

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council

8.00 p.m., Wednesday 26th November 2014, in Elkstone Village Hall

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

1. Minutes of the previous Meeting (Wednesday 24th September) were accepted and signed.

2. Matters arising - Re item 2.2 - broken edges of tarmac, obstructing stones on verge and overgrown hedge have all been dealt with. Clerk e-mailed Mr. Mulla to express EPC's thanks for his prompt actions.

3. Finance

3.1 Payment of Accounts – village website hosting fee + VAT:

To contribute 50% of this £150.00 to Elkstone Village Hall Management Committee;

Proposed: Mr Hobbs; seconded: Mr. Cooch; carried nem. con.

A cheque for £75.00 was written, signed and will be hand-delivered.

Mr. Cooch pointed out that a domain name renewal fee is shortly due.

3.2 R.F.O.'s Report on Year to Date Income & Expenditure against Budget was accepted with thanks

3.3 RFO's budget forecast in re precept setting – Mr. Cooch tabled a forecast, which was discussed. To be further considered by Councillors, and a decision on precept level made at the next Meeting. Councillors thanked Mr. Cooch for his work on this.

4. Planning Applications

4.1 Juniper House – replacement gate – noted CDC have granted permission.

4.2 School House - reduce and thin sycamore – EPC was not a consultee for this tree work, noted CDC have granted permission.

4.3 Church View – reduce overhanging sycamore - EPC was not a consultee for this tree work, noted CDC have granted permission.

4.4 Old Rectory – replace concrete roof tiles with slate tiles – Councillors had no objection.

4.5 1 Hillview – revised application for dormers - Councillors had no objection to the revised application, which shows 'Cotswold vernacular' dormers, very similar to those on the adjacent front elevation of the neighbouring property.

4.6 Westwood House – retrospective application for change of use from agricultural field to domestic garden – was discussed at length:

That whilst EPC has no objection to the current domestic use of part of the field behind this property, it objects to the proposed formal designation of agricultural land as garden (residential curtilage) in the interests of preserving the rural character and green space within the village:

Proposed: Mr. Collins; seconded: Mr. Hobbs; carried nem. con.

5. Correspondence from the Parish – Our NHWC had asked if EPC might ask CDC to install CCTV overlooking the passing place on Highgate Lane, in an attempt to catch fly-tippers. Since incidents of fly-tipping within the parish are promptly reported, Councillors thought that CDC might have already done this had it been deemed worthwhile, whereas if EPC asked for it, there could be a cost implication which had not been budgeted for. Noted that there has been no fly-tipping within the parish for some 6 weeks.

No further action at this time.

7. Public session – there were no points raised.

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8. Other correspondence – was put into circulation

9. Meetings

9.1 PCSOs' Neighbourhood Quarterly Meeting 7th Oct – as Mr Muschamp was not able to be present tonight and report back, the Minutes are awaited.

9.2 CDC meeting with Town & Parish Councils 24th November – Mr. Cooch reported back on this, which covered three topics of interest - Budget, Local Plan and Local Democracy.

In respect of Budget, CDC has made significant savings, but is looking for more.

The Local Plan has identified 29 preferred sites, and it is projected that 7500 new houses are to be built on 17 key settlements over the next 20 years.

Local Democracy touched on boundary changes within the CDC area (including the change of part of the boundary between Elkstone and Colesbourne, which will have the effect of moving 4 houses with Colesbourne postal addresses into that parish) and the elections of 2015. It is confirmed that EPC will not have to pay for EPC elections next year.

10. A.O.B. – there was none

11. Date of next Meeting – 14th January 2015

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.03 pm.

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