



# ELSTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Est: 1894



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
THURSDAY 21 MAY 2020 commencing 7.00 pm  
HELD BY ZOOM VIDEO LINK**

**Present: Cllrs Bertie Pinchera, Liz Murray, Andy Biddlecombe, Peter Clark, Michael Key**

**In Attendance: Cathryn Crane, Clerk, and Lynda Ogilvie, former Locum Clerk**

**District Councillor Ivor Walker, and 3 members of the public**

**Chairman welcomed Cathryn Crane, Clerk, to her first meeting, and wished her well in her new role.**

**1. Election of Chairman**

Cllr Murray nominated Cllr Pinchera to be appointed Chair, seconded by Cllr Biddlecombe. Nomination was approved, four votes in favour and one abstention (Cllr Pinchera)

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Wright (work) and Cllr Dyer (work)

**3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 April 2020**

These were approved as a correct record, proposed Cllr Clark, seconded Cllr Biddlecombe, all in favour.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**5. Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Biddlecombe proposed Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Key, and all in favour.

**6. Appointment of Parish Council Representatives on Elston Village Hall Management Committee (currently Peter Clark, Ann Sankey Stuart Blair and Chrissy McFadyen)**

It was confirmed that all the above were willing to continue in their positions, therefore Cllr Pinchera proposed they all be re-appointed, seconded Cllr Biddlecombe and all in favour.

## **7. District and County Councillor Report**

Cllr Saddington (NCC) was not present.

Cllr Walker (NSDC) reported that the district council is doing what it can in these difficult times. Both the planning and the licencing committees continue to meet, as this is required by law. So far the Council has helped over 3000 businesses in the area with financial support. The HART (Humanitarian Resistance Response Team) scheme has assisted more than 500 vulnerable people.

The Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Council and its Committees will be meeting in early June to look at how they might start to lift lockdown, bearing in mind Government advice at the time.

## **8. Public Question Time**

A resident reported on the state of Pinfold Lane which is in need of repair. Chairman responded that this matter is in hand, but is linked to work which is to be undertaken to improve drainage and clear culverts in the area. Cllr Walker mentioned that he had spoken to some workmen at the site some 4-6 weeks ago and they were intending to arrange for cameras to be used to look at the culvert

Cllr Saddington has put this forward to VIA for attention, but due to the Covid-19 lockdown situation, this is being delayed. The Parish Council will follow up and try to get the work done as soon as possible.

## **9. Correspondence**

Chairman has been asked by staff at the village shop if consideration can be given to using the telephone box as a repository for recycled books, as these are becoming onerous at the village shop and taking up too much space.

Council agreed to this in principle, but will require details about costs for shelving, and possibly clearing access of vegetation.

## **10. Finance – Authorisation of Payment of Accounts**

### **a) Payment Sheet 2**

Approved, and will be signed by Chairman and Cllr Murray as appropriate. Chairman reported that he and Cllr Murray, under delegated authority, has approved the expenditure of £60 on prizes for the scarecrow competition, which had recently taken place. The prizes were 1<sup>st</sup> prize £30, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £20 and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize £10. All prizes were in the form of vouchers which can be spent at the village shop.

It was noted that the cost of submitting the Petition for a Faculty has now been confirmed to be £260, and not the higher sum reported at last month's meeting. It was also agreed that Council would be content to leave the decision on the Petition to the decision of the Chancellor, rather have it referred to the Consistory Court.

*The meeting adjourned at 8.00 pm for a minute so that members could join in the 'clap for NHS workers' initiative*

### **b) Approval of Annual Accounts to 31 March 2020**

Council unanimously approved the accounts, and the Annual Return which will be signed by Chairman.

c) **Approval of Insurance Premium**

Members noted that there was a significant increase in the premium for the coming year, and it had not been possible to ascertain whether this was the result of the claim made last year or some other reason.

Council agreed to opt for the three year plan which would restrict payment to a set sum (£674.38+£50 broker fee) each year.

**11. Sports Field – Consideration of Development Proposals**

Proposals for the sports field had been circulated. The main discussion was around the need to have something to consider at the meeting planned for 11 June 2020, and thus there is a need to engage an architect to draw up some plans and visual images of what the sports facilities might look like. BE Design based in Fernwood had agreed to undertake this work, and stated that they could make the 11 June deadline, but would charge £2100+VAT for this initial work. In different circumstances they would have undertaken this work pro bono but in the current climate they could not do this.

There will be several issues to discuss and agree, including an extension of the lease on the field from Notts CC, planning permission, and external funding. However, the project needs a starting point. Cllr Murray proposed that BE Design be engaged to provide concept drawings illustrating how a clubhouse can be constructed on the sports field, what it could look like and the services it would provide, with an indication of build costs. Proposal was seconded by Cllr Clark, and all members were in favour.

**12. Planning Applications**

a) Application 19/01112/FUL Manor Farm, Low Street, Elston  
Removal of landscaping conditions 15 & 16

Cllr Clark proposed that the Council did not support the removal of the landscaping conditions on the grounds that they had been put in place for the visual amenity of the surrounding area. Proposal seconded by Cllr Biddlecombe, four votes in favour, one abstention.

b) Decisions

There were no decisions to report.

**13. Dates of next meetings**

Thursday 11 June 2020 – Plans for Elston Sports Field Development

Thursday 18 June 2020 – Parish Council Meeting

**Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm**