



**Elsenham Parish Council
Flowerbeds Committee
Minutes of Meeting
held on 23 July 2019 at 4pm
1 Saunders Close, Elsenham**

All meetings are open to the public and press

Present	
Mrs. M Jackson (Chairman - MJ), Dr. G Mott (GM), Mr. A Hathaway (AH), Mr. D Belton (DB)	
Members of the public: None.	
Apologies for absence: Mrs. E Chong (EC), Miss. H Mudge (HM), Ms. J Rayment (JR) and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk - LJ).	
Item	Actions agreed
Declarations of Interest None.	
Open to the Public None present.	
Minutes The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2019.	The minutes were signed by the Chairman MJ, as a true and accurate record.
Matters Arising Flowerbeds wood surrounds – following an inspection AH advised he would repair the diamond beds at the Memorial Gardens and the repair will last until the wood is replaced (See Flowerbeds below). Up to £50 has been allocated for these repairs per minutes of meeting 25 June 2019. AH is to raise the Elsenham Signs at the entrance by the motorway bridge, this will stop the flowers in the planters from obscuring them. This item was clarified at Parish Council Meeting 1 July 2019. Facebook post required for help watering beds at Station, Broom Farm and Leigh Drive during hot/dry spells.	 AH to action AH to action MJ to action

<p>Site visit to be arranged regarding the proposed siting of new bed/s at the Bedwell Road/New Road end of the Village.</p> <p>An Elsenham Village sign is required to signify the border of Ugley and Elsenham.</p>	<p>MJ To arrange</p> <p>LJ to contact UDC</p>
<p>Budget 2019/20 The current flowerbed budget still stands at £1,750</p>	
<p>Memorial Garden Proposal, The Flowerbed Committee ask Full Council for monies from the reserve or project reserve, to purchase established trees to plant at the back of the Memorial Garden, as a replacement to the trees that were felled in the adjacent garden.</p> <p>This proposal was discussed at great length. Type of tree has to be considered – deciduous or evergreen, what effect would this have on the surrounding environment, is there sufficient room to take large trees, would there be problems in the future from tree roots. Also discussed was an alternative option that we add a trellis to the top of the existing fence and train the existing roses at the rear of the garden (note: not the Peace roses) affording a workable option rather than trees. Prices would have to be sought but the general opinion was not to act in haste as a number of issues need clarifying first, namely a) planning regulations regarding the height of fences, b) ownership of fence and c) boundary of Memorial Garden.</p> <p>It was noted that an application has been lodged for the bungalow at the rear of the Memorial Garden to be demolished and replaced by a two-storey house. It was agreed that such a development would be wholly inappropriate and that strong objections should be made.</p>	<p>GM to raise a) at next Planning Meeting.</p> <p>MJ to investigate b)</p> <p>LJ to write to Nockolds regarding c) if this information is not already held by Parish Clerk.</p>
<p>Flowerbeds Proposal, The Flowerbed Committee start to setup a project for the next two financial years to replace some or all of the Flowerbeds.</p> <p>Following an audit by AH and additional input by DB the state of the beds is as follows:</p> <p>Station – bed only require tightening up, wood in fair order.</p> <p>Broom Farm – wood has rotted and considerable work required, possibly as soon as prior to winter planting this year. Would also benefit from a liner being added.</p> <p>Stansted Road/RHR – wood could benefit from treatment (Cuprinol or similar) but in good order.</p> <p>Henham Road – as above.</p> <p>Leigh Drive – beds require supports, wood in poor condition and will need replacing possibly Spring 2020.</p> <p>Diamond Beds (Memorial Gardens) – beds need replacing. Repairs</p>	

<p>are being undertaken now that should last 12 months.</p> <p>AH and DB advised that any replacement wood should be steam pressure treated thus longer lasting and new wood rather than old sleepers as they do not have any harmful chemicals that could affect the environment/plants.</p> <p>There was a full discussion about this. <u>Proposal was deferred for further discussion and costings</u>. It should be stressed that the committee is keen to look at alternative sources of funding (sponsorship, local business involvement). There was considerable discussion about whether this would be an appropriate time to consider altering the dimensions of any of the beds and it was agreed that the beds as they are, are perfectly proportioned and no change is anticipated.</p>	<p>DB obtaining initial costings</p> <p>MJ to take this forward</p>
<p>Any Other Business None</p>	
<p>Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 27 August 2019 at 4pm.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 5:10pm.</p>	