



Elsenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Virtual Meeting

held at 8.00pm on 1 February 2021

Members of Elsenham Parish Council (EPC):	Dr. G Mott (Chairman GM), Mrs. M Jackson (Vice Chairman MJ), Mr. A Buonocore (AB), Mrs. I Curlewis (IC), Mr. R Franklin (RF), Mr. P Johnson (PJ), Mrs. F Lambert (FL), Mr. J Minor (JM), Ms. J Rayment (JR), Mrs. S Waite (SW) and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk – LJ).	
Public:	2 plus, District Cllr. P Lees (PL) and District Cllr. G LeCount (GL).	
Apologies for absence	Mr. P Clear (PEC) and Cllr. R Gooding (RG).	
Minute no.	Item	Actions agreed
21500	Declarations of Interest;	None
Open to the public There were no questions from the public.		
Closed to the public		
21501	Actions from previous minutes. Fence in Leigh Drive – UDC Enforcements cannot make any site visits until March 2021 at the earliest.	
21502	Minutes Council to consider the minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2021.	The minutes were approved by EPC, as a true and accurate record. To be signed at a later date.
21503	District Councillors' report PL answered the questions sent by GM, Investments, UDC had lent money to a veterinary project in Scotland, why is it not possible for details to be made public? PL replied, UDC has not invested in a veterinary project, they have invested in the building. UDC have not invested in any businesses. Buying land is a lower-risk strategy than buying a business. The investments that are in the public domain are on the UDC website.	

	<p>UDC have five completed investments. Other investments which have been agreed, but are not yet complete, remain communally confidential.</p> <p>In the Stansted Airport appeal, it appears that SSE are putting up a much more robust case than UDC. PL replied, the hearing is for 29 days and it ebbs and flows. Mr. Cobbel’s strategy is confidential, and that was the reason why that part of the Extraordinary Council meeting was not open to the public.</p> <p>Police investigation into the failure of auditors to approve UDC’s accounts. PL replied, UDC’s accounts have not been signed off. But this has nothing to do with the financial part of the accounts. It is a governance issue that there is concern about. Auditors want clarification that a process is being followed by UDC.</p> <p>At the Parish Council meeting in January 2021, GL had offered to find out the reason why, when asking for the same precept as the year before the ready reckoner shows an increase per D band household of 2.5%. GL said he had not obtained the answer as he had not understood the question.</p> <p>PL said she would find out the answer.</p> <p>The Covid-19 testing centres for asymptomatic are closing. The rapid tester centre will carry on with a booking system. UDC are trying to negotiate with ECC for another testing site to be established as Uttlesford is such a rural area. Covid-19 numbers are reducing in Uttlesford. PL encouraged everyone to download the Covid-19 symptoms app on their phones.</p> <p>GL said that UDC’s investments were doing so well they were beating deficits from the previous administration.</p>	
<p>21504</p>	<p>District Home Bonus – Ward Initiative Fund It was agreed by EPC that as PL and GL were giving their Ward Initiative Fund to such worthwhile causes, EPC would not ask for any funding this financial year. SW asked if the Ward Initiative Fund would be able to help fund the outdoor gym in the future. PL said that this could be considered as it is related to health and fitness.</p>	
<p>21505</p>	<p>County Councillor’s report</p>	

	Report Circulated	Noted.
21506	<p>Planning Committee Minutes of the meeting held 18 January 2021. Minutes of the New Community Hall meeting held on 22 January 2021. Bovis Homes are now called the Vistry Group. The Planning Committee had asked them to think again about providing a pavement from Church Lane to Elsenham Hall in their section 106 agreement.</p> <p>Henham PC are bringing a High Court action against the Inspectorate's decision on the Fairfield planning application appeal. The Planning Committee asked Fairfield to consider giving funds towards the new community hall. Fairfield replied saying because of the High Court action nothing could be decided at this time, however it was thought to be an encouraging reply.</p> <p>GM thanked PJ for his leading contribution on this new community hall. Some questions on the Whitworth costings had been collated and forwarded to them; a Zoom meeting with Whitworth is to be arranged.</p> <p>Proposal, Inge Curlewis becomes a member of the Planning Committee.</p> <p>EPC Planning Committee made an objection to the planning application for 50 houses off Bedwell Road. An eight-page reply was received from the developer Pegasus Group.</p> <p>UTT/21/0214/FUL Change of use, conversion, and alterations of existing buildings to form offices and storage and distribution alongside access, parking, landscaping, and other associated development. Home Farm, Gaunts End.</p> <p>Applications decided by Uttlesford District Council UTT/20/3173/LB Infill existing rear entrance and replace existing window inside elevation with a door. Replace/repair flat roof to rear and minor internal alterations. 1 Wells Cottage, Robin Hood Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/3015/CLE Single storey rear and side extension. 39 New Road, Elsenham.</p>	<p>Noted. Noted. Noted.</p> <p>GM proposed, MJ seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>LJ to send a copy of the objection and response to JM.</p> <p>To be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Withdrawn. The developer has now submitted another</p>

	<p>UTT/20/2916/HHF Proposed removal of existing garage and erection of two storey side extension. Broomfield House, Station Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/2501/FUL Section 73A Retrospective planning permission for retention of 2 x storage containers in use for the storage of agricultural equipment. Daisy May's Farm, Hall Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/1560/FUL Change of use and conversion of existing storage barn to 1 no. 4 bedroom detached dwelling associated detached cart lodge with first floor storage. Barn at Home Farm, Gaunts End, Green Street, Elsenham.</p>	<p>application.</p> <p>Refused.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Approved.</p>																											
21507	<p>Playing Field Committee</p> <p>A meeting is to be held on 4 February 2021. Work on the new path in the children's play area is due to commence on 3 February 2021.</p>																												
21508	<p>Rights of Way and Open Spaces Committee</p> <p>Tree Wardens report.</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2021.</p> <p>The two holly trees on the boundary of Elsenham Vale, was raised at the Parish Council meeting in January 2021, Councillors were asked to look at these trees, with a view to establishing whose land they were on. PJ, having looked at the position of the trees, said they were on the other side of the ditch from the Crest Nicholson's development, which may indicate that the trees are on no-man's land.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>LJ to write to the Tree Warden saying that EPC is not inclined to take responsibility for these trees.</p>																											
21509	<p>Finance Committee</p> <p>The following cheques and payments required for approval.</p>	All payments approved for signing.																											
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>Citizen Advice</td> <td>200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>A J Lighting</td> <td>£180.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS x 3</td> <td>Wages</td> <td>£2,355.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>M Burke Landscaping</td> <td>£276.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>M Burke Landscaping</td> <td>£660.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>Belton's Gardening</td> <td>£191.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>M Burke Landscaping</td> <td>£500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>Richard Sewell</td> <td>£450.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS</td> <td>HP Instant Ink</td> <td>£22.49</td> </tr> </table>	BACS	Citizen Advice	200.00	BACS	A J Lighting	£180.54	BACS x 3	Wages	£2,355.74	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£276.50	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£660.00	BACS	Belton's Gardening	£191.66	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£500.00	BACS	Richard Sewell	£450.00	BACS	HP Instant Ink	£22.49	
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21510	<p>A summary of receipts and payments.</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2020.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>																											
21511	Clerk's Report																												

	<p>EPC gave permission for the annual village fete to be held on the playing field on 5 June 2021, Covid-19 restriction allowing.</p> <p>The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 22 April 2021. An update report will be given on the new community hall.</p> <p>The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 10 May 2021.</p> <p>LJ will send the dates of all the Parish Council meetings including the Annual Parish Meeting, to the PCSO, asking her to attend when her duties permitted. It was also agreed to try and arrange monthly Zoom meetings with the PCSO and two or three Councillors.</p> <p>One of the tiles on the lych gate leading into the cemetery has fallen off, causing damage to a parked car.</p> <p>Proposal, LJ obtains a second quote to have mesh installed around the bottom of the lych gate roof to prevent any further tiles falling and causing damage or injury. EPC give permission for LJ to accept the lowest quote, the total spend would not exceed £575.</p> <p>Proposal, EPC pay for the repairs on Mr. Roydon-Hall's car, caused by a tile falling off the lych gate roof, up to the value of £400, subject to an estimate from an established organization.</p> <p>EPC's two litter pickers are receiving their Covid-19 vaccination on 2 February 2021, they have asked if they may then return to work. EPC have a duty of care to their employees and therefore does not agree to the litter pickers resuming work at this present time.</p>	<p>GM proposed, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>To be advertised in the village News.</p> <p>LJ to contact the PCSO.</p> <p>GM proposed, 9 in favour, 1 against.</p> <p>GM proposed, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>LJ to contact the litter pickers.</p>
<p>21512</p>	<p>Flowerbed Committee The meeting due to be held on 26 January 2021, has been re-scheduled for the 9 February 2021. Due to the increase on the price of plants the Flowerbed Committee has exceeded their budget by £60.00 Proposal, the Flowerbed Committee's budget is increased by £60.</p>	<p>MJ proposed, the vote was carried unanimously.</p>
<p>21513</p>	<p>Transport One of the local busses recently broke down in Station Road. RF had completed the online East of England transport survey 'Shape the transport in the east of England', the questions were about the use of buses after the</p>	

	<p>pandemic. RF commented on the increasing population of Elsenham, with further developments approved.</p> <p>RF attended the community forum Zoom meeting on transport. The Government have a White Paper out called 'Gear change a bold vision for cycling and walking' This could be useful for EPC's Planning Committee when commenting on future planning applications.</p> <p>RF responded to the Government pandemic survey report, as it included some areas on transport.</p>	
21514	<p>Communication Committee Minutes on the meeting held on 27 January 2021. A review is taking place to update the documents stored on the website, this is to ensure their accuracy and ease of locating.</p>	Noted.
21515	<p>Requests for a dog waste bin on Isabel Drive There are currently no dog waste bins on the Kingswood development. Residents are disposing of their dog waste in the litter bins in the children's play area. Once EPC have permission from Remus to install a dog waste bin on their land, a bin can be moved from the village, where there are currently two bins together and install on Kingswood. UDC would then need to be advised of the position of the bin so they could include it on their weekly collection.</p>	IC to contact Remus.
21516	<p>North Essex Parking Partnership meetings The North Essex Parking Partnership are holding surgeries online every Tuesday afternoon by appointment. IC would like to attend to discuss the problems with parking in Elsenham.</p>	Anyone who would like to join IC in attending a surgery is to contact her.
21517	<p>Smith Road Allotments Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021.</p> <p>Proposal, to be consistent with the allotments at St. Mary's Church, plus considering the growing season, EPC set their annual charges for the allotments on Smith Road to commence from 1 October – 30 September.</p> <p>Proposal EPC charge each tenant, when they are first allocated their plots, a £10 fee. The annual charge for the first year, 1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022 will be at a reduced rate based on £40 for a standard size plot, minus £10 in respect of the fee already paid. Charges will be reviewed for the year commencing 1 October 2022.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>MJ proposed, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>MJ proposed, the vote was carried unanimously.</p>
<p>As the time was 10.05pm, a vote was held as to whether to proceed with the agenda or to close the meeting. It was agreed, by 6 votes in favour to 4 votes against, to close the meeting.</p>		

**Meeting closed at 10.07pm, the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 1 March 2021
via Zoom at 8.00pm.**