

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council
8.00 p.m., Wednesday 23rd September 2009, in Elkstone Village Hall

Present: Mssrs. Hobbs (Chair) Cooch, Collins, Luck and Muschamp; Mrs. Eyre (Clerk)

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting [29.07.09] were accepted and signed.

2. Matters arising

Re item 4.1 – planning – no decision on Deer Park as yet

Re item 5.1 – Mr. Hitchins to be invited to November Meeting

Re item 5.2 – Mr. Luck confirmed the private covenant restricting development to two houses.

Re item 7.3 – letters have been sent regarding overgrown hedges

3. Finance

3.1 Payment of Accounts

3.1.1 A bill for £50.00 + £7.50 VAT has been received from Moore Stephens, External Auditors. A cheque was written, signed and will be sent.

3.1.2 Bill for hire of Hall, April – Sept 09 - £44.00. A cheque was written, signed and will be delivered.

3.1.3 Clerk's salary and expenses - salary £573.00; postage £1.74; phonecalls £5.89 e-mails £27.88; total £608.51. A cheque was written, signed and handed over.

3.2 R.F.O.'s Report on Year to Date Income & Expenditure against Budget was accepted with thanks. Mr. Cooch told the Meeting that the accounts had received unqualified approval from the External Auditors, though they had noticed a small slip, undetected by Councillors, in the Internal Auditor's return.

4. Retention Periods for Parish Records

Mr. Cooch asked what guidelines there were. A document previously received from the Gloucestershire Record Office was put into circulation; further advice has been sought from GAPTC.

5. 3/190 traffic survey - noted that promised survey tubes have been in place, but on Bubb's Hill, not in new speed limit zone. Clerk to pursue with Mrs. Watkins.

6. Pound/ditch

EPC, as riparian owners, must have regard to any need for cleaning branches, leaves, etc., out of the ditch by the Pound. Mr. Luck told the meeting he had recently checked the ditch and found it not obstructed. To continue to monitor.

7. Correspondence from the Parish

E-mail received from A Parishioner apologising for not be able to attend, but asking for more to be done about the speed and volume of traffic on the 3/190.

Councillors hope this may be achieved as a result of the survey (item 5 above)

8. Other correspondence

8.1 Telephone Kiosk – EPC has received another invitation from BT to adopt kiosk for £1.00. Councillors remained of the opinion that adoption would not be sensible or viable, due to other cost implications.

9. Meetings

Mr. Muschamp undertook to attend the PCSOs' Quarterly Meeting on 21st October.

10. Website

There have been considerable difficulties of late with the Village website, which has been infected by a virus. The Village Hall Management Committee is considering seeking an alternative provider, and asked for the Council's views.

Councillors were of the opinion that an alternative provider, offering cost effective reliability, should be sought. This response to be made known to EVHMC.

11. A.O.B.

Concern was expressed about the extent of potholes on all the Parish's roads. This to be conveyed to Gloucestershire Highways.

12. Date of next Meeting – Wed 25th November.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.