



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 September 2021 at 7.00pm in Elton Community Centre.

PRESENT: Cllrs Steve Serna (Chair), Andy Canham (Vice Chair), Christine Leith, Pauline O'Reilly, Margaret Lockhart, Lynne Williams, Stephen Garrity, Maureen Wilson, Martin Dickinson.

Also present : Ward Cllr Graham Heatley, Ian Cotton (Essar), 2 representatives from the Hynet North West Project.

21.157 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

21.158 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

21.159 VISITING MEMBERS' SPEAKING TIME

(1) A presentation giving an overview of the Hynet North West Project was given by the Project Manager. This is a multiple partnership with CF Fertilisers, Essar and other local industries. They are happy to come back and give a broader overview if Councillors wanted.

During construction it was expected that it would employ 600 people. Thereafter there will be 20 personnel operating the facility.

There was a question and answer session following the presentation. Questions raised by one resident was the amount of water it will take from the River Dee. Ian Cotton said he was not sure at present but he will investigate and respond as soon as possible.

Cllr O'Reilly raised concern about the noise of construction – the answer was that there will be noise during construction as there will be piling for some months. Cllr O'Reilly asked about barriers being erected to mitigate some of the noise. The response was that they will comply with Cheshire West & Chester's Planning.

Cllr Canham enquired how many additional HGV's a day would be on the local roads during construction and was advised that Planning at Cheshire West & Chester would assess this.

It was advised that an Environmental Statement will be done and advice

followed. It was hoped the submission of this would be by end of September 2021 and planning permission achieved by 2022.

Safety of the hydrogen plant was questioned and reassurance given of integration into Essar, although a 3rd party (Hynet) is responsible.

The Chair stated that as a community people in the village were concerned about jobs, transport, safety and pollution.

Cllr Williams asked if Oil Sites Road could be used to bypass the A5117 and it was agreed this could be looked into.

- (2) Ward Cllr Heatley talked about Ince & Elton Railway Station. A volunteer group will be set up to tidy up the station and planters and put up murals. Volunteers may attend the next Parish Council meeting on 11 October 2021.

21.160 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

None.

21.161 MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on the following dates as a true record:-

- (1) 12 April 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.
- (2) 24 May 2021 - 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.
- (3) 14 June 2021 - 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.
- (4) 30 June 2021 - 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.
- (5) 26 July 2021 - 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.
- (6) 27 August 2021 - 2021 – Proposed as a true record by Cllr Serna and Seconded by Cllrs Wilson – Approved unanimously.

21.162 PLANNING

- (1) To note applications received by CWAC since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

21/03470/FUL	Ince Resource Recovery Park Marsh Lane Ince – Erection of three CCTV units and associated equipment – Comments by 23 September 2021 - Noted
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21/03392/HAZ	South Site Stanlow Refinery Oil Sites Road Ellesmere Port CH65 4EN - Introduction of new substances and increase to the quantities of Hydrogen, Proposal: more substances within the flammable gases and environmental hazard categories – Comments by 23 September 2021 – Extensive discussion and concerns but noted no specific objections to be made by Parish Councillors
21/03292/FUL	Area 12 Ince Resource Recovery Park Marsh Lane Ince Installation of boundary fence, lighting column and hard surfacing associated with the 'Protos' primary substation - Comments by 21 September 2021 - noted
21/03086/FUL	Encirc Glass Ltd Ash Road Elton Chester CH2 4LF - Demolition of existing effluent treatment building and erection of a new effluent treatment plant and associated - Comments by 7 September 2021 - noted
#21/03097/FUL	32 School Lane Elton Chester Cheshire CH2 4LN – Single storey rear extension - Comments by 4 September 2021 - noted

- (2) To note decisions made by CWAC since the last meeting of the Parish Council

None	
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- (3) To note appeals made to CWAC since the last meeting of the Parish Council

None	
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- (4) To note appeals made to the Planning Inspectorate since the last meeting of the Parish Council

None	
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- (5) To note decisions made to the Planning Inspectorate since the last meeting of the Parish Council

None	
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- (6) To note matters before the Planning Committee at CWAC since the last meeting of the Parish Council

None	
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21.163 CHAIR REPORT

The Chair welcomed everyone back after the Summer break and congratulated the achievements of the 3 local Para-Olympians.

21.164 POLICE REPORT

The Police Report for Ince, Elton and surrounding areas for the period 21.08.21 to 19.09.21 was given by Cllr Lockhart in the absence of the PCSO.

Date	Offence	Details
21.08.21	ASB	Report of cars speeding and drifting near roundabout at fertiliser plant.
23.08.21	Breach of the peace	Services – 8 children running in and out of shops stealing and adults being aggressive with staff for not being allowed to use showers.
23.08.21	Theft	Marsh Lane – Parcel taken from doorstep.
28.08.21	Harassment	Continued disturbing behaviour by neighbour.
02.09.21	Hate	Ince Lane – suspect shouting abuse at aggrieved after being confronted about suspect's dog pooing on aggrieved person's lawn.
02.09.21	Suspicious vehicle	Coppice Green – Caller asking for motorhome to be checked as it could be stolen.
02.09.21	Criminal Damage	Services – HGV has had it's window smashed.
04.09.21	Violence	Caller reporting that daughter has nearly been abducted. Misunderstanding with foreign drivers with poor English.
04.09.21	ASB	Parkland Drive – Group of youths throwing bricks at houses and cars.
06.09.21	Criminal Damage	Old Hall Lane – Youths have just ran past and smashed caller's car window.
06.09.21	Criminal Damage	Old Hall Lane – 7/8 youths have just ran past and smashed caller's car window.
06.09.21	ASB	Old Hall Lane – 7/8 youths approx 13 years old throwing things at parked cars.
06.09.21	Criminal Damage	Brackendale – Window at the back of the house has been smashed.
07.09.21	Theft	Services – Driver has driven off without paying for fuel
07.09.21	Violence	Elton Primary School – Reports of a big fight on the playground at the end of the school day.
08.09.21	ASB	Ince Lane – 8 male youths sat on top of the substation opposite the shops.
08.09.21	ASB	Services – Massive group of youth racing around in their cars.
09.09.21	Making off without payment	No attempt made to pay for fuel.
10.09.21	Road Related Offence	2 males stopped on off road bike riding on the road.
12.09.21	Suspicious Person	2 males knocking on doors without ID
16.09.21	Harassment	Caller received a harassing letter from neighbour.
17.09.21	Criminal Damage	Damage caused to conifer tree by neighbour.
17.09.21	ASB	Station Close – Neighbour smashing glass bottles on the floor outside caller's address.
18.09.21	Suspicious Person	Dove Close – Drunk man shouting through caller's letterbox.
18.09.21	Hate	Services – Group of youth being abusive and making racist comments towards HGV Drivers.
18.09.21	ASB	Ash Road – 6 youths approx. 13 years old throwing stones at vehicles.
18.09.21	Criminal Damage	School Lane – Group of youths, one has thrown a rock at caller's vehicle.
18.09.21	Criminal Damage	A5117 – Group of kids have thrown rocks at caller's vehicle.

18.09.21	ASB	Coppice Green – Caller's neighbour shouting in the street about parking.
18.09.21	ASB	Elton Shopping Precinct – Male shouting about the litter in the area and saying that if it happens again he will put it on Facebook.
19.09.21	Criminal Damage	School Lane – Damage caused to windscreen and side window of van.

21.165 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

To receive updates since the last Parish Council meeting from each of the working groups:

(1) ECO WORKING GROUP

Nothing to report.

(2) FINANCE

Nothing to report.

(3) CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Nothing to report.

(4) DOG PARK

Cllr Lockhart gave an update on the emergency repairs. She stated she is not satisfied with the repairs as the fence has not been pinned onto the scaffolding boards and this needs to be done to make the dog park safe.

The Chair advised that a separate meeting would be held on 4 October to discuss.

(5) PARISH FIELD

Nothing to report.

(6) JUBILEE FIELD COMMITTEE

Cllr Lockhart stated there needs to be signs to say dogs must be kept on the leash.

Concerns were raised regarding the installation of the kissing gate, there are sections of wire sticking out and this needs to be rectified for health & safety reasons.

The Chair advised that a separate meeting would be held on 4 October to discuss.

(7) LEGAL & POLICIES

Nothing to report.

(8) PUBLIC TRANSPORT

It was suggested that it be looked into hiring a mini bus.

(9) COMMUNITY EVENTS

Upcoming community events include the Scout's bonfire. To be put on the next Agenda to resolve whether to give permission for this event to be held on the Parish Field.

Remembrance Day – the Chair requested the Clerk to order 3 wreaths.

(10) FUNDRAISING

The Chair suggested inviting the 3 local Para Olympians to become involved.

(11) ELTON & HELSBY GP SURGERY

Cllr Wilson raised concerns about the GP surgery re-opening. Cllr Wilson advised she will speak to the Practice Manager to find out what is happening.

(12) ALLOTMENTS

Both Elton Gardener's Association and Cllr Garrity said they were not supportive of the CWAC tree project due to the 15 year timescale and the commitment involved. Elton Gardener's Association are applying to the Marshes Community Benefit Fund for a grant to purchase 25 trees and 3 benches.

(13) ELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr O'Reilly advised the Community Centre is doing really well and going from strength to strength. They do need more volunteers, particularly people with skills.

21.166. FINANCE

(1) To note/approve payments made in July 2021 – Proposed by Cllr Garrity and seconded by Cllr Serna – Approved unanimously.

Date	For	Amount
15.07.21	Staff Salaries	£1392.94
15.07.21	HMRC	£231.56
15.07.21	Clerk's Expenses	£68.40
19.07.21	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance fo 01.06.21 to 30.06.21 and 01.07.21 to n31.07.21	£1453.18

19.07.21	A J Eardley Landscaping and Groundworks Ltd	£888.00
19.07.21	Pursglove & Brown (Internal Audit)	£420.00
19.07.21	ChALC Affiliation	£998.64
19.07.21	Peninsula Business (Notice period to be looked at by Chair)	£131.56
	Total	£5584.28

- (2) To note/approve in August 2021 – Proposed to approve payments by Cllr Canham and seconded by Cllr Serna – Approved Unanimously.

Date	For	Amount
13.08.21	HMRC	£231.56
13.08.21	Staff Salaries	£1395.94
23.08.21	Peninsula Business (Notice period to be looked at by Chair)	£131.56
24.08.21	Clerk's Expenses Consumables (Filing cabinet £59, suspension files and tabs £27.10, flash drive £14.99 and labels £1.60)	£34.00 £103.00
	Total	£1895.06

- (3) To note income for July 2021- **Noted**

Date	For	Amount
	Total	£0

- (4) To note income for August 2021 - **Noted**

Date	For	Amount
	Total	£0

- (5) To note the amount in the Bank on 31 July 2021 is £30,742.31 - **Noted**

- (6) To note the amount in the Bank on 31 August 2021 is £28,846.57 - **Noted**

21.167 CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) A request has been received from Elton Gardener's Association We have applied to The Marshes benefit fund asking for a grant – Elton Gardner's Association have said they would put in £500 - so have put in a request for £4,500, which is pending. This is for ground work, planting of 25 trees and 3 benches. They are requesting a contribution from the Parish Council of either the full £500 or half £250. To resolve to contribute to the project and agree an amount. It was proposed by Cllr Leith to grant £500 and this was seconded by Cllr Lockhart – 8 in favour and 1 abstention.
- (2) A letter has been received from Justin Madders MP relating to the creation of a new access point to the Community Centre. This matter was discussed but the Parish Council have no authority to grant right of access over private property. It was agreed to advise Justine Madders MP of this and the Clerk will contact him accordingly.

9.00pm - The Chair asked Councillors if they were happy to extend the meeting for 30 minutes, Cllr Garrity seconded this and it was agreed unanimously to continue the meeting.

Cllr Dickinson left the meeting.

(3) An email from a resident who has raised concerns over the Old Hall Lane/Parklands Drive junction following a recent collision. The Clerk advised that she had informed the resident that this was a matter that needed to be raised with Cheshire West & Chester Highways Authority.

21.168 ELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE CONSTITUTION

Update from the Chair – Elton Community Centre Trustees have a meeting with the Parish Council’s solicitor on Wednesday at 4pm to finalise.

21.169 ELTON COMMUNITY CENTRE NEW LEASE

Update from the Chair – Elton Community Centre Trustees have a meeting with the Parish Council’s solicitor on Wednesday at 4pm to finalise.

21.170 ADOPTION OF CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER CHILDREN’S PLAY AREAS

The Parish council will now only be adopting the Sorbus Close play area as the Redwood Drive play area is to be de-commissioned by Cheshire West & Chester Council. The Chair has attempted to progress the adoption of the Sorbus Close play area but due to the Covid 19 crisis there has been very little he can do as relevant personnel have been temporarily reassigned to other departments within the Local Council. The Chair asked Ward Cllr Graham Heatley if he could speak to Cheshire West & Chester Council Localities Officer to move things along with the adoption, to which he agreed.

21.171 POGOS WOOD/MARSH LANE GREENWAY

The Chair advised that despite the Parish Council’s extensive attempts to adopt this plot of land to make improvements for residents, they were stuck in a stale-mate. However, the Parish Council would endeavour to support any volunteers who wished to improve the area.

21.172 ELTON NEWSLETTER / COLLABORATION WITH THE CHURCH’S PUBLICATION

Nigel Goodliffe said he would arrange a meeting with the new Vicar and Cllrs Garrity and Leith to discuss a collaboration.

21.173 CHRISTMAS EVENT PLANS

Discussion of the Parish Council’s plans for Christmas Event 2021. Following on from the previous year’s growing Christmas Event.

(1) To resolve to purchase 500 selection boxes (the Clerk will endeavour to purchase these on a special half price offer as in the previous year @ £1.00

each) – proposed by Cllr Serna and seconded by Cllr Canham – 1 abstention, 7 in favour – Motion approved.

- (2) Christmas tree purchase and installation – proposed by Cllr Canham and seconded by Cllr Williams to ask A J Eardley to quote for supply/installation/removal of the village Christmas tree. 2 abstained and 6 in favour – Motion approved.
- (3) Installation of Christmas tree lights – to discuss and resolve if we will ask A J Eardley. Proposed by Cllr Serna and seconded by Cllr Leith – 2 abstained and 6 in favour – Motion approved.
- (4) To discuss and resolve if we will ask Northwich Town Council to install the street lamp motifs – proposed by Cllr Canham and seconded by Cllr Serna – approved unanimously.
- (5) Purchase of additional street lamp motifs and relating commando sockets – to discuss and resolve to buy more for this Christmas. Discussion ensued relating to the 3 local resident Para-Olympians. It was generally felt that their achievements could be marked with 3 torch-like street lamp motifs with ancillary commando socket. It was proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Garrity to make enquiries via Northwich Town Council and seek a quote for the purchase and installation of these items. Cllr O'Reilly stated she would liaise with local industries to achieve funding for the purchase of these additional lighting installations. The Clerk will endeavour to get a quotation relating to this and Cllr Serna agreed to liaise with CWAC regarding permission to mount these new installations on the CWAC lighting columns.
- (6) Event launch – it was discussed by Councillors and proposed by Cllr O'Reilly and seconded by Cllr Garrity to hold the light switch-on event at the shops - unless Government restrictions regarding social distancing in relation to Covid-19 advised against such an event. This was approved unanimously. Cllr O'Reilly stated she would attempt to make contact with any of the local Para-Olympians regarding them attending and switching on the Elton Christmas lights.

21.174 NONE ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS / INACTIVITY OF SOME PARISH COUNCILLORS

- (1) To discuss the none attendance of Parish Councillors at Parish Council meetings – It was agreed that Parish Councillors have a duty to represent residents and in light of any Councillor being unable to fulfil their duties for a period of time then the other Councillors should work to support one another. In the event that duties are unfulfilled over an extensive period of time then it was agreed that the Chair should have a discussion with any Councillor who is absent for any substantive period of time as the Parish Council have an electorate to consider.
- (2) To discuss the inactivity of Parish Councillors and them not playing an active role with projects or issues within the village – it was discussed and generally agreed that all Parish Councillors should resolve to be better Councillors for their village – Resolved unanimously.

21.175 CHILDRENS PLAY AREA

To discuss and resolve to pay for Cllr Garrity to undertake training which would enable him to carry out play area inspections. There are 2 options available relating to the training. A 1 day course (£285) which is aimed at those who are responsible for routine (daily/weekly) inspections and a 2 day course (£510) is aimed at those who are responsible for the operational (the one to three monthly) inspections and those in a supervisory or maintenance role. A RoSPA Certificate of Training will be given to all participants who complete the course.

It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Canham to enrol Cllr Garrity onto the next available 1 day course – motion approved unanimously. Cllr Garrity advised he would check the children’s play area and report back on a monthly basis on the status of the play area. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Garrity regarding training dates.

21.175 ACTIVE ELTON

This matter was deferred from the July meeting. It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Canham to officially reinstate the Active Elton Project and push it forward – approved unanimously.

The Chair stated he will contact the Project Manager.

It was agreed that further discussions should be had relating to which Councillors want to have a direct involvement with the project.

21.176 WILDFLOWER SEEDS

To resolve if the wildflower seeds the Parish Council had could be donated to Elton Gardener’s Association for the Allotments – This matter is deferred to the next meeting.

21.177 ELTON GARDENER’S ASSOCIATION

This matter was deferred from the July meeting. To discuss and resolve if permission can be granted to Elton Gardener’s Association to allow them to keep chickens on the Allotments and for small fruit orchard. These matters were not proposed.

21.178 MATTERS ARISING FOR THE NEXT MEETING

To note matters arising for the next meeting.

AGENDA Part 2 – Matters to be considered in the absence of the Press and Public

21.179 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Monday 11 October 2021 at 7.00pm at Elton Community Centre.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.32pm.