

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council
8.00 p.m., Wednesday 21st September 2016, in Elkstone Village Hall

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

1. Minutes of the last Meeting (15th July 2015) were accepted and signed.

2. Matters arising

2.1 Re item 6.3 of 18.05.16 and item 5.5 of 13.07.16 – it appears that application for change of land use refers only to the area immediately around the buildings, and was included in the permission recorded in 13.07.16 Minutes

2.2 Re item 7 of 18.05.16 and item 5.2 of 20.04.16

Noted that the Parish received a visit from a Gloucestershire Highways team of contractors at the end of July, badly pot-holed areas (including the two to which these items refer) have been resurfaced, and white lining renewed. The drain beside the Pound has been turned through 90 degrees and reset lower, so the spring water is now flowing into the drain, not past it.

2.3 Re item 8 of 13.07.16 – the overgrown bank was reported to GH using the online system.

It is logged with the date 16-07-14, and was given the Amey reference number 11110819.

An unspecified 'action taken' was logged by GH on 03-08-16.

3. Finance

3.1 External Auditors' report – Mr Cooch was pleased to tell the Meeting that the report was clear.

3.2 Payment of Accounts:

3.2.1 Bill for hire of Hall, April – Sept 2016 – 4 meetings @ £10.00 per booking = £40.00

A cheque for £40.00 was written, signed and will be hand-delivered.

3.2.2 Invoice from GAPTC for training - £35.00

A cheque for £35.00 was written, signed and will be sent to GAPTC.

3.2.3.i Clerk's salary – 6 months @ £1440 p.a. pro rata (NLW) = £720.00

less 20% PAYE (£144.00) = £576.00

A cheque for £576.00 was written, signed and handed over.

A cheque for £144.00 was written, signed and will be posted to HMRC.

3.2.3.ii Clerk's expenses – Postage £1.65 + 20% of phone/broadband charge (phone and e-mails) £20.39 = £22.04

A cheque for £22.04 was written, signed and handed over.

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

4. Planning

4.1 16/01672/FUL - Dairy Unit, now known as Elkstone Farm: Noted that CDC have now granted permission for the proposed conversion to ten residential units.

4.2 16/02509/FUL – Oldbury Barn, now known as Green Oldbury House: proposed three-bay garage with first floor storey – Councillors had no objections.

4.3 16/02635/FUL – Pendle House: proposed single storey extension, rear extension alterations and demolition of existing conservatory - Councillors had no objections.

Noted that CDC have now granted permission.

4.4 16/02811/FUL – Manor Barn: proposed alterations to ground levels in rear garden and formation of a wall; Councillors had no objections Noted that CDC have now granted permission.

4.5 16/03582/FUL – Highgate Farm: proposed change of land use from agricultural to equestrian, erection of a field shelter and stable block, retention of hardstanding and access track – Councillors had no objections.

5. Winter preparations

5.1 Snow warden - The Combend Estate has confirmed that Hugo Gibbs will continue as the Parish's Snow Warden, and Martyn Thorn is named as snow plough operator.

5.2 Salt + grit – Clerk has asked for the maximum allowable number of additional bags of salt + grit to be delivered to Combend. Mr. Hobbs to liaise with Mr Thorn.

6. Correspondence from the Parish

6.1 An e-mail was received from a Parishioner reporting another (small diameter) branch falling from one of the trees beside BEL 12 and landing on the PRow. No further action.

6.2 A letter has been received from the owners of The Green Dragon Inn, with a copy of a letter to Gloucestershire Highways, these detail two incidents outside the Inn, and ask for the Parish Council's help in persuading GH to install traffic-calming measures.

The Parish Council asked the GH AHR, during her visit of 20th May 2015, for more SLOW signing at this location; this request has been repeated since but not fulfilled.

Bubb's Hill has had advisory 30 mph signs for many years.

When, after more than 10 years of campaigning, 40 mph speed restrictions were instituted between Manor Cross and Westerleigh Crossroads, EPC asked for the restriction to be continued south to High Cross, to link with the advisory 30 mph restriction. This was not agreed.

In view of the Parish Council's difficulties in achieving traffic calming measures, this request to be referred to our District and County Councillors.

6.3 A Parishioner has phoned to report that she has phoned CDC to report fly-tipping occurring late last Sunday (18th) and in two locations within the Parish.

Mr. Collins had seen the fly-tipping, and pointed out that one of these locations is not within the Parish, (though Clerk has previously reported fly-tipping there)

7. Other correspondence – was put into circulation

10. Meetings

10.1 PCSOs' Neighbourhood Co-ordination Group – 16th November, Rendcomb College.

The Parish Council will rely on Mrs. Hobbs, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, to attend this.

11. A.O.B. On her retirement after fifteen years as Clerk, Councillors presented Mrs Eyre with a gift and a bouquet; she expressed much grateful appreciation for this.

12. Welcome to Mrs. Thorn, and arrangements for handover of Clerkship.

12.1 Mrs. Thorn has attended a GAPTC training session for new clerks, which she found interesting and informative. She confirmed her willingness to take on the Clerkship from 1st October.

12.1.2 A contract to be drawn up by Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Cooch.

12.2 Mrs. Thorn to become a signatory for the EPC bank account, and correspondence from the bank to be directed to her -

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

12.3 As Mr. Bew resigned from the position of RFO to EPC in March 2003, his name as signatory also to be deleted:

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

Mrs. Eyre and Mrs. Thorn to liaise in respect of handover of Council documents, records, etc.

13. Public Session – no items were raised from the floor.

14. Dates of next Meetings -

Wednesday 16th November 2016;

and in 2017, Wednesdays 18th January, 22nd March, 26th April & 17th May.

Mrs. Eyre to check Hall that is available, and book.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.