

Elsenham Rights of Way & Open Spaces Committee

Committee Meeting

Friday 11th July 2025 at 2.45pm

at Elsenham Memorial Hall

Present:

Graham Mott (GM) (Elsenham Parish Council (EPC), P3 rep)
Paul Salvidge (PS)
Heather Salvidge (HS) (Tree Warden)
Margaret Shaw (MS) (Secretary)
Sue Waite (SW) (EPC)
Kevin Wood (KW)
Dave Verlander (DV)

PS chaired the meeting

Apologies:

Stewart Pimblett (SP)

Not present:

Bob Burlton (BB) (EPC)

Declarations of Interest:

MS/DV/SW (Trustees of Elsenham Memorial Hall)

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 11th April

The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record, with minor corrections.

GM will deliver a signed copy to Louise Johnson (LJ) (EPC Clerk.)

MS will forward a corrected electronic copy to LJ.

GM will pass draft minutes onto the EPC website manager.

Action: GM / MS

Matters Arising from meeting held on Friday 11th April not on Agenda

MS submitted the completed the Work Proposal & P3 Grant Application form.

The Government has cancelled plans to make 2031 the cut-off for recording public paths. This means that after 20 years the path from Orchard Crescent to Woodland View might be designated a PRoW.

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)

GM reported that **FP31** surfacing has been extended northwards to the Parish boundary - as previously agreed with Dandara. EPC is considering paying to surface the small gap between the Dandara site and Stansted Road.

Despite the involvement of Ned Gemmill (NG), Public Rights of Way Officer at Essex Highways, despite the unacceptable sandy surface of the path it is unlikely to be redone.

Improvements to FP32 MS has contacted Shirley Anglin, PROW Lead Officer at Essex Highways, and NG, to ask that this work is scheduled as early as possible in the 2026/2027 budget.

The problems with the 2 x **Open Spaces** have been referred by EPC to UDC Enforcement.

UTT/19/0462/FUL Land West Of Hall Road (FP13)

(Vistry Eastern Bovis Homes 130 homes)

FP13 closure extension although open-ended has been extended to 1/10/25.

The Lime trees alongside the school field have been cut down.

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

The developer had informed Uttlesford (UDC) planning enforcement that the proper route would be open shortly.

S62A/2024/0049 (previously UTT/20/2908/OP) Land South of Bedwell Road Ugley

(FP29 Ugley) (Rochester Properties 50 homes)

Some trees have been felled but building has not yet started. When work starts EPC will contact them to ask that the PROW improvement work is done first.

Action: GM

S62A/2023/0026 UTT/23/2622/PINS Robin Hood Road

(FP29 Elsenham) (Matthew Homes Ltd. 40 Dwellings)

Detailed application not yet approved by UDC. PROW accessible, but will need to be closed once work starts.

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

(FP13 Elsenham) (Countryside Properties 130 Homes)

Detailed Planning Application awaited.

UTT/23/2063/DFO Land East of Station Road

(FP15 Henham) (Bloor Homes Phase 2 - 200 homes)

Work has started.

Uttlesford Local Plan - Land East of Station Road, Elsenham (in Henham Parish).

FP15 Henham (Bloor Homes phase 3 up to 135 Homes)

Included in the Local Plan. The Local Plan Inspector appeared positive and an outcome is expected very soon.

A public engagement event took place on 4th July. 58 people attended. They are proposing to reroute the PROW (**FP15 Henham**) to the other side of the hedge and divert it to end at Elsenham Station.

UTT/24/ 0543/OP Land North of Bedwell Road & East of Old Mead Road Ugley & Henham

(FP32 Henham & FP14 Ugley) (Gladman 240 homes)

2nd Outline application refused. This site is NOT in the Local Plan.

UTT/24/2632/FUL Historic Parkland North of Elsenham Hall (south of BW5)

The planning application will be resubmitted.

Open Spaces

Use of Glyphosate by ECC within Elsenham Parish

MS has requested an update from NG on the ECC policy towards the use of Glyphosate - as it is a known carcinogen that has been banned by EPC.

Oziers Green Car Parking

The issue was discussed at length at the EPC meeting. All residents of Oziers & De Mandeville Road will receive a letter from EPC reminding them that Oziers Green is not a car park. DV estimates there is space to create an additional 4 or 5 parking spaces by extending the current parking area.

HS suggested that thought be given to resurfacing the concrete area that is badly degraded to encourage residents to park there.

De Mandeville Green

Some trees have been damaged when the grass was mowed - despite instructions to the contractor to " Don't mow beneath trees if not possible".

The Spinney - Bench

The Bench has been in situ for nearly 19 years and needs some attention. MS to ask LJ to contact Mr Donald to see if he would be able to quote to do some remedial work.

Wildflower & Rewilding Areas

Alsa Gardens / New Road

Extract from the Grass Cutting contract *"The areas around these three trees are to be Managed for Wildlife measuring a diameter of 1.5 metres encircling each tree. The remainder of Area 13 should be Short Cut."*

Despite the 1.5 metre exclusions the whole area was cut by the EPC contractor.

New Road / Jenkins Drive

UDC have continued to mow as previously despite the agreement to create a maintained wildflower area.

Action KW to keep chasing Ben Brown

The Spinney

HS has created a list of all the wildflowers that are in the Spinney and that were found along Isabel Drive before it was developed.

Tye Green

SP to discuss with residents about leaving an area uncut to encourage growth of wild flowers. This could possibly be the triangle adjacent to the pond.

Action SP

Community Garden Isabel Drive / Woodland View

Despite being an Open Space it was decided that no money from the EROWOS budget could be spent on the Water Supply to the evolving Community Garden.

Rights of Way

Byway 11 ref 2946137

Fingerpost flattened. Still outstanding.

FP13 ref 2977797

Path was cut as part of the Annual Cut.

FP17 ref 2977801

Path was cut as part of the Annual Cut.

FP28

The repair at the M11 embankment has been completed by Highways and there is no longer a surface water problem.

FP28 was cut as part of the Annual Cut.

FP15 Henham

KW reported that the path is quite clear and usable. Henham PC are working with NG to improve the route at the northern end.

Waymarkers & missing fingerposts

Please inform DV of any that need sorting.

DV & SW will investigate.

Action DV/SW

Brush Cutter training

It was agreed to ask Tim Donald(TD) to undertake the ECC Brush Cutter training - the next course is in October.

Action MS to liaise with TD & NG

Village Street Map

DV showed an updated A3 version of the Village Street map that includes Vistry Eastern, Bloor Phase 1 and both Dandara sites. Rush Lane & Bedwell Road could be incorporated later. It was suggested that sites outside Elsenham parish should only be included if there was sufficient space.

Action: DV

Tree Warden's Reports

HS has circulated reports.

HS is chasing Anna Harris at ECC re the 3 Whitebeams on Station Road that need attention.

Action HS

A.O.B

None

Next meeting

Friday 17th October 2025 at 2pm in the Memorial Hall. MS to book.

Action MS / ALL