

ELKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Elkesley Parish Council

The Meeting of the Elkesley Parish Council was held in the Elkesley Memorial Hall, High Street, Elkesley on 26th September 2016 at 7.15pm.

1636/16 Present: Cllr Oldbury (Chair), Cllr Raper (Vice Chair), Cllr Fish, Cllr Flear and Cllr O'Brien

Others present: Karen Tarburton (Community Development and Funding Manager - Harworth Town Council) and members of the public.

1637/16 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received and approved from Cllr Hirst

Cllr Fish passed an envelope to the Chair from Cllr Stronach. Letter read out at end of meeting

1638/16 To receive and record declaration of interests from Members in any item to be discussed

Cllr Flear agenda item 8.

1639/16 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 19th July 2016

Following discussion over minute No.1618/16; the Chair made an amendment and Cllr Fish proposed to accept the minutes of the 19th July 2016 as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and resolved by the Council.

1640/16 To Receive reports from the District and County Councillors

District Cllr Kevin Dukes submitted his apologies to the meeting.
No reports were received.

1641/16 To hold a 10 minute public session

A member of the public asked what was being done regarding the gates, seating and grass cutting to the play park. The Chair gave an update and assured villagers that every effort is being taken to resolve the issue.

The church clock service has taken place and there is now a automated clock timing alteration system available which the Parish Council will be looking into.

A member of the Elkesley Memorial Committee gave an update on the grass cutting maintenance request to be discussed at agenda item15.

Resident reported that the bus no longer stops at the bottom of the village only at Headland Ave, this is causing concern for elderly residents due to the distance they have to walk. Both Cllr Dukes and Cllr Ogle are aware and looking into this issue but Cllr Flear will check on progress to date, but the public can contact Cllr Dukes and Ogle direct if they have any concerns, and their contact details are on BDC website.

A member of the public asked about the preferment clause and the priority of housing allocation in the village. This item was discussed at the July Parish Council meeting, but the Parish Council will ask A1 housing for their official comment on this.

A member of the public requested that more villagers support the Memorial Hall functions on a Friday evening.

A villager spoke about the damage to the shelter, litter and general issues on the sports field. Cllr Fish has observed broken glass and other members of the public have observed villagers taking their dogs into the play area. The Parish Council will commission new signage advising people dogs are not allowed in play parks. Younger members of the public asked why there wasn't a bin

nearer to the shelter. The Chair advised that the bin had been damaged beyond repair and removed, but if a bin was needed closer to the shelter then an existing one could be relocated and the Chair will liaise with them to achieve this.

Karen Tarburton (Community Development and Funding Manager from Harworth Town Council) introduced herself and advised the public she had worked with the Parish Council on the funding bids for the play park, and whilst she could see there were issues she was happy to offer her services to work with the youths and adults to move these issues forward.

1642/16 To discuss residents issues regarding the shelter on the sports field

The discussions from the 10 minute public session had given an indication of possible areas where Improvements or alteration may help resolve some of the issues. The Chair proposed strengthening the support structure for the shelter in order that balls hitting the Perspex screening may not cause as much damage.

Cllr Flear advised that lack of seating had always been an issue in the village and maybe more seating nearer the bike track may help. It would fulfil the need for seating and may reduce the amount of people using one shelter it would also be further away from the houses.

Cllr O'Brien said that while antisocial behaviour was a matter of perception that was open to individual interpretation there was a lot of help out there for members of the public. ASB help will guide people with support and advice as will the Community Trigger which can be found on BDC website. The issues around the shelter would not be resolved by moving it, it would only move the problem, not resolve it.

Cllr Raper proposed which was seconded by Cllr Flear and resolved by the Council to cost for additional seating closer to the bike track, strengthening the existing shelter and repairing any existing damage. A decision on the work that would be done is dependent on costs and funds available, but would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

1643/16 Finance to approve payments and receive a financial update

- a) Grant Thornton – external auditors £120.00 (1663)
- b) The Cumbria Clock Company Ltd – Service of church clock £174.00 (1664)
- c) Street Cleaners wage £248.00 (1665)
- d) Clerks wage & expenses £269.32 (1666)

1644/16 To consider request for a donation towards setting up a mums and tots group

After discussion it was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Raper and resolved by the council, that the council donate the unused 7 hours from the youth council already paid to the Memorial Hall, along with £100 towards toys. It was also resolved to promote the new group on the parish council Facebook page and website.

1645/16 To receive an update on the Parish Council vacancy

The Chair confirmed that following Cllr Woodcocks resignation there has been no interest from villagers to join the council. The Chair confirmed that Cllr McCaffrey has also resigned along with the Parish Clerk Mrs Davies.

The council noted the exceptional contribution that Mrs Davies has made over the eight years she has been with the council and everyone would like to wish her all the very best for the future. The Chair proposed to purchase flowers and a card for Mrs Davies, which was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and agreed unanimously.

1646/16 Planning – To consider any planning applications, note any correspondence and decision notices

- a) Application: 16/01086/HSE
Location: Oak House, Brough Lane, Elkesley
Proposal: Erect first floor rear extension and single storey rear extension
The Council made no objection.

- b) Nottinghamshire County Council have acknowledged the paperwork regarding battery lane bridleway.

1647/16 To receive update from Health and Safety Councillors on costs to carry out actions from the annual independent play area inspection.

Cllr Fish advised that due to illness she had not spoken to Cllr Stronach regarding the report and costings. After a short discussion Cllr Fish was asked to liaise with Cllr Stronach and jointly report back to the council at the next meeting on the priorities for the work and the costs involved, in order that the council can agree the expenditure and work required.

Cllr O'Brien pointed out that the Police had highlighted the trees overhanging the pavement outside the Cemetery. The Police identified the trees as a Health and Safety issue as it is forcing pedestrians onto the road. Post meeting note, this has now been reported to Notts County Council reference number FS-Case-7351671.

1648/16 To consider a Code of Conduct for public participation at parish council meetings.

Cllr O'Brien gave an overview of the code of conduct emailed out to Cllrs prior to the meeting and proposed that the parish council adopts a Code of Conduct for the public at Parish Council meetings in order to deter rudeness and enable the council to address the business at hand. Cllr O'Brien volunteered to look at various Codes of Conduct and bring the best parts of each into one policy for Elkesley. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Oldbury and agreed by 4 Cllrs with Cllr Fish disagreeing.

1649/16 To consider a policy for electronic media

Cllr O'Brien noted that the council did not have a policy for electronic media. The Chair agreed and a policy will be drafted and circulated for agreement.

1650/16 To receive village reports

a) Sports field and play equipment inspection

Cllr Stronach and Cllr Fish to report back at next meeting with priorities and costs for work identified.

b) Highways and Service Fault

Cllr Raper will submit further requests for the reinstatement of tarmac on the pavement on the bridge, and will monitor the area outside Greaves Farm.

c) Cemetery

Cllr Flear will trim around the headstones during the week and a member of the public offered to help with grass cutting in the cemetery. Cllr Fish was asked to liaise with Cllr Stronach on his return to see if he would be able to cut the grass.

d) Defibrillator inspection report

No report available due to Cllr McCaffrey resigning, however it is believed that this may have been passed to Cllr Hirst, which will be discussed outside of this meeting.

1651/16 Proposal to discuss a timetable for the hours allocated to grass cutting and street cleaning.

It was acknowledged by all councillors that the grass cutting had taken longer than anticipated to be in and in some areas that was unacceptable, but the ability to amend hours and areas should help with correcting that. The Chair stated he had developed a system that the grass cutter / street cleaner would be using which would identify what hours were being worked and in what areas, which should give an overview of where changes were required. In line with this Cllr Flear

said his calculations showed that the overall management of grass and litter picking worked better if the hours worked between April and September were increased to 10 and reduced to 6 between October and the end of March. Cllr Flear proposed changing the street cleaner's hours this was seconded by Cllr Oldbury and unanimously agreed by the council.

1652/16 To consider request from the Memorial Hall Committee for the Parish Council to cut the grass around the hall grounds.

A discussion took place on the areas and what had been previously been agreed and by who. Cllr O'Brien highlighted a previous conversation with Cllr Woodcock and requested that advice be sought from Mr Woodcock prior to any decision being made. Cllr O'Brien will contact Mr Woodcock for clarification and inform the council of the outcome.

1653/16 To receive item of information for future agenda items.

Cllr Stronach to respond to a letter of complaint.

Street cleaner has requested his garage be cleared, so a garage will be required for grass cutting equipment.

1654/16 To exclude members of the public so that members can discuss the following item – discuss replacement Clerk / Responsible Officer.

Cllrs agreed to advertise the Parish Council Clerks post.

1655/16 Time and date of next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 18th October 2016 at 7pm in the Elkesley Memorial Hall, High Street, Elkesley.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.35pm.