



ELSTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Est: 1894



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 21 January 2021 commencing 7.00 pm HELD BY ZOOM VIDEO LINK

Present: Cllr's. Bertie Pinchera, (Chairman); Peter Clark (Vice Chairman); Andy Biddlecombe; Rev. Elizabeth Murray; Michael Key;

In Attendance: Cathryn Crane, Clerk, and Lynda Ogilvie.

Part Attendance: Jim Sweeting, District Cllr. Ivor Walker, County Cllr. Susan Saddington and 1 member of the public

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting & reminded the meeting that the proceedings would be recorded.

Rev Liz Murray (Cllr) welcomed all in Prayer at this difficult time for us all.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sandra Wright and Cllr Matthew Dyer.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 November 2020

Were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Liz Murray and seconded by Cllr Michael Key.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest announced at this stage but later in the Agenda Cllr Liz Murray declared an interest in item 12e.

4. District and County Councillors' Report

Councillor Walker reported that the Council were managing very well under the current conditions and that although work was taking slightly longer with staff working at home things were still progressing nicely with no major problems being reported.

Cllr Walker urged that anyone within Elston who had not received their vaccination contact with their GP or visit [Online Appointment Healthcare Platform | Swiftqueue](#).

Cllr Walker also reminded the Council about the Safer Initiative that Councils could apply for which may be ideal for a CCTV initiative. The Clerk had already provided Members with details.

Cllr Walker also asked the Council to please respond to the Consultation around the A46 alterations proposed at the Cattle Market round-about – Cathryn Crane (Clerk) to send details to all Councillors for action and information.

Cllr Sue Saddington joined the meeting at 19.24 and updated the Council with further information regarding the A46 and talked through the 2 options available.

Cllr Saddington also reported that Pinfold Lane would be resurfaced between the 15-19 February 2021 (weather dependant) and that the drains would be investigated before this date, as previously agreed. Confirmation was sought that the sandbags has been delivered to Elston Rectory the same day as the meeting which was confirmed.

A small sum of money is available to Parish Councils when the Virus is under control for the Residents to enjoy a celebration. The Clerk to request. Cllr Pinchera thanked Cllr Saddington for this contribution.

Cllr Pinchera noted that it was disappointing that Elston did not qualify for the HGV restriction and the introduction of a 20mph statutory speed limit. Cllr. Saddington acknowledged this and stated that a difference could be made by the ongoing upgrades to major roads and the HGV restriction remains a possibility.

Cllr. Saddington left the meeting at 19.30.

5. Chairman's/Clerks Report

Cllr Pinchera presented report to Council for information of work that is being undertaken by the Chair and Clerk collectively some of which was to be addressed on the Agenda.

6. Public Question Time None.

7. Correspondence

Cathryn Crane (Clerk) presented the report of Correspondence that had been sent out with the meeting pack and assured all that the items had been acknowledged and some were for information only.

The only item for discussion was around the CPRE renewal of membership that was a total of 35.00 per annum. It was agreed after some discussion that Cllrs would like to explore this further and add it to the Agenda for March. The Clerk was asked to resend this information and add it to the next Agenda.

It was noted that Cathryn Crane (Clerk) is to report the leaning sign on top street to Cllr. Saddington for advice in the first instance.

8. Finance – Authorisation of Payment of Accounts

- a) **Payment sheet 7 – for approval and signature**
Approved. Proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Andy Biddlecombe.
- b) **Delegation of Authority approvals**
 - i) **Mr Johnson Churchyard Cutting – £270.00**
 - ii) **Christmas Lights – 79.99 – Sandra Wright**
 - iii) **Charles Arnold Baker 'Local Council Administration' costs £119.99 –**

All items were approved.

9. Governance Documents

Lynda Ogilvie presented documents that Lynda previously circulated via email to Members. All Governance Documents were approved for use with some minor amendments to the Financial Regulations.

- a) Code of Conduct – Proposed Cllr Clark, Seconded by Cllr Murray.
- b) Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures – Proposed Cllr Murray, Seconded Cllr Key.
- c) Financial Regulations – Proposed Cllr Murray, Seconded by Cllr Biddlecombe.

It was agreed that Lynda Ogilvie would present proposals on a Risk Register, a Communications Policy and to revisit and update the Complaints Procedure, as required for the next meeting. Cllr Pinchera also noted that Elston Parish Council should check our GDPR arrangements, agreed by a former Council, and appoint a new Data Protection Officer

10. Sports Field

a) Planning Application

Cllr Pinchera welcomed Mr Jim Sweeting to the meeting a member of Council's Working Group. Mr Sweeting noted he had had received Pre - Planning advice from N&S Planning Department which was broadly positive. The main comment was around the colour of cladding to be used on the buildings and the preference for a pitched roof. A discussion also took place around siting of building in the field and it was confirmed that the building would be sited close to the Electricity Sub Station which was the preference of the residents. Following discussion, it was agreed that plans would be submitted with a flat roof and dark coloured cladding, though we may be asked to install a pitched roof.

A conversation followed about water and drainage and that an application would be made to Seven Trent Water for both clean water and foul drainage. Surface water drainage would have a separate arrangement.

Council had previously authorised £1,500 for preparatory work and we are within this to date. Mr Sweeting stated that the finished cost of the project would be approx. **c.£140k.???** **Check**, and once planning permission had been secured an application for external funding would be made.

Mr Sweeting informed the Council that the next stage was to submit the plans for approval. Mr Sweeting confirmed that he would work with the Clerk and the working group to complete the Planning Application within 10 days.

b) Name

Cllr. Pinchera addressed the issue of the name of the Sports Field. Notts CC asked specific questions and a response was tabled. The proposal is for the name to be Darwin Park (Elston's Community Sports Hub and Park). Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Murray. Notts CC will be advised.

The matter of signage for the field would be addressed at a later date.

11. Budget and Precept 2021/22

The proposed budget was accepted, and the Clerk was asked to confirm to N&S our Precept be retained, as this years, at £27,000.

It was also noted that the budget assumes Council would apply for a £50,000 PWLB loan over 10 years to support the development of the sports field once planning approval has been granted and the amount of external funding available, is known..

Proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Key.

12. Environment

a. Playground

- i. Lisa Richmond Letter / Signage – The present full lockdown has minimised the concern from the Head teacher on the use of the playground; however, the Council shared sympathy on the importance of keeping children in their bubbles in and out of the school setting. It was noted that the council will continue to observe the situation and keep updating signage where necessary to ensure social distancing is maintained.
- ii. **Maintenance as per RoSPA report & Repairs/Replace**
The clerk read a note that had been received from Cllr. Wright which noted updates on the park, though all repairs identified in the RoSPA report had not been completed. It was agreed Cllr Clark would ask Playdale for a quote to have outstanding amber items fixed or replaced and return to the meeting in March for further discussion. Cllr Pinchera noted that this was important as the Council have a responsibility to ensure the safety of children using the park at all times
- iii. **Regular Checks as per Insurance Policy**
Cllr Pinchera noted that as per our insurance policy, regular monthly checks of the play area should be undertaken by Council, and a record maintained so that a programme of maintenance and replacement could be produced. Cllr Murray mentioned that there is a School Parent/Governor that has experience in this field and Cllr Murray would make contact with him for advice and report back to the next meeting.

b. Drainage on Sports Field and Pinfold Lane/Spinney

Council discussed the flooding and drainage issues that are a concern to residents on Pinfold Lane and The Spinney. There were 3 properties in this area that were in danger of flooding. Concerns had been raised with Cllr Pinchera directly from a resident who had lived in the village for many years.

The issue is in three parts – the fields adjacent to Pinfold Lane and their drainage into ditches and to the open culvert; the culvert which travels underground from Pinfold Lane to The Spinney, and the open ditch which runs from The Spinney along the southern edge of Tudor Oaks before making a sharp turn down to Low Street and onwards underground to Codder's Dyke. The Parish Council agreed to take take responsibility for the ditches adjacent to Pinfold Lane and a quote for clearing and deepening has been requested. Notts CC will investigate the culvert to ensure it is not blocked or damaged.

It was also agreed that Cllr. Biddlecombe would lead a team of volunteers to

clear the ditch on The Spinney and Tudor Oaks. Cllr Clark also volunteered together with a resident and the Clerk would check Council's insurance to ensure that our volunteers were adequately covered for accidents. Council will receive an update on progress and findings at the March meeting

c. Dog Bins and Signage

There was an urgent need for additional dog bins in the village, an email had been received along with a comment from Cllr Walker about 2 hot spot areas in the village that require a bin due to the amount of dog mess that had been seen or cleared up on behalf of others. The Clerk was asked to pursue with the purchase of 3 new dog bins and to obtain a quote to erect them at the Sports Field, at Carrgate Lane on the entrance to the Bridleway, and the third at Old Chapel Field. Proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Key. There was also a need to replace the home-made sign on the gate at the Sports Field to an official Elston Parish Council sign and ensure adequate signage is placed by all the dog bins.

d. Path from village to A46 - including Pinfold Lane

Council agreed to improve the walk along Lodge Lane to the A46 by keeping a close cut to the grass on the verge, limiting the need to walk on the road. The absence of a footpath on Pinfold Lane is regrettable, but would not be pursued at this time.

e. Village Hall Land Registration and the Car Park Adjacent to Village Hall

Cllr. Murray declared an interest in this item.

Cllr. Pinchera presented this item for interest as although the car park is currently owned by the Diocesan Board of Education it is an important area for the village; in particular for those visiting the School, Hall, Shop and Church. The long - term interest of the DBoFE should be ascertained as this could be an important asset for the Village in the future by potentially having a secure parking area with electric car charging points etc. This item was noted to be discussed further once the Village Hall and Green property has been registered with the Land Registry.

f. Security – CCTV

Cllr Key discussed some options available to Council and also the logistical complications. However, technology in this area is constantly progressing. It was agreed Council should retain an interest in this matter and Cllr's Key and Clark would pursue the matter and report to Council in due course.

g. Creation of Volunteer Group in the Parish

Cllr Murray was working through this document and would report back at the Meeting in March.

13. Queens Platinum Jubilee – June 2022

It was agreed that this item be noted and added to a future Agenda.

14. Planning Applications, Decisions and Appeals

Lodge Farm – No Objections

16 The Spinney – No Objections

Tall House – No Objections

Cathryn to add the Planning App Numbers here

15. Date and Time of next meeting

25 March 2021 at 7pm.

Cllr Pinchera requested the Clerk set the dates of future meetings until December 2021, as the village hall venue will have to be booked as soon as the current restrictions on public meetings are lifted.

Chairman closed the meeting at 22.29.

Cathryn Crane
Clerk

DRAFT