



Elsenham Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Virtual Meeting

held at 8.00pm on 4 January 2021

Members of Elsenham Parish Council (EPC):	Dr. G Mott (Chairman GM), Mrs. M Jackson (Vice Chairman MJ), Mr. A Buonocore (AB), Mr. P Clear (PEC), 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 Essex County Cllr. R Gooding (RG) and District Cllr. G LeCount (GL).	
Apologies for absence	District Cllr. P Lees (PL).	
Minute no.	Item	Actions agreed
21452	Declarations of Interest;	None
Open to the public		
There were no questions from the public.		
Closed to the public		
21453	Actions from previous minutes. Fence in Leigh Drive – UDC Enforcement have been notified. LJ has sent all correspondence to PL.	RF to contact UDC Enforcement. LJ to send all correspondence to GL.
21454	Minutes Council to consider the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2020.	The minutes were approved by EPC, as a true and accurate record. To be signed at a later date.
21455	District Councillors' report The Stansted Airport planning application appeal is to be held on 12 January 2021; it is due to last 10-12 weeks. An Extraordinary Council meeting is being held on 7 January 2021. There are two items on the agenda, 1. To consider endorsement of the investment opportunity and to authorize the necessary borrowing.	

	<p>2. Two Councillors have called for a full debate in which all members of the Executive explain the current status and process that has been followed on the Stansted Airport planning appeal, since January 2020 by the Council’s Defence Team. The objectives are to satisfy the Council of the soundness of the process to date.</p> <p>Both the appeals, the Fairfield planning application for 350 new houses and the Isabel Drive planning application for 99 new houses were lost. This will put more pressure on the infrastructure in Elsenham and the surrounding villages.</p> <p>UDC’s defense against the Fairfield application rested mainly on the access to Elsenham using Grove Hill. The inspectorate said the junction is very awkward and constrained and it was not the responsibility of the developer to resolve existing problems, or poor driver’s judgement, and could not take into consideration random behaviour that resulted in grid lock or drivers that take alternative routes. Essex Highways had only carried out a one-day survey on the traffic using Grove Hill which was during the peak times. The results from the modeling survey on traffic for the Isabel Drive application did not agree with the results that Fairfield had obtained, but the Inspectorate said that as both had been verified by Essex Highways, this did not matter. To defend future applications UDC will need to use a different strategy.</p> <p>For any future planning applications, Elsenham, Henham and the surrounding villages may have to invest in their own traffic survey.</p> <p>RG said that part of the problem that Essex Highways have is the lack of a local plan.</p> <p>RG held a meeting with the residents of Grove Hill, Stansted Parish Council and Officers from Highways, regarding the traffic using Grove Hill. A way forward to help this problem was reached involving some additional legislation.</p> <p>JM said when defending against the Gladman application, one of the options could be to carry out research on the width of the roads around Ugley Green.</p>	
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	<p>The Local Plan is still proceeding. The Local Plan Working Group reports directly to the Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Any major highways problems can be reported to GL, who will raise them with Highways.</p>	
21456	<p>County Councillor's report</p> <p>When Essex moved into tier 4 the Government put in a contingency plan for schools. The schools in the south of the county would go to home learning for another 2 weeks, these did not however include the schools in Uttlesford. On 31 December 2020, the infection rate for Uttlesford was almost 800 per 100,000 an increase of 55% in three days. ECC asked the Secretary of State, for schools in Uttlesford to be closed and go to home learning. However, this has now been overtaken as the government has now announced that as from 5 January 2021 the whole area is moving into lockdown.</p> <p>RG had also written to the Secretary of State regarding the request to test secondary school children on site for Covid-19. This would place a huge burden on schools. RG suggested that the test is carried out by parents at home.</p> <p>The testing for drivers entering and leaving the country is carried out by lateral testing which is not so accurate but a result is given within an hour.</p> <p>IC asked about early-years and nurseries staying open. RG said that in the Government contingency plan, early-years and nurseries could stay open unless they were linked to a primary school that was closed.</p>	
21457	<p>Planning Committee</p> <p>Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held 3 December 2020.</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held with Gladman 9 December 2020.</p> <p>Planning report.</p> <p>There had been no reply from PL regarding the transfer of the contribution money from David Wilson Homes and Crest Nicholson.</p> <p>A consultation is to take place on new flight paths to separate Luton and Stansted aircrafts. This will have some impact on various counties, including Hertfordshire and Essex. The consultation ends on 5th February 2021.</p> <p>As there is no impact either on Elsenham or on Stansted Airport, it was agreed that no action would be taken.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>LJ to send the minutes to Ugley PC and Gladman. Noted.</p> <p>No Action.</p>

	<p>UTT/20/3119/FUL Replacement structure to provide 1 no. new dwelling, opposite The Haven (site 2), Tye Green Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>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 Cottages, Robin Hood Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>Decisions made by UDC: UTT/20/2741/HHF Single storey side extension, 11 Ridley Gardens, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/2547/HHF Proposed new vehicle crossing, 71 New Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/2046/FUL Erection of storage barn, Land North of Springlands, Henham Road, Elsenham.</p> <p>UTT/20/0720/FUL Conversion of barn to form 1 no. dwelling, Motts Hall, Green Street, Elsenham.</p> <p>Appeal decisions APP/C1570/W/20/3256109 Land off Isabel Drive and Land off Stansted Road, Elsenham. Up to 99 homes including affordable homes, with areas of landscaping and public open space, including points of access off Stansted Road and Isabel Drive.</p> <p>APP/C1570/W/19/32437744 Land east of Elsenham, to the north of the B1051, Henham Road. Up to 350 dwellings, a primary school including Early Years and Childcare Setting for up to 56 places (Class D1); open spaces and landscaping including provision of junior football pitch and changing rooms; access from B1051 Henham Road with associated street lighting and street furniture.</p>	<p>No Comment.</p> <p>No Comment.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Refused.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Approved with a condition that the PROW must be kept open.</p> <p>Approved.</p> <p>Approved.</p>
<p>21458</p>	<p>Housing Development in Elsenham Despite correspondence with Planning Officers at UDC, EPC had been unsuccessful in obtaining a commitment from UDC to adhere to their own policy which states that Parish Councils are included in discussion with Section 106 agreements. A Section 106 agreement is agreed before a planning decision is made. EPC had no say in the Section 106 agreement with either of the appeals, Fairfield Development or Wallace Land Investments. EPC wanted to make the case for a contribution to the new community hall.</p>	

	<p>The Planning Committee therefore decided to approach the developers directly, asking for a contribution to the new community hall, improvement to the PRow on the other side of the motorway, and retaining the existing informal access into Orchard Crescent.</p> <p>The closing date for submitting representation on the Gladman planning application has now passed. But in practice when the Officer reviews the application, they do consider all representations regardless of time scales.</p> <p>GL offered to become involved with any further meetings with prospective developers. GM said that EPC want to get involved with Section 106 talks before the application is determined. If EPC engaged in discussion it is done without prejudice of any position EPC may hold of opposing the planning application.</p>		
21459	<p>Playing Field Committee A meeting is to be arranged soon to consider funding for the outdoor gym and the possibility of setting up a charity.</p> <p>GM congratulated the Playing Field Committee on receiving two gold awards from Essex Playing Fields.</p>		
21460	<p>Rights of Way and Open Spaces Committee Tree Wardens report. The tree maintenance work in the spinney had been carried out successfully. Two trees on the boundary of Crest Nicholson's land and a property in Mill Close require crown reduction. GM asked Councillors to look at the trees to judge who is responsible for them.</p>	Noted.	
21461	<p>Finance Committee The following cheques and payments required for approval.</p>	All payments approved for signing.	
	BACS	S Smith	£50.00
	BACS	F Lambert	16.99
	BACS x 3	Wages	£2,355.74
	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£276.50
	BACS	M Burke Landscaping	£660.00
	BACS	Uppercut Trees	£1,200.00
	BACS	Henham PC	£2,000.00
	BACS	EALC	£84.00
	BACS	Belton Gardening	£191.66
	BACS	HP Instant ink	£17.99
	BACS	Microsoft Office	£59.99
	BACS	H M Revenue	£1371.45
	BACS	L Johnson	£50.00

	BACS	Bruce Bamber	£450.00	
	BACS	3G Mobile	£30.53	
	BACS	Zoom Membership	£14.39	
21462	<p>A summary of receipts and payments. Minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2020.</p> <p>Proposal EPC set a precept of £82,500 for the financial year 2021/2022.</p> <p>Although this figure is the same precept that EPC set for 2020/2021 it still represents a 2.5% increase. EPC asked Uttlesford finance for an explanation but has not received one.</p>			<p>Noted. Noted.</p> <p>Proposed by PJ seconded by MJ, the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>GL to investigate this. PJ to send GL the details.</p>
21463	<p>Clerk's Report Proposal, EPC reimburse our litter picker £29.99, for the purchase of a new trolley.</p> <p>LJ said there was difficulty getting cheques signed in the present lockdown, and therefore the donations to Citizen Advice and the Christmas tree had been delayed.</p> <p>GL said that he and PL still have funds from their Home Bonus to give to charities within the village.</p>			<p>Proposed by FL the vote was carried unanimously.</p> <p>LJ to add to February's agenda.</p>
21464	<p>Flowerbed Committee A meeting will be been arranged for the end of January 2021.</p>			
21465	<p>Transport Nothing to report this month.</p>			
21466	<p>Communication Committee The website is being kept up to date. Facebook is quiet at present.</p>			
21467	<p>Allotments Proposal, Sue Waite becomes a member of the Allotment Working Group. RF is updating the information that he gathered for the Elsenham 1000 year's-book which was published in 2020. This includes the history of the allotments at St. Mary's Church and the new Smith Road allotments. A working group meeting is to be arranged to discuss this plus outstanding issues on the Smith Road Allotments.</p>			<p>Proposed by GM, the vote was carried unanimously.</p>
21468	<p>Playing field boundary EPC has received an email from Nockolds asking for confirmation that the fence erected by the owners of The Stocks in Station Road, is in the correct position to reflect ownership. The fence has been erected on EPC's land and although EPC do not request that the fence is moved back, to the correct boundary, the situation must be made clear that the owners of The Stocks occupies</p>			

	<p>the land the fence is on, but do not have right of ownership.</p> <p>Proposal. The Parish Council reply to the email from Nockolds as follows: Thank you for your email concerning The Stocks, Station Road, Elsenham CM22 6LA. The Parish Council confirms that the fence on the boundary of the property reflects current occupation, although we draw attention to the fact the boundary lies three feet to the east of the chain linked fence on the Parish Council's property.</p> <p>There are still outstanding issues regarding the boundary of the playing field and the ownership of the ditch.</p>	<p>Proposed by GM, seconded by PEC vote was carried 8 in favour and 3 against.</p>
21469	<p>Parking around the primary school at drop off and pick-up times. The parking around the school is a problem. A survey could be carried out to gather people's ideas and any options that were available. However, if parking permits or yellow lines are put in place this would only move the current problem to other streets in the village and would not allow residents to park outside their properties. The car park in the playing fields could be used and then either the children could be walked or taken by minibus to the school, however this would rely on volunteers. ECC will acquire land within the Section 106 agreement on the Bovis Homes development. Part of this land was to be a drop off and pick-up point for the school. However, this is unlikely to proceed now, as RG has stated at an EPC meeting that ECC do not encourage drop off points, their policy is that children should be encouraged to walk to school. It was agreed to ask the village PCSO if she could do anything to help the situation.</p>	
21470	<p>PCSO GM attended an online meeting with the Chairmen from Stansted and Henham, regarding the amount of time that the PCSO is sent on other duties away from the three villages. Stansted PC composed the email, which was sent to Fiona Gardener at UDC and Inspector Colin Cox. Inspector Cox replied, Fiona Gardener did not. A reply was also sent from PC Claire Bailey. It was agreed to see if the situation now improves. There had been no suggestion at the meeting that either Stansted or Henham wanted to withdraw from the agreement. EPC will not go through UDC in future but deal directly with the police. Any further problems with the PCSO, EPC will liaise with Stansted.</p>	
Correspondence		

21471	Police Bulletin 2 December 2020	
21472	Stansted Airport Planning Appeal	
21473	Essex Fraud Alert 4 December 2020	
21474	Weekly update Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner	
21475	EALC E Bulletin 4 December 2020	
21476	Partnership Document 7 December 2020	
21477	UDC Local Plan Third Climate Change meeting	
21478	Change to festive bin collection	
21479	Further update Stansted Airport planning application	
21480	EALC Police Bulletin 9 December 2020	
21481	UDC news event climate change	
21482	Local Plan towards zero carbon	
21483	EALC Training Bulletin 10 December 2020	
21484	District News latest Covid-19 data	RF is collecting all the correspondence regarding Covid-19 data, he will send them to Essex and Saffron Walden Record Office when the pandemic is over.
21485	Weekly update Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.	
21486	Police Document 6 – 12 December 2020	
21487	Member's letter 14 December 2020	
21488	News from St Clare Hospice February 2021	
21489	Notification of Essex going into tier 3	
21490	Highways Highlights December 2020	
21491	The Great British Spring Clean	This may have to be postponed until the autumn.
21492	SSE Goodbye 2020	
21493	Police Bulletin 16 December 2020	
21494	Government backtrack on planning	
21495	Scams update 18 December 2020	
21496	E Bulletin 18 December 2020	
21497	UDC Council information on vaccination program	
21498	Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner update	
Meeting opened to public participation		
There was no questions.		
Meeting closed to public participation		
Items to go on next agenda		
(at Chairman's discretion, no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).		
21499	District Councillors Home bonus. Trees on the boundary of Elsenham Vale.	LJ to add items to next meeting's agenda.
Meeting closed at 10.16pm the next Parish Council Meeting will be held via Zoom on 1 February 2021 at 8.00pm.		