

Elsenham Rights of Way & Open Spaces Committee

Committee Meeting

Friday 17th February 2023 2pm
in Elsenham Memorial Hall

Present:

Graham Mott (GM) (Elsenham Parish Council EPC, P3 rep)
Stewart Pimblett (SP)
Heather Salvidge (HS) (Tree Warden)
Paul Salvidge (PS)
Margaret Shaw (MS) (Secretary)
Dave Verlander (DV)

PS chaired the meeting.

Apologies:

Sue Waite (SW) (EPC)
Kevin Wood (KW)

Not present:

Bianca Donald (BD) EPC)

Declarations of Interest:

MS/DV (Trustees of Elsenham Memorial Hall)
DV resident of Broom Farm Road

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 18th November 2022

The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record.
GM will deliver a signed copy to Louise Johnson (LJ) (EPC Clerk.)
MS will forward an electronic copy to LJ.
GM will pass draft minutes onto the EPC website manager.

Action: GM / MS

Matters Arising from meeting held on Friday 18th November not on Agenda

P3 LJ received payment from ECC for Brush Cutter course fees.

Parish Council Chairman's report

UTT/21/2461/DFO Land To The West Of Isabel Drive Elsenham on two sites.

(FP31 & FP32) (Dandara Eastern 99 homes)
UDC Planning Committee has deferred a decision on the detailed planning application.

UTT/19/0462/FUL Land West Of Hall Road (FP13) (Bovis Homes 130 homes)
ECC Highways will be consulting on the proposed rerouting of FP13.

UTT/21/3269/DFO - Land To The North West Of Henham Road

(FP21 Elsenham) (Bloor Homes 350 homes)

Ongoing.

UTT/20/2908/OP Land South of Bedwell Road

(FP29 Ugley) (Rochester Properties 50 homes)

Appeal hearing on 21st March. UDC will not be defending its decision to refuse.

GM will represent Ugley & Elsenham PCs & object on noise grounds.

UTT/19/0437/OP Rush Lane (FP29 Elsenham)

It is now 2.5 years since this planning permission was approved on Appeal (4/09/20).

PINS Section 62A Application: S62A/22/0007 Land to the South of Henham Road

(FP13 Elsenham) (Countryside Properties 130 Homes)

PINS will be holding a further public consultation.

Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/2022/0012 - Land East of Station Road, Elsenham

(FP15 Henham) (Bloor Homes 200 houses adjacent to UTT/21/3269/DFO)

Appeal hearing has been heard but no decision issued.

Proposed site stops short of FP15 Henham

Open Spaces

Spinney Wildflower Area

HS / PS have done necessary trimming. Thank You

Spinney

The North Western section and the cherry tree overhanging a Leigh Drive house was significantly cut back by Mr. Maskall.

No volunteer working party is required, as any litter picking could be done during a Parish litter pick.

Spinney Wildflower Area

Another full cut is not required. HS will organise a boundary trim.

Action: HS

New Road Wildflower Area

No progress.

KW is chasing Ben Brown (UDC Environmental Services).

Action: HS / KW / SW

Oziers Green

After careful consideration it was concluded that nothing could be done to alleviate the problem of residents parking on the Green.

DV suggested a "No Parking by order of the Parish Council sign be installed (as at Tye Green)

Action: GM / LJ

UDC Tree Planting Initiative

LJ has contacted Ben Smeeden at UDC - a reply is awaited.

Action: LJ / GM / SW

Rights of Way

FP4

The promised kissing gates have not been installed (as at 17/2/23).
MS to alert Simon Taylor (ECC Enforcement Officer) (ST).

Action: MS

FP13 at Fullers End

The missing Public Footpath sign at Fullers End "will be considered as part of a maintenance program (ECC ref 3656657).

Action: MS

FP13 at Hall Road

This is not usable. EPC will discuss with developers and remind them that the path needs to be reinstated.

Action: GM

FP21 between the Crown & the old Cricket Pitch ref 2793515.

No improvement. MS to chase ST.

Action: MS

FP22 / FP15 Henham ref 2662891

HS joined Neil Gemmill (ECC PRoW Office) (NG) & the Badger Group on site on 23/11/22. The Badgers Setts are now extensive. NG is dealing. MS suggested that a diversion of FP15 Henham would be easier and more cost effective. This would involve the involvement of Bloor Homes. MS to contact NG to discuss.

We would need to ensure that FP22 remained passable.

HS has circulated information from the Badger Group.

Action: MS

Essex Ramblers

MS has circulated details of all the work done in the Parish by Essex Ramblers, for which we are grateful. GM met with Alan Goffee to discuss outstanding work required on FP10. This is a well used route. DV will come up with a plan for waymarking.

SP will investigate hiring a digger to dig out the ditch on FP10 (and possibly FP35 at Catts Lane). We have money in our EPC Budget.

Action: DV / SP

P3 2023

MS will submit our Parish Paths Partnership – Work Proposal and Grant Application Form 2023/24.

We need to ask for a place on a First Aid course (not too far away).

We will include the work on FP10 & FP35 and other routes as usual.

Hedge Cutting Contract

Mr Maskall was awarded the contract and GM was content that the work had been professionally done.

Tree Warden's Reports

HS has circulated the Tree Warden's Reports.
HS/PS have pruned the fruit trees at the Village Orchard on de Mandeville Green.
Thank you.

DV reported that Ben Smeeden (UDC) will inspect the distressed Oak Tree at the junction of Broom Farm Road & Elm Close in the spring. DV has written to the landowners but received no reply.

Village Walks

Boxing Day Walk - Only 11 people attended although weather was reasonable.

Good Friday Walk 7th April at 2.15. Meeting at the Crown.

People at start and end should wear High Viz.

GM will organise route & lead.

MS will organise an article for April Elsenham News (highlighting lack of public participation) and update website.

MS will organise posters for notice boards.

MS will circulate to Elsenham Walkers mailing list and Henham & Elsenham Newline on Facebook.

DV, who is not walking, will be available to come and collect anybody who is taken ill.

SP to organise 2-way radios.

Action: GM / MS / DV / SP / All

AOB

FP38 at Leigh Drive End.

There is a constant muddy patch here. PS will try to source some finings to cover patch.

PS will organise working party.

Action: PS

FP21 behind Crown

HS is helping Mr Harris with problems with trees on Persimmon Land.

Next meeting

Friday 28th April 2023 at 2.45pm in the Memorial Hall. MS to book.

Action: MS / ALL