



## Elsenham Parish Council

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on

**4 November 2019 at 8pm.**

**In the Memorial Hall.**

<b>Present Elsenham Parish Council (EPC):</b>	Dr. G Mott (Chairman GM), Mrs. M Jackson (Vice-Chairman MJ), Mrs. E Chong (EC), Mr. P Clear (PEC), Mr. R Franklin (RF), Mr. P Johnson (PJ) Mrs. F Lambert (FL), Mr. J Minor (JM), Mr. P Snow (PS) and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk – LJ).	
<b>Public:</b>	12, plus, Essex County Cllr. R Gooding (RG) and District Cllr. G LeCount (GL).	
<b>Apologies for absence</b>	Mrs. A Warwick (AW), Ms. J Rayment (JR) and District Cllr. P Lees (PL).	
<b>Minute no.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Actions agreed</b>
<b>20752</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest;</b>	None
<b>Meeting opened to public participation</b>		
<b>20753</b>	Allan Hathaway said that the minutes from the previous Parish Council meeting and the agenda for this meeting were not displayed on EPC's website.	
<b>20754</b>	It was reported that the path at the bottom of Mill lane was very overgrown. The stile on Robin Hood Road has in places, rotted away.	This path is on EROWOS list to be cut back and they will investigate the stile.
<b>20755</b>	Allan Hathaway said the path in Station Road leading from the train station, is very dangerous. There are no streetlights and the gravel from the private car park is spilling onto the pavement. JM said that in the past he has swept up the gravel on the pavement but has been told to stop due to health and safety issues.	LJ to inform Highways that gravel from a private car park is spilling onto a public pavement and causing a trip hazard.
<b>20756</b>	The top surface has still not been applied to the new cycleway from Gilbey Cottages to Robin Hood Road, this makes the raised kerb at the roadside a trip hazard. EPC were told that the work could not be completed until the electricity contractors completes the work to connect the new streetlight on the corner of Robin Hood	GL is to raise this at his meeting on Thursday 7 November 2019 with Rissa Long (Highways). FL will send photos to GL.

	Road. However, it now looks as if the electric has been connected, so there should be no reason why the work on the cycle path and the two bus shelters on Stansted Road cannot be completed. The sign informing road users that they are approaching a roundabout, which is a legal highway requirement, is laying on the grass verge.	
<b>Meeting closed to public participation</b>		
<b>20757</b>	<b>Actions from previous minutes.</b> Unfinished cycle path and bus shelter on Stansted Road.	Noted.
<b>20758</b>	<b>Minutes</b> Council considered the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2019.	Approved by EPC, signed by Chairman as a true and accurate record.
<b>20759</b>	<p><b>District Councillors' report</b></p> <p>JM said after speaking with the workers at Hall Road, weather permitting and contractors keeping to schedules, is still due to re-open on Friday 22 November 2019.</p> <p>At the meeting on Wednesday 6 November 2019, UDC Planning Committee are deciding on two planning applications in Elsenham, Rush Lane and Hall Road. GL will be speaking on the Hall Road application but has declared an interest on the Rush Lane application, therefore, will not be speaking or voting. PL will be speaking at the meeting against the Rush Lane planning application.</p> <p>The Fairfield Planning application is still awaiting a response from Highways.</p> <p>GL will be attending a meeting with Rissa Long (Highways) on Thursday 7 November 2019, if anyone would like any highway problems raised, to please contact him. GL will be asking why some potholes in Elsenham have been marked with white paint for over nine months. A resident asked if GL would raise the problem with flooding in Elsenham, particularly in respect of the situation in the High Street with the blocked drains on the railway bridge. JM asked if the vegetation that has encroached on the path along Stansted Road could be removed.</p> <p>UDC have produced a book for the more 'mature person'. Giving information on where to obtain help, if needed, and social events in the area.</p> <p>Henham Parish have produced a booklet with a list of useful services in the area. GL said he would be happy to help produce a booklet for Elsenham if someone would provide him with all the details.</p>	

	<p>JM asked if UDC Planning Committee would defer the three Elsenham planning applications that were currently on the horizon, until the new year, so all the highway statistics would be up to date and include all the new housing. GL said that UDC did not have the authority to defer planning applications on highway issues, only Essex Highways, Highways England and Central Government have the power to do that.</p> <p>FL said that if permission is granted for a further 61 houses on the Kingswood Place it would take the total to 236. Any development with more than 200 houses on, must have two roads leading to the main road, Kingswood Place only has the one entrance/exit, Isabel Drive, this is illegal. This should stop UDC from approving this application.</p> <p>GL said this was a Highways matter and only Highways could object on that point; UDC can question Highways comments, but cannot change their decision, if Highways say it's okay, then it's okay.</p> <p>Three members of R4U, Cllr's Paul Fairhurst, Barbara Light and Anthony Gerard, have defected to the Green Party. All three Councillors held prominent cabinet positions which have now been elected to other members. There are 39 elected Councillors at UDC, R4U still hold the majority with 23 members.</p> <p>GL left the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>20760</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Committee</b>  Minutes of the meeting held 21 October 2019.  Minutes of the meeting held 30 October 2019.  GM asked for any question regarding the two meetings with the developers.  RF said he was not convinced that meetings with developers were prudent. If a meeting was held, the developer could then inform UDC that they had consulted with EPC and could tick the box. GM said that if a developer asked for a meeting and EPC refused, the developer could still tick the box as they had made an approach, and by holding a meeting EPC could still gain some information and clarify points.  FL said that as both planning developers had said that if their planning application is approved, they will be selling it on to a building developer, EPC were not talking to the right people.  GM said that both developers had submitted outline applications with all matters reserved except access. If this is approved, then the possibility is that the development will go ahead. A full application is then</p>	<p>Noted.  Noted.</p>

	<p>submitted which gives all the details. Bovis Homes, however, did not submit an outline application and went straight for full application, this means everything must be considered. Either way the system is loaded in favour of the developer.</p> <p><b>Decisions made by Uttlesford District Council</b>  <b>UTT/19/1836/HHF 11 Oziers, Elsenham</b>  Single storey rear extension with half height two storey addition. Creation of new front door and open canopy on east elevation.</p> <p><b>UTT/19/1836/HHF</b> Quindon, Station Road, Elsenham  Demolition of existing extension and construction of two storey rear extension.</p> <p><b>UTT/19/2133/FUL</b> Old Mill Farm Site, Stansted Road, Elsenham. Change of use from B2 Industrial unit to D2 Gym.</p>	<p>Approved.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Withdrawn.</p>
<b>20761</b>	<p><b>Housing Development in Elsenham</b>  Both UTT/19/0437/OP 40 homes off Rush Lane, Elsenham and UTT/19/0462/FUL 130 homes off Hall Road, Elsenham, are to be included at UDC Planning Committee meeting on 6 November 2019.  GM is to speak on both applications, he will make a strong case against the Rush Lane application.</p> <p>Responses to the Wallace Land Investment planning application for 99 new homes, has been granted an extension until 14 December 2019.</p> <p>Many residents have complained on social media about the traffic jams in and around Elsenham, especially at Grove Hill. GM added a post asking people not only to voice their dissatisfaction of the situation on social media but to send them to UDC when objecting to further planning applications.</p>	<p>GM is to write an article for the Elsenham News, regarding possible objections residents could submit.</p>
<b>20762</b>	<p><b>Playing Field Committee</b>  Minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2019.  The CCTV signs have now been erected in the playing field, and all the polices and documentation has been completed. The CCTV is now live.  A meeting is to be arranged with the Tennis Club regarding the lease.  The replacement/repair of the gate in Leigh-Way leading onto Station Road, is still ongoing, one quote has been obtained. To replace the gate would be expensive. RoSPA are not in favour of replacing the gate with a small barrier on the pavement, barriers are</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>JM and PEC are to look at ways of repairing the gate.</p>

	<p>only used as a secondary safety measure, along with a gate. The hedges and vegetation around the playing field including Leigh-way are to be inspected and cut back where required. The repair to the safety surface in the children's play area is still ongoing.</p>			
<b>20763</b>	<p><b>Rights of Way and Open Spaces Committee</b> Tree Warden's report. Minutes of the meeting held 9 October 2019. FL had suggested that a copy of the Footpath Map is sent to all new residents. EROWOS only receive about 5 requests a year for copies, so decided against this, they will however place an article in the Elsenham News reminding people that copies are available on request.</p>			<p>Noted. Noted.</p>
<b>20764</b>	<p><b>Finance Committee</b> The following cheques and payments required for approval.</p>			All cheques and payments approved for signing.
	BACS	ECA	£82.75	
	BACS	L Johnson	£15.44	
	BACS x 3	Wages	£2,287.45	
	BACS	D Lucas	£20.00	
	BACS	P Clear	£12.69	
	BACS	SSE	£100.00	
	BACS	CPRE	£75.00	
	BACS	Mrs. F Lambert	£35.00	
	BACS	EALC	£108.00	
	BACS	Uttlesford Community Travel	£100.00	
	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£320.00	
	BACS	Belton Gardening	£35.90	
	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£201.50	
	BACS	EALC	£108.00	
	BACS	Belton's Gardening	£183.33	
	BACS	G Mott	£9.90	
	100323	Uttlesford Association of Local Councils	£5.00	
	BACS	HP instant Ink	£29.99	
	BACS	3G Mobile Phone	£29.72	
	BACS	Yvonne Morton	£50.00	
<b>20765</b>	<p>A summary of receipts and payments. All budgets are still on track. The Finance Committee are now in the period of considering a precept for 2020/21. A meeting will be held during November 2019.</p>			Noted.
<b>20766</b>	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b> <b>Proposal</b>, EPC give a donation to the Children's Air Ambulance. It was decided, as this charity did not cover the local area, EPC would not give a donation.</p>			

	<p><b>Proposal</b>, EPC give a £50 donation to Home Start.</p> <p><b>Proposal</b>, EPC give £100 donation to the Royal British Legion.</p> <p>PS has been booked on Councillor’s training day 1 and 2. GM has attended Chairman Day 1 and has been booked onto Chairman day 3, he will attend Chairman Day 2 in the new year.</p> <p><b>Proposal</b>, EPC give a donation of £200 towards the village Christmas Trees.</p> <p>EPC’s auditor had carried out the half year internal audit. Before her next visit due in April 2020 she would like the Standing Orders reviewed and the draft policies, Employee Disciplinary, Annual Leave and Employee Grievance, adopted by Full Council.</p> <p>The notice board by the railway station needs repair.</p> <p>A ‘Thank you’, card had been received from a resident thanking the Flowerbed Committee and volunteers for the grand display of flowers in the village.</p>	<p>FL proposed MJ seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>FL proposed PJ seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>MJ proposed JM seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>LJ to arrange.</p>
<b>20767</b>	<p><b>Flowerbed Committee</b></p> <p>The winter planting took place on Tuesday 15 October 2019. MJ thanked all members and volunteers that helped. The plants this year were so well established and beautiful, that less were needed to fill the flowerbeds. The excess plants were sold off.</p>	
<b>20768</b>	<p><b>Transport</b></p> <p><b>Proposal</b>, Mr. Peter Snow is elected as a representative for Transport.</p> <p>There have been many complaints regarding the continued closure of Hall Road.</p> <p>Trusty Bus are attempting to run according to the timetable, but with so many roads closed this was sometimes proving difficult.</p>	<p>RF proposed, PJ seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.</p>
<b>20769</b>	<p><b>Communication Committee</b></p> <p>More people are now visiting EPC’s website. The posts on;</p> <p>Wallace Land Investments – 2,091 clicks.</p> <p>Robin Hood Road – 2,155 clicks.</p> <p>Fairfield – 2,549 clicks.</p> <p>Bedwell Road – 255 clicks.</p> <p>Article on Rats – 1,900</p> <p>Article on dog waste bins – 1,999</p>	

	A meeting is to be arranged for this month.	
<b>20770</b>	<p><b>Volunteer Christmas evening</b> As the general election is to be held on 12 December 2019, the new date for the volunteer evening is 10 January 2020.</p> <p><b>Proposal</b>, EPC spend up to £200 on the Volunteer Christmas Reception.</p> <p>GM said that last year he had a very enjoyable evening, however, he felt guilty that EPC had allocated funds for a party for themselves. This year GM said he would be making a personal donation. It was up to individual Councillors to decide if they wanted to donate.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Ray Gooding entered the meeting.</b></p>	MJ proposed, FL seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.
<b>20771</b>	<p><b>PCSO</b> MJ had attended the PCSO meeting on 11 October 2019. There were no representatives at the meeting from Stansted or Henham.</p> <p>The Service Level Agreement (SLA) had been simplified, it is to be sent to LJ. Payment will be requested from UDC on a monthly basis, the figures remain the same as agreed originally, but Inspector Cox gave no indication as to the amount of any possible yearly pay increase.</p> <p>It was agreed that it would be helpful if the PCSO could occasionally attend a Parish Council meeting.</p>	LJ to add to December's agenda, a proposal for the signing of the SLA.
<b>20772</b>	<p><b>Essex County Councillor's report</b> RG confirmed that Hall Road was still on schedule to re-open on 22 November 2019.</p> <p>There had been a lot of complaints that the traffic-lights on Grove Hill were not working correctly, but this was mainly however, down to bad driving and people jumping the lights. Once Hall Road is open, CCTV cameras are going to be fitted to the lights for a short-term period.</p> <p>RG had a working meeting with Officers, including Network Rail regarding the drains on the bridge in the High Street, and the work is now proceeding, RG said he would have more information by next month's Parish Council's meeting.</p> <p>PJ stated that Highways should delay placing CCTV cameras at Grove Hill until after the zebra crossing has been installed, as the zebra crossing will change the flow of the traffic in Lower Street.</p>	

	<p>RG said that Stansted is a Victorian Town and the roads were not designed for the amount of traffic that now drive through it.</p> <p>JM asked why then Highways, never objects to planning applications which will generate more cars.</p> <p>RG said that Highways are only a consultee on planning applications. Any objections on the grounds of Highways must be justified, or, if it goes to appeal and it is agreed, ECC will have to pay the charges.</p> <p>ECC look at each planning application in isolation and on its own merits.</p> <p>GM said that the Inspectors threw out the 2014 Local Plan because of the infrastructure around this area, so why are Essex Highways so worried about objecting to large planning applications on those grounds?</p> <p>The Fairfield planning application has an access that is very dangerous on a blind bend, but Highways have not submitted any objections. Yet, on planning application for one or two houses, Highways will very often object.</p> <p>GM asked about the ‘Highways High Lights’ leaflet, this stated that Highways had cleared 2,385 drains in Uttlesford during the last month. In Elsenham, Stansted Road, The High Street and Station Road are ‘Priority 2’, which means the Essex Highways should carry out at least one clean per year. Yet we have drains in the village that have not been cleared for years.</p> <p>GM asked when the drains are cleared on the bridge in The High Street, can the rest of the drains in the village be cleared also?</p> <p>A resident said she was very concerned about the unfinished cycle path; this was a trip hazard.</p> <p>RG had not been able to obtain an answer to what the white circles around some potholes represented.</p> <p><b>RG left the meeting.</b></p>	<p>RG said he would chase up the unfinished cycle path and bus shelter.</p>
<b>Correspondence Received</b>		
20773	Kemi Badenoch MP, Surgery Poster	
20774	EALC Ebulletin for week commencing 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	
20775	Rural Crime, week 6 – 13 October 2019	
20776	London Stansted Airport newsletter	
20777	Partnership Document	
20778	Cars parking on the pavements	
20779	Partnership Document 7 -13 October 2019	
20780	Highways Highlights September’s edition	
20781	E Bulletin week commencing 7 October 2019	



20782	Thank you from SSE	
20783	Police Bulletin week commencing 13 October 2019	
20784	EALC E Bulletin week commencing 14 October 2019	
20785	PCSO meeting, report	
20786	Partnership Document 13 – 19 October 2019	
20787	Notification of 5-year housing land supply statement	
20788	EALC Police Bulletin week commencing 21 October 2019	
20789	EALC E Bulletin week commencing 21 October 2019	
20790	Partnership Document 19 – 25 October 2019	
20791	Water resources update October 2019	
<b>Meeting opened to public participation</b>		
20792	Allan Hathaway said that Cllr. Peter Johnson had done a commendable job on the reams of paperwork and documentation regarding the CCTV, and he should be thanked.	
20793	On 6 November 2019 a new path leading to the double doors in the Memorial Hall is being laid, this is to help with access into the hall.	
20794	The information regarding the footpath maps which was published in the Elsenham News about five-years ago is still available, a member of EROWOS would need to contact the editor.	
20795	Allan Hathaway said he understood GM concerns about spending public money on a social evening. But this evening was to say, 'Thank You' to the volunteers, and if members of EPC and the Community Association were not present, they could not say 'thank you'.	
20796	About 3 months ago a drain tank had cleared all the drains in Robin Hood Road.	
<b>Meeting closed to public participation</b>		
<b>Items to go on next agenda</b>		
<b>(at Chairman's discretion, no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).</b>		
20797	Proposal for signing the PCSO, service level agreement.	LJ to add item to next meeting's agenda.
<b>Meeting closed at 9.58pm the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 2 December 2019 at 8.00pm in the Memorial Hall</b>		

