



## **Elsenham Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in The Memorial Hall at 8.00pm on 3 April 2023**

#### **Members of Elsenham Parish Council (EPC) present:**

Cllr. G Mott (Chairman GM), Cllr. G Bentley (GB), Cllr. R Franklin (RF), Cllr. P Jarvis (PJ),  
Cllr. P Johnson (PJJ), Cllr. F Lambert (FL), Cllr. B Ogilvie (BO), Cllr. S Waite (SW)  
and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk – LJ).

#### **Members of the public present:**

6, plus Essex County Cllr. R Gooding (RG), District Cllr. G Le Count (GL).

**Apologies for absence:** Cllr. B Donald (Vice-Chair BD).

**Declarations of Interest:** RF declared an interest in UTT/21/2461/DFO, Dandara, 99 dwellings off Stansted Road, RF lives in Stansted Road.

#### **Open to the public**

- 22781.** A resident asked about item 10 on the agenda. The proposal to give an advanced payment to the football pitch maintenance contractor to purchase grass seeds and fertilizer.  
PJJ explained that EPC would purchase the items which would allow for the VAT to be reclaimed and in the unlikely event that the company went into liquidation the items would belong to EPC.
- 22782.** GL as a member of the PPG gave an update on the Elsenham Surgery. The PPG has now received an audit report for the Elsenham Surgery, which will be analysed at the meeting to be held in May. It looks at this stage that Elsenham Surgery will remain open but with limited opening times.  
FL asked how the Elsenham Surgery had got themselves into such financial difficulties. GL said it was the Government, who had been reducing the amount the Dispensing Practices received from dispensary fees and the cost of drugs have increased, while the amount being reimbursed by the NHS has reduced.
- 22783.** A resident asked what the current situation was regarding guide and assistance dogs being allowed off their leads on the playing field.  
GM said all assistance dogs and guide dogs are allowed in the playing field off their leads.  
BO and RF said this was contrary to the playing field minutes.

**Closed to the public.**

**22784. Actions from previous minutes**

EYFC establish if a planning application is required for the fencing around the rolled goals in the playing field. The matter is still being investigated.

**22785. Minutes**

The Council considered the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February and 6 March 2023. GM signed the minutes as a true record.

**22786. Planning Committee**

**Application submitted to UDC Planning**

- 1. UTT/23/0713/OP** Outline Planning Application, with All Matters Reserved Except Scale & Access, for the erection of up to 7 dwellings and associated work. Land West Of Old Mead Road, Henham.
- 2. UTT/23/0654/FUL** Erection of temporary marquee, with associated catering facilities, toilets and services, and 80 dedicated parking spaces, plus 20 overflow spaces, drop-off bay and service area vehicle turning head. Golf World Stansted Ltd, Hall Road, Elsenham.  
**In this application temporary means five years. The marquee is large enough for 600 guests. It will be discussed at the planning meeting on 12 April 2023.**
- 3. UTT/23/0464/FUL** Demolition of existing commercial buildings and erection of 4 no. detached dwellings with associated off-street parking (revised scheme to that approved under UTT/19/2614/FUL). Apple Tree Yard, Fullers End, Tye Green Road. Elsenham.

**Decisions made by UDC.**

Nil.

Planning Report Noted.

EPC have informed UDC enforcements that they agree with the resident that raised a breach of planning control at 46 Glebe End Elsenham. A pitched roof has been constructed when the plans clearly state it should be a flat roof.

RF asked why, on planning the application for 130 dwellings south of Henham Road, Essex Highways have lodged an objection on the grounds of the cumulative impact on traffic through Stansted, particularly Grove Hill. But they had not raised an objection to Dandara planning application for 99 dwellings off Stansted Road. GM explained that the 2 applications were at different stages. 130 dwellings south of Henham Road were still trying to obtain outline planning permission. While 99 dwellings off Stansted Road have outline planning permission and were now submitting detailed plans. Essex Highways had put in an objection for the 99 dwellings off Stansted Road when the planning permission was submitted, but on the first day of the hearing had withdrawn their objection.

**22787. County Councillor's report**

A reciprocal arrangement is being discussed between Essex and Hertfordshire County Councils, to allow residents to use their nearest waste tip, which may not be necessarily in the county that they live. At present people must enter their address when booking a time for using the tip and if it isn't within the catchment area, they cannot proceed with their booking.

PJJ said although Essex Highways have started to address some of the potholes in the area, many of the drains by the side of the roads had deep ruts around the cover which could result in the drain covers becoming loose and breaking.

BO said the roads have never been so bad, have Essex Highways got a long-term plan to address this?

RG said many of the potholes are caused by the utility companies, they dig up the roads and do not resurface them properly. The Government are looking into making the companies more responsible.

RF mentioned that ECC had a pending Minerals and Waste Application at Ugley Landfill Site, Cambridge. It is a Full Planning Application with importation of soils to allow for the re-capping and reprofiling of restored landfill; and installation of a ground-mounted solar array.

A resident asked why Essex Highways did not add all the new housing that is in the pipeline together when responding to planning applications.

RG replied that planning applications must be assessed on their own merits.

Highways must have a reason to object and without a Local Plan in place it is sometimes very difficult.

At present Essex Highways have objected to 130 dwellings south of Henham Road, but they could still change their minds.

**22788. Playing Field Committee**

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2023 – noted.

Peter Clear's bench is now in the children's play area. The white lines need re-painting in the bottom car park. The gap between the gate and the fence on the Leigh Way path needs addressing.

BO asked why a gate was required on the path? When leaving the playing fields by the Leigh Way gates, there was nothing to stop children running into the top car park and onto the road.

**22789. Rights of Way and Open Spaces Committee**

Tye Green Pond which belongs to EPC has flooded again. Roe Environmental Ltd are going to drain the pond on 13 April. A long-term solution needs to be established.

The traditional Good Friday walk is on 7 April 2023 starting at 2.15pm at the Crown. It would be a good idea to wear your wellies.

## 22790. Financial Payments

The following cheques and payments required for approval:

Beltons Gardening	£210.00
Zoom	£14.39
Wages	£2,571.48
EALC	£360.00
Sharon Jones	£20.00
Glasdon	£1,519.69
HEU Benefice Account	£20.00
3G Mobile	£12.00
Hp Ink	£22.49
M Burke Landscaping	£902.50
M Burke Landscaping	£276.50
S Jones	£27.50
Elsenham Village Hall	£30.00
SW Transport	£1320.00
Castle Water	£948.65
M Burke	£320.00
Amenity Services	£590.00
Allotment Society	£66.00
D Honour & Son Ltd	£7927.45
Hutchinson	£3789.96

All payments approved for signing.

A summary of receipts and payments **Noted**.

Detailed receipts form – Noted.

GM and LJ signed the summary and receipts form.

The minutes from the Finance meeting held on 24 March 2023 Noted.

The figures on the summary and detailed finance forms represent the end of year balance.

The annual spend for 2022/23 is £180,000. EPC must be careful what they spend in 2023/24 and keep within their budgets.

### **The football pitch maintenance contract**

The contractor for the football pitch maintenance contract has asked for advance payment of £4,800 to purchase grass seeds and fertilizer.

The Finance Committee recommend the following proposal.

**Proposal:** EPC purchase grass seeds and fertilizer to the value of £4,800. This amount is then deducted from the total amount of the contract.

EPC can claim back the VAT.

PJJ proposed, RF seconded, the vote was carried 7 in favour and 1 abstention.

**Proposal:** EPC renew their membership to the National Allotment Society at a cost of £66.

BO proposed, PJ seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.

**Proposal:** The litter pickers wages are increased in line with the minimum pay increase brought in by the Government on 1 April 2023.  
PJJ proposed, FL seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.

**22791. Clerk's Report**

The clerk had nothing to report.

**22792. Flowerbed Committee**

The flowerbed committee walked around the village today looking at potential places for more flowerbeds, hanging baskets and bulbs. An idea being investigated was to have one of the flowerbeds as a community flowerbed. There is still no firm date for the summer planting, but it will be end of May beginning of June.

**22793. Transport**

RF had received all the information including a slide show of the recent Essex Transport meeting which was held by Zoom.

The 7 and 7A buses have gone out to tender again, keeping to the same timetable as the village has at present.

**22794. Communication Committee**

Nothing to report, all forms of communication going well.

**22795. Celebrations for The King's Coronation**

As the King's coronation is in a few weeks' time, it was too late to organise any large event. SW said that if the Memorial Hall would be open, people could have picnics on the playing field on Sunday 7 May 2023.

BO said it is not always EPC's responsibility to organise events.

**22796. Citizens Advice video link into Elsenham**

As BD was absent, this is to be carried over to May's Parish Council meeting.

**22797. Pesticides Policy**

As BD was absent, this is to be carried over to May's Parish Council meeting.

**22798. Allotments**

The gate to the Smith Road allotments has a new code. An allotment meeting is to be held on 6 April 2023.

**Correspondence**

**22799.** EALC Police, Fire and Crime Bulletin 27 February 2023.

**22800.** Bloor, travellers.

**22801.** PFCC report update 3 March 2023.

**22802.** EALC News E-Bulletin Week Commencing 6th March 2023.

**22803.** Cultural Engine.

**22804.** EALC Police, Fire and Crime e-Bulletin.

**22805.** De Mandeville Road, Elsenham - Road Closure.

**22806.** PFCC report update 10 March 2023.

**22807.** EALC News e-Bulletin week commencing 13th March 2023.

**22808.** Multi-agencies Events 2023.

- 22809.** Planning Parish Forum - 28 March 2023, agenda.
- 22810.** Crime Data Update.
- 22811.** Community Special Constables - Recruitment updates. Feb 2023.
- 22812.** Elsenham video link.
- 22813.** EALC Police, Fire and Crime e-Bulletin- Week commencing 13th March 2023.
- 22814.** 100 Parishes.
- 22815.** PFCC update 17 March 2023.
- 22816.** Uttlesford Community Travel – Newsletter 2023/24.
- 22817.** Planning Parish Forum - 28 March 2023 – agenda.
- 22818.** EALC News e-Bulletin Week Commencing 20th March 2023.
- 22819.** Police, Fire and Crime e-Bulletin- Week Commencing 20th March 2023.
- 22820.** Police, Fire and Crime e-Bulletin- Week Commencing 24th March 2023.
  
- 22821. Items to be added to next month's agenda.**
  - Citizens Advice video link into Elsenham – BD.
  - Pesticides Policy – BD.
  - Village litter pick – SW.
  - Potholes – FL.

**Meeting opened to public**

- 22822.** GL asked if the village booklet needed to be updated.
- 22823.** A resident who caught the local bus recently said with all the diversions and road works in the area he thought the bus company did an amazing job.

**Meeting closed to public**

**Meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and will be held at 8pm on