

ELSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held in Elston Village Hall
Tuesday July 18, 2019, at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllrs. Bertie Pinchera (Chairman), Peter Clark, Mathew Dyer(A),
Michael Key, Jim Archer, Liz Murray, Andy Biddlecombe

Also, present Clerk: Mike Elliott, and Newark and Sherwood Councillor - Ivor Walker.

- 1] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Coun. Dyer (work).
- 2] MINUTES OF TH MEETING HELD ON JUNE 18, 2019 were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.
- 3] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none
- 4] PUBLIC QUESTION TIME No public were present.
- 5] REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER
Cllr Walker advised members on the new stance being taken by the District Council in regard to climate change and said it was hoped all parish councils would support any moves they made on this serious and important matter.
He also commented on a local matter involving problems caused by dogs being allowed on the sports field. He said they were constantly being exercised there and allowed to roam free all over the field, thus fouling all parts of it. He would like to see a total ban being imposed.
- 6] CHEQUERS PUBIC HOUSE
The chairman said there had yet been no decision by the District Council in regard to the application for a change of use of the premises to a private house and until that was made there was no action the council could take.
- 7] CORRESPONDENCE
A letter received from a resident that had arrived too late to be taken into consideration at the previous meeting on the subject of the church war memorial was read and had been in favour of not making any alterations the existing memorial.
Newark and Sherwood District Council reminded the council that all members needed to complete the new declarations of interest forms and if they did not they were in breach of the regulations.
Contact had been made by the clerk with Quickline, the firm now controlling the account for the internet service available from the equipment on the church tower, and it was agreed that the three outstanding invoices in the figure of £11. 99p each be paid.
- 8] PLANNING

Applications

19/01112/FUL. Proposed Erection of One New Dwelling, Part Conversion and Part Demolition and Re-Build of Outbuildings to Form a Dwelling and Alterations to Existing Outbuildings to Farmhouse 🗨 Manor Farm Low Street NG23 5PA

Members discussed the details and decided to hold a site meeting before coming to a decision.

Decisions from Newark and Sherwood District Council

19/00935/ful. Mr Mrs Carey, 5 Tudor Oaks. Erect single storey lean to rear extension.
Permit.

9] COMMUNITY TRANSPORT – PROPOSAL

The meeting was reminded of the offer by the Elston Community Transport group for the council to take over the running of the village community bus. The council had agreed it needed to have more information before it could make a decision. The chairman stated information on costs etc. would be needed before any decisions could be taken. It also agreed to seek comments from parishioners to ascertain views on the overall matter. An article was inserted in Octave by Coun. Clark

10] VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS

The meeting agreed that the Council re-appoint Stuart Blair, Ann Sankey, John Slater and Chrissy Ward as their village hall Trustees. Coun. Clark commented there had been concern that some of the number needed to be councilors but they have looked at the charity commission governing document, and this is not the case.

11] VILLAGE HALL AND CHURCH LANE REGISTRATION- UPDATE

The chairman reported he had met with Clive Rossin of Newark solicitors Larken and Co in regard to the ownership of Church Lane. The chairman said that the ownership was not clear, pointing out the village school, the village hall, the shop and the church could all be said to have a direct interest in it. He said to him it seemed the village hall was the most obvious and suitable organisation to claim ownership. Statements of Truth were still required from the Church and Village Hall

12] CHURCH WAR MEMORIAL

There was nothing raised.

13] UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND CLERK / CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman made the following comments:

- ❖ Concerned AGM rushed and important matters relating to Governance not adequately discussed-Standing Orders, Financial Regs, Risk register and others; Public Question time Guidelines. Policy on Grant aid all need to be reviewed. Have raised with the Clerk as our policies need to be reviewed and updated
- ❖ Requested information from MP on grant aiding the Church. Local Gov. Act 1894 and 1972 are contradictory.
- ❖ May need to have special meeting on Chequers – await planning decision
- ❖ Pressure on Clerk and his Office His Memo re costs. Propose small Committee to review and discuss with our Clerk
- ❖ VE Day Plans – Invite a parishioner group to plan
- ❖ Councillor training to be encouraged
- ❖ Called to Big Scutchell Hedge Down and blocking footpath, noticed paths in village overgrown some complaints received; 28th July Road Closure no reason given on sign
- ❖ Gateway signs awaiting details form Notts CC
- ❖ PC 125th anniversary 1894 requested copy of minutes from Archive

14] ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS –PROPOSAL COUN. BERTIE PINCHERA

The chairman had previously tabled a proposal on Roles and Responsibilities of Elston Parish Councillors in which he said he felt was advantageous to allocate specific areas of responsibilities to members finding this builds knowledge and expertise that helps facilitate speedy and informed decision making by the Council. Members agreed that the chairman and the clerk work to progress the matter.

Couns. Murray and Archer were appointed to discuss with the clerk his role and to ascertain if they felt his current arrangement of six hours a week was in line with his duties. Couns. Clark and Dyer were delegated to progress the matters involving the Chequers public house in order they could present a report to members to verify any action they were suggesting.

15] VILLAGE WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The village website work was now progressing and would soon be fully operating.

16] SPORTS FIELD

The clerk reported he had received acknowledgements from Notts County Council in regard to the lease for the village playing field but nothing more. There is currently a 25 years lease on the land, taken out in 2010.

17] VILLAGE HALL

No matters were raised.

18] ENVIRONMENT

Coun. Archer said the matter of the traffic mirror suggested by a resident for the end of Pinfold Lane had now been dropped by the person concerned. The clerk was asked to follow up the matter of the overgrown tree and hedge on Tudor Oaks.

19] FINANCE:

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS was accepted as the circulated list and agreed.

The meeting gave confirmation of placing an order and making payment for necessary works to the play equipment on the village hall field.

20] ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10 – VE Day, Community Travel, Website, Gateway signs,

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.