



**Elsenham Parish Council**

**Flowerbeds Committee**

**Minutes of meeting**

**held on Tuesday 9 February 2021 at 2.00pm**

**via online Zoom**

**All meetings are open to the public and press**

<b>Present:</b>	
Mrs. M Jackson (Chairman MJ), Dr. G Mott (GM), Ms. J Rayment (JR), Mrs. S Waite (SW), Mr. A Hathaway (AH) and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk LJ).	
<b>Members of the public: none.</b>	
<b>Apologies for absence: none.</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Actions agreed</b>
<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None.	
<b>Open to the Public</b>	
<b>Minutes</b> The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2020.	The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.
<b>Matters Arising</b> There were no matters arising.	
<b>Budget 2020/21 and Summer Planting</b> The Flowerbed Committee have overspent by £60. The reason for this was the difficulties in sourcing plants due to Covid-19, and Brexit. This had increased the prices of the plants; it also made some plants difficult to obtain which included the plants that had been agreed for the new project in the Leigh Drive flowerbeds. Therefore, bedding plants have been ordered again and the plans for the new floral scheme with perennial plants will be put on hold until next year.  The problem with lack of water in the Leigh Drive flowerbeds has improved this year. This is due to topping up the compost each time planting has taken place, the soil is much richer and holds the water more.  The Parish Council agreed to increase the budget by £60.	

<p><b>Memorial Garden</b></p> <p>It was agreed to make the Memorial Garden wildlife friendly, by putting nesting boxes onto the trees, bug houses, areas for hedgehogs and areas where dead wood could be left. Residents should be informed that EPC were trying to encourage wildlife into the garden.</p> <p>AH said he would make some bird and hedgehog boxes.</p> <p>There were some concerns about the Memorial Garden being near to a road. A suggestion was to ask the residents of Little Glebe if two or three holes could be put into the dividing fence to allow the hedgehogs to move from garden to garden.</p> <p>An article could be placed in the Elsenham News encouraging all house holders to do this.</p>	
<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>The village sign is going rusty and requires painting. AH said he would be happy to restore it.</p> <p>SW asked about conservation areas in the village. There is presently an area in the Spinney and in the playing field, that EROWOS are cultivating into a wildflower area, neither are registered, with National England.</p> <p>An ideal area would be on Elsenham Vale by the trim trail. This was supposed to be a wildflower area and formed part of the S106 agreement. But it has never even been started and UDC have never demanded it.</p> <p>There may be an opportunity to put a flowerbox on the verge when the Fairfield application begins.</p> <p>The flowerbed on New Road is still on hold, it is difficult to find a position for a new bed without obstructing the site view for cars.</p>	<p>LJ to ask Mick Burke to remove the sign.</p>
<p>Next meeting to be held on 30 March 2021 at 2.00pm</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting closed at 2.35pm.</b></p>	

