

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council
8.00 p.m., Wednesday 14th January 2015, in Elkstone Village Hall

Present: Msrs. Muschamp (Chair), Collins, Cooch, Luck; Mrs. Eyre (Clerk); also District Councillor Parsons

Apologies: Mr. Hobbs (for anticipated late or non-arrival), County Councillor Robbins

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting (26th November 2014) were accepted and signed.

2. Matters arising :

Re item 5: there have been two further incidents of flytipping (one on 27th November, and one near Christmas) but both were at the junction of public bridleway BEL 2 with the 40864. Both have been reported to CDC, and the dumped matter cleared.

3. Finance

3.1 The RFO's Year to Date report of income and expenditure was accepted with thanks.

3.2 To consider precept to be set for 2015 – 6: Mr. Cooch referred the meeting back to his forecast presented at the last meeting. No further possible outgoings had been identified. To set a precept of £2750; Proposed: Mr. Collins; seconded: Mr. Luck; carried nem con.

3.3 To consider renewal of CPRE membership, annual subscription £36.00 due 6th January (an increase of £7.00). Mr. Parsons reminded the meeting that EPC could tap into CPRE expertise for advice, e.g. in a contentious planning issue. To renew: Proposed: Mr. Collins; seconded: Mr. Luck; carried nem.con. A cheque for £36.00 was written, signed and will be sent.

3.4 To consider a S.137 donation of £9.00 to the Elkstone Village Hall Management Committee, that is, 50% of the cost of the Elkstone website .com domain name renewal: Proposed: Mr. Luck; seconded: Mr. Collins; carried nem con. A cheque for £9.00 was written, signed and will be hand delivered.

3.5 To consider a S.137 donation to the Elkstone Parochial Church Council for churchyard maintenance: To make a S. 137 donation of £230.00: Proposed: Mr. Collins; seconded: Mr. Luck, carried nem con. A cheque for 230.00 was written, signed and will be hand delivered.

4. Planning

4.1 Westwood House – retrospective application for change of use of part of field: Noted CDC have granted permission.

4.2 1 Hillview - proposed dormer windows (revised design): Noted CDC have granted permission.

4.3 The Old Rectory – minor alterations to the lower ground floor: Councillors had no objections to the original proposals, nor to the revised details submitted last week.

4.4 Birchwood House – proposed insertion of a window in place of garage door: Councillors had no objections.

5. Survey of EPC physical assets: Mr. Cooch presented a table of assets, with original purchase costs and estimated insurance value. Councillors thanked Mr. Cooch for this.

6. Correspondence from the Parish – there was none.

7. Other correspondence – was put into circulation.

8. Meetings

The PCSOs Neighbourhood Co-ordination Group meeting is scheduled for Thursday 5th February, 7.30 pm, Winstone Village Hall. Mr Muschamp will attend on behalf of EPC, Mr. Collins may also attend.

9. AOB

9.1 Mr. Cooch indicated that he intends to ask EPC to consider the review of Financial Regulations at the July meeting.

9.2 The matter of the collapsed signpost at the Westerleigh Crossroads (the post rusted through at ground level, and believed to have blown over on or about New Year's Eve) was raised; Clerk had reported this to Mr. Mulla of Gloucestershire Highways, who replied that he already knew of it and had already 'raised a job'.

Councillors thought the signpost might be better sited on the south-west corner of this crossroads, now that the telephone kiosk had been removed; Clerk to query this possibility with Mr. Mulla.

9.3 Mr. Cooch queried progress on changes to the parish boundary. Clerk reported that, having checked the newly-received 2015 Register of Electors, she had queried this with the CDC Elections team, and had just received confirmation that the parish boundary changes are now effected, thus the four houses with Colesbourne postal addresses are now within Colesbourne parish, whereas the two households accessed from the A 435 but having Cockleford postal addresses are now within Elkstone.

10. Public Session

10.1 Mr. Parsons reminded the meeting that the Cotswold District Local Plan Consultation is about to start. PCs will be sent a hard copy of all documentation. Included in this is a new proposed Rural Housing Policy, which Mr. Parsons advised Councillors to consider. It includes the condition that any developer would have to demonstrate housing need, and gain the support of the local community.

Inter alia, Mr. Parsons mentioned that CDC is not expecting Elkstone to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, since there is no allocated development within the parish.

10.2 Clerk told the meeting that Mr. Robbins had intended to mention the funding for the A417. He had confirmed that this has reached the stage of funding being pledged by Government, but work is still to be carried out locally to confirm one proposed route. He added that he was uncertain as to whether a change of government after the general election might have any effect on the pledged funding. Mr. Parsons commented that he was reasonably certain the pledged funding would not now be withdrawn.

11. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 25th March

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.42 pm.