



## *Elsenham Parish Council*

### **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

**Present:** Mr. N Edwards (Chairman), Mr. S Pimblett, Mr. C Clarke, Mr. P Johnson, Mr. G Woollvin, Mr. R Franklin, Mr. P Clear, Mrs. F Lambert, Mr. M Pitcher, Mrs. P Lees, Mr. G Jackson, Mrs. L Johnson.

**Members of the Public:** 14, Cllr E Parr, Cllr D Morson.

**Apologies for Absence:** None

#### **17358        Declarations of Interest**

Mr. P Johnson declared that he was acquainted with Mr. M Sell. Planning application UTT/1415/12/FUL.

Mr. C Clarke declared that he lived next door to Mr M. Sell. Planning application UTT/1415/12/FUL.

#### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**17359**        Mr. Segar reported that the Public Exhibition by Charles Church regarding the redevelopment of land adjacent to Hailes Wood had not been very well attended. A thousand leaflets should have been sent out to the surrounding homes in Elsenham informing residents of the 'Public Exhibition', but only one hundred had been distributed.

**17360**        Mr. Segar reported that the 181 page report from Uttlesford District Council on the 'Consultation on proposals for Draft Local Plan, June 2012' was very disjointed, he went on to say that the report stated on page 118 and 119 that contrary to what Uttlesford District Council had said, the 53 houses due to be built in The Orchards would contribute towards the total of the 400 new houses which had been allocated to Elsenham Village.

**17361**        Mr. Segar said the feedback he had received on the 'Save Our Village' consultation papers was that it was very pro Henham and 'forget' about Elsenham.

- 17362** A resident of Hails Wood stated that the survey carried out by Charles Church for the development of land adjacent to Hails Wood, was not a true perspective of the number of cars that park in Hails Wood. Many of the residents that live in Hails Wood have two, three or four cars, yet the plans did not show any provision for the parking of these cars. The resident also believed that the 18 space car park for dropping off and picking up from the school was being used as a lever.
- 17363** **Minutes** – The Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012, with the amendment to 17323 to read BAC’s Mick Burke £636.50 having been circulated, was approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 17364** **District/County Councillors Report**  
Cllr. E Parr reported that the Draft Local Plan consultation had now closed, with Uttlesford District Council having received over 5000 responses. The Fairfield Partnership will be going to submit an 800 home development planning application in Elsenham, but it was not known when.  
Cllr. Parr and Cllr. Morson have received £2000 each from the New Home Bonus scheme, this money is to go towards projects in the Village, and ideas are needed for the best way to spend these monies.  
Cllr. D Morson spoke about the Uttlesford District Community Award, This is an award that gives the parish council an opportunity to nominate a person that has made an outstanding contribution to their area.  
Cllr. D Morson reported that Cllr. R Chambers has allocated funds of £110,000 to help towards the hardship fund for the homeless in the area. At present there are 44 councillors at UDC; this will be reduced at the next election to 39 as the wards in the Uttlesford area are going to be reviewed. Uttlesford is being reviewed in order to improve the levels of electoral representation which has become imbalanced since the last review; this may mean that Elsenham could become a separate ward, no longer joined with Henham, but no firm plans have been set.  
Clarification will be sort on ‘The Orchards’ contributing towards the 400 new homes allocated to Elsenham, in Uttlesford’s Draft Local Plan.  
A resident asked Cllr. Morson what happens to the waste in the green lid bin now the criteria had changed, Cllr. Morson said he was unsure but would find out.
- 17365** **UTT/1415/12/FUL Erection of new dwelling, Mr. M Sell 33 New Road, Elsenham, Bishops Stortford, Herts. This planning application is an appeal, the application having been turned down by Uttlesford District Council due to**

1. The proposed development, by reason of its back land nature would be out of character with, and harmful to, the established character of the area contrary to Uttlesford Local Plan.
2. The proposed dwelling is unacceptable because of its location close to the southern boundary it would have an unacceptable overbearing impact to neighbouring properties.
3. The proposed garden size does not meet the minimum private garden size
4. The proposed parking provision and size of the parking bay does not meet the minimum recommendation.

Mr. G Woollin proposed and Mr. P Johnson seconded that only points 3 and 4 had gone some way to being addressed, the objections 1 and 2 still stand, the vote was carried by 9 in favour 2 abstentions.

**UTT/1436/12/FUL Single storey side extension. The Aviary, Elsenham Hall, Elsenham, Bishops Stortford, Herts. No adverse comment.**

**17366**

**Playing Field Committee Report - Mr P Clear**

The Playing Field Committee decided that they would not ask for an increase to the contribution that Elsenham Youth Football Club make to the maintenance of the playing fields this year.

For the year 2013/14 the Elsenham Parish Council and the EYFC would meet before budgets had been set and work out the cost of the maintenance for the coming year, the amount that the football club would be asked to contribute would be in the order of around £1750 - £1800.

The Playing Field Committee had received a request for the hoops and nets on the basketball court to be replaced. It was agreed that an advert is placed in the Elsenham News to see if there is a demand for this sport.

The parish council thanked Mr. G Woollin for mending the broken seesaw in the children play area at a cost of £10.00, the quote that the parish council had received for mending it was for £700.00.

Mr. R Franklin reported that he had now treated and painted all the benches in the playing field.

**17367**

**Finance Committee Report - Mr. M Pitcher**

The following cheques and payments were approved for signing.

002452/3	Wages	£221.15
002454	Millways	£11.38
002455	Home Start	£50.00
002456	Paul Salvidge	£28.50
BAC's	Mick Burke	£616.50
002457	Do-it-4U	£200.00
002458/9	Wages	£562.47
002460	Expenses	£12.70

A summary of receipts and payments were circulated, there were no questions.

**17368** It was proposed by Mr. M Pitcher and seconded by Mrs. P Lees to change the Elsenham Parish Council's bank account from Lloyds TSB to the Co-Operative Community account. The advantages the account offered are free banking, cheque book, debit card, internet banking and the ability to carry out transactions at the local Post Office. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17369** It was proposed by Mr. M Pitcher and seconded by Mr. C Clarke that the parish clerks allowance for working from home of £15 per month, was back dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012, the date that the parish clerk completed her probation period. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17370** It was proposed by Mr. M Pitcher and seconded by Mr. G Jackson that a USB memory stick is purchased to back up the data on the parish council's computer. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17371** It was proposed by Mr. M Pitcher and seconded by Mr. S Pimblett that up to £150 is made available to the parish clerk to purchase a book case for the storage of the parish council's folders. The vote was carried by 10 in favour one against.

**17372** It was proposed by Mr. M Pitcher and seconded by Mr. G Jackson that a five meter power lead is purchased for the parish council's computer. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17373** It was proposed by Mr. P Johnson and seconded by Mr. M Pitcher that the Elsenham Parish Council adopt a 'Personnel Committee' in its own right and not a joint function with the finance committee as previously suggested. The vote was carried unanimously. Mr. P Johnson said he would draft a list of responsibilities and powers for a Personnel Committee.

**17374** **Housing Development in Elsenham - Mrs. P Lees**  
The 'Joint Parish Council Steering Group' is very much against the proposed development of the land adjacent to Hails Wood. Although there was no official line that could be taken until a plan is submitted the 'Joint Parish Council Steering Group' are going to start researching and collecting data to help fight against this development.  
Mr. N Edwards reported that he had replied to the letter from The Fairfield Partnership regarding a housing proposal for the land to the north-east of Elsenham and would send a copy of the response to councillors by e-mail.

**17375** **Right of Way and Open Spaces Committee Report - Mr. S Pimblett**  
**Tree Warden's Report.**

Mrs Heather Salvide has identified fourteen different varieties of wildflowers along the west side of the trees facing the grass track in The Spinney. Mrs. Salvide would like an arrangement to be made with the developers so that this collection may be kept intact.

**17376**

**Winter Salt Bag Participation**

Mr. S Pimplett proposed and Mr. P Johnson seconded that Elsenham Village participate in the forthcoming winter salt bag partnership scheme, this being the third year that the village has taken part. The vote was carried unanimously. Mrs. P Lees said that as she lived in the middle of the village she was happy to have some of the salt in her garden for villagers to collect when needed.

**17377**

**Clerk's Report – Mrs. L Johnson**

The map from Nockolds was circulated to ascertain if the open space area at Leigh Drive marked on the map was correct. There was some dispute of the accuracy of the map so Mr. P Johnson said he would phone Nockolds to clarify the matter.

The clerk reported that there was to be a 'Chairman's Day' course on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

**17378**

**Flower Beds – Mrs. F Lambert**

It was proposed by Mrs. F Lambert and seconded by Mr. G Jackson that £120 is spent on 2000 bulbs. These bulbs would be planted on the verges and hedgerows around the village. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17379**

It was proposed by Mrs. F Lambert and seconded by Mr. P Johnson that the sum of £280 is spent to purchase and plant bushes and perennials in the flowerbeds in the autumn, with the exception of the three flower beds by the Memorial Gardens. The vote was carried unanimously.

The Parish Council would make a decision on the future of the three flowerbeds by the Memorial Garden at the next meeting, taking into consideration services that will be held there on Remembrance Sunday and Christmas.

**17380**

It was proposed by Mrs. F Lambert and seconded by Mrs. P Lees that the sum of £200 is spent to purchase and add a wooden surround to the Stansted Road flowerbed, to give an improved display. The vote was carried unanimously.

The Flowerbed Working Party will be requesting an annual budget for the coming year 2013/14.

**17381**

**Elsenham Cemetery – Mr. P Johnson**

It was proposed by Mr. P Johnson and seconded by Mr. G Woollvin that a copy of the computerised records of the interments in the Elsenham

Cemetery, is made available to the Elsenham Village History Society in order for them to complete their booklet. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17382 Fish & Chips in Elsenham**

It was proposed by Mrs. P Lees and seconded by Mr. C Clarke that the request by Mr & Mrs Judd to park their fish & chip van in the playing fields top car park once a week from 5pm until 7.30pm is approved. The vote was carried unanimously.

**17383 Transport – Mr. M Pitcher**

As from the 28<sup>th</sup> August The Royal Transport busses will be taking over from GMT. Mr. Segar added that the GMT bus service had been very good and he will be monitoring the new service.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**17384** E-mail from Andrew Taylor regarding Pegasus Planning Group. **Noted**

**17385** Weekly E-mail News Digest – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012. **Noted**

**17386** Heads up from Essex Police. **Noted**

**17387** Rural Opportunities Bulletin. **Noted**

**17388** Weekly Email News Digest – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2012. **Noted**

**17389** The Hundred Parishes Constitutional Conference. **Noted**

**17390** E-Bulletin Volunteer Centre Uttlesford. **Noted**

**17391** Uttlesford Highway Rangers. **Noted**

**17392** Registration of interests Michael Perry. **Noted**

**17393** Campaign Update SSE. **Noted**

**17394** Superfast Essex Broadband Project update July 2012. **Noted**

**17395** Standards Committee - Reports. **Noted**

**17396** Stansted ambulance station cuts. **Noted** Mr. R Franklin is to write a letter regarding concerns about the ambulance cuts, especially while the population is increasing in this area with all the new housing development.

**17397** Weekly Email News Digest- 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012. **Noted**

**17398** Time for the ‘Greenest Government Ever’ to honour its promises. **Noted**

**17399** Licensing Policy Consultation. **Noted**

**17400** Weekly Email News Digest – 23 July 2012. **Noted**

**17401** Five Parishes Walk Sat 4<sup>th</sup> August. **Noted**

**17402** Stop Stansted Expansion Campaign Update 21 July 2012. **Noted**

**17403** Transport and Travel Update July 2012. **Noted**

**17404** UDC Potholes. **Noted**

**17405** Cabinet 2 August - Agenda. **Noted**

**17406** Weekly Email News Digest 30 July 2012. **Noted**

**17407** Making the Link. **Noted**

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 17408** Mr. N Edwards reported that there had been a spate of thefts from cars around the village and to make sure that residents do not leave any valuable in their cars.
- 17409** Mr. N Edwards congratulated Mr. Ben Maher on the fantastic achievement of winning an Olympic gold medal for the team show jumping event on his horse Triple X. It was hoped that as Mr. Ben Maher lives in Elsenham the village post box would be painted gold.
- 17410** Mr. C Clarke reported that he had recently been to a meeting at Viridor, where £220,000 had been distributed to various organization and charities. Viridor still had £75,000 to donate, one of the criteria for requesting a donation was that you live within a 10 mile radius of the quarry.
- 17411** Mrs. P Lees reported that the hedges along Hall Road were over hanging the pavement, not only did this make it difficult to walk but the 30mph sign was no longer visible due to the overgrowth.
- 17412** Mr. P Johnson reported that he had now received two quotes for the restoration of the mortuary chapel, a working party meeting would need to be organised to discuss them and move the project on.
- 17413** Mr. R Franklin reported that the bench in the Memorial Garden was soon to be painted by Mr. Tully on behalf of the Women's Institute.
- 17414** Mrs. F Lambert reported that Mr. C Clarke is now trained up as a member of speed watch. 244 cars were caught speeding last month.
- 17415** Mr. P Clear reported that the hedges were overhanging the pavement by the village notice board along Station Road.
- 17416** Mr. P Clear reported that Mr & Mrs Smith had rebuilt their wall and hopefully this was now the end of the matter.
- 17417** Mr. S Pimblett said that a letter should be sent to Mr. Ben Maher from the Elsenham Parish Council congratulating him on his Olympic gold medal.
- 17418** Councillor D. Morson reminded all councillors to send any nominations for the Community Award to the parish clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Next Meeting; Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012 at 8.00pm held in the Memorial Hall

