

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council

8.00pm, Wednesday 13th November 2019, in Elkstone Village Hall

Present: Mr Hobbs (Chair), Mr Collins, Mr Kearney and Ms Toase; Mrs Thorn (Clerk)

Apologies: County Councillor Robbins

1. **Minutes of the last Meeting** (18th September 2019) were accepted and signed.
2. **Public Session** – no items were raised from the floor.
3. **Matters arising** – there were none
4. **Finance**
 - 4.1 **Payment of accounts**
 - 4.1.1 Invoices from GAPTC for training - £95.00
A cheque for £95.00 was written, signed and will be posted to GAPTC.
Mr Kearney has attended the GAPTC training session for 'Being a Better Councillor', which he found to be very useful.
 - 4.1.2 Clerk's salary – September 2019 = £205.25 and October 2019 = £119.05 – to approve salary payments for September and October. The cheques were written, signed and handed over.
 - 4.2 RFO's Report on Year to Date Income and Expenditure against Budget was received with thanks.
 - 4.3 RFO's 2020 – 2021 Budget forecast – Mrs Thorn presented a budget forecast which was discussed. To be further considered by Councillors and a decision on precept level made at the January meeting.
 - 4.4 **Bank Signatories and Online Banking**
 - 4.4.1 Ms Toase and Mr Kearney to become signatories for the EPC bank account.
 - 4.4.2 The Clerk has investigated a possible move to online banking. Online payment control can be set up which would require two signatories to authorise any payments online. Therefore online banking procedures would remain the same as payment by cheque as two signatures are required on every cheque. EPC would need to register for online banking. This was discussed and approval given to register for online banking.
5. **Planning**
 - 5.1 18/04266/FUL – Coombe End Farm, Beechpike, Elkstone: Noted CDC have granted permission for proposed conversion of 2 rural buildings and replacement of 1 rural building to provide B1(a) office space and associated works.
 - 5.2 19/03628/FUL – Trout Farm, Cockleford Farm, Cockleford: proposed construction of an agricultural building. This was discussed and Councillors object to the proposed application on the basis that the proposed new building is larger than the footprint of the original historic stone building that was on the site.
Clerk to submit comments to CDC.

6. Dog Waste Bin

The Clerk has contacted CDC regarding the proposal to site a dog waste bin at the village end of the Zeal Track. Ubico have been out to make a site visit and are happy with the location, they will install the dog waste bin and empty it. The cost for the bin and installation is £210 plus VAT. This was agreed and approval given to purchase a dog waste bin.

7. Winter Preparations

7.1 The salt and grit is being delivered to Coombe End Farm this week.

7.2 New salt and grit bin for the Slutswell Hill area, before the purchase can be made, EPC must obtain approval from Gloucestershire Highways for the proposed location and agreed with them. The Clerk has contacted them and they are in the process of checking the site meets the criteria. If this is agreed and approval given from Gloucestershire Highways, Clerk to order a new salt and grit bin.

7.3 The salt and grit bin next to the post box in the centre of the village has broken hinges. A repair was considered but it was agreed and approval given to purchase a new salt and grit bin.

8. Public Right of Way

A member of the public has reported that a new gate has been put across the Class 5 Highway which is too narrow to allow access to vehicles. Clerk to write to Highways.

9. Correspondence from the Parish – there was none.

10. Other Correspondence – was put into circulation.

11. Items for Information

11.1 The light inside the defibrillator cabinet has stopped working. The Clerk has been in contact with the service department who supplied the defibrillator, they are liaising with the manufacturer of the cabinet and are awaiting a response regarding the repair.

11.2 Highways England A417 Missing Link – concerns have been raised that not enough has been done to prevent village rat running whilst construction is in progress. Clerk to write to Highways England.

11.3 Potholes have been reported to the County Council and they have started to carry out repairs.

12. Date of next Meeting – Wednesday 22nd January 2020

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.41pm.