off Ince Lane, Elton opposite the Rigger pub which needs a litter pick in the area. There is also a fence panel which has been left.

17.34 UPDATE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

- (1) Police: See Minute 17.30. Nothing further to report.
- (2) Community Centre: Following the resignation of the Treasurer there were now only two Trustees. This was insufficient to satisfy the Charity Commission who would not assist in any other matters until more Trustees were appointed. The Constitution stated that there should be six Trustees, two co-opted members and nine representatives so ideally another three Trustees were required. Councillors Crispin and O'Reilly and Nigel Goodliffe offered to become Trustees which would bring the number up to five. The accounts needed to be audited and the Clerk would supply the contact details of the Parish Council's internal auditor. Following the recent work an inspection had been carried out and the report was awaited. It was confirmed that the concrete path at the back of the Community Centre would be laid after the work on the Jubilee field had been completed.
- (3) Play Area / Parish Field / Jubilee Field: Work on clearing the Jubilee field would start as soon as possible. Councillor Dickinson reminded that Scottish Power required seven days notice of this work.
Regarding the Play Area, Councillor Dickinson was checking with Sutcliffe Play to see if there was a suitable unit for use by disabled children. It was noted that the bin on the Play Area had not been emptied for some time.
Councillor Lockhart asked to use the Parish Field for a small football tournament in June and this was agreed. It was noted that the booking was being made in a private capacity and that this would not be a Parish Council event.
Both the Parish Field and Ince Lane needed cleaning up and this would be taken up with the Parish Council's Street Orderlies.
- (4) Encirc / Essar / CF Fertilisers: Encirc had agreed to pay for the plants to go in the planters by the shops.
- (5) Protos: It was reported that the final Community Benefit Fund report for 2016/17 was now on the website. A further £30,000 was available for applicants from Elton and Ince in 2017/18.
- (6) Frodsham Wind Farm: Now that the Wind Farm was in operation the Committee would only meet quarterly. It was noted that there had been 14 applications for funding from the Community Benefit Fund totalling around £119,000. The results would be announced in the next few weeks. There would be a second round of applications in May.
- (7) Thornton Science Park: Nothing to report.
- (8) Allotments: Nothing to report
- (9) Website / Social Media / Newsletter: Tim Igoe had agreed to train the Clerk and two Councillors to upload information onto the website at a cost of £60. It was agreed that these should be Councillors Crispin and Wilson. The Newsletter had still not been published due to a change in Councillor Cash's work commitments.
- (10) Parish Council and Police Surgeries: No issues
- (11) Elton Ward Partnership meeting: There had been a meeting on 14 February when the agenda had included a presentation by Sarah Dobbins on Community Cohesion. Councillor Smith gave an update on local issues and the three Parish Councils reported on activities and projects from their areas. An update was given on Corporate Social Responsibility projects and on consultations

17.35 CORRESPONDENCE

Elton's Christmas lights had been purchased by the former Ward Councillor Graham Heatley and CWaC now wanted to pass them on to the Parish Council. The Parish Council had paid part of the cost of having the lights this year and it was agreed that

they had not been particularly popular. It was suggested that more could be done around the shop area. Councillors Ackroyd and O'Reilly offered to provide some alternative proposals. It was agreed that CWaC's offer to pass the lights to the Parish Council should be declined.

17.36 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Chairman's Annual Parish Meeting was due to take place on 11 April before the next Parish Council meeting. In order to provide a focus for the meeting it was suggested that a Road Safety theme should be adopted and the Clerk would invite CWaC's Road Safety Unit to attend.

17.37 FINANCE

(1) Receipts and Payments:

Method		Amount
BACS	Morris & Co – Payroll Admin	98.44
BACS	Staff costs	1,034.53
S/O	Igoe – website hosting fee	6.99
Chq 85	M Wilson-Labour for planting and travel expenses	198.00
Chq 86	M Wilson-plants and compost	187.95
Chq 87	A J Law – trim hedges around Allotments	144.00
BACS	Came & Company – Insurance	879.11

No income had been received

(2) **Balance** as at 13 March 2017 £42,630.21. Some of this would be ring-fenced for projects on the Parish Field and the Dog Exercise area on the Jubilee Field.

17.38 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11 April 2017 at 7.30pm or following the Annual Parish Meeting at Elton Community Centre