

Elkesley Parish Council

Minutes of the Elkesley Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 21st November 2017, at 7.00pm in the Elkesley Memorial Hall, High Street, Elkesley.

Present: Cllr Oldbury (Chair), Cllr O'Brien, Cllr Flear, Cllr Fish, Cllr Raper and Cllr Wilkinson

Others present: Mrs Davies (Clerk), District Cllr Kevin Dukes and members of the public

1958/17 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Foulkes-Jones, Cllr Stronach and Cllr May.

1959/17 To receive and record declaration of interests from Members in any item to be discussed

No declaration of interests received.

1960/17 To suspend the meeting to hold a 10 minute public session

No issues raised.

1961/17 To receive reports from the District and County Councillors

District Councillor Kevin Dukes reported that the District Council was impressed with how Elkesley Parish Council had created a flowchart linking up to the Neighbourhood policies. The Parish Council may be invited to take part in a Neighbourhood Plan open session to pass on best practice information to other parishes.

The next Parish Forum is due to take place on the 21st January 6.30pm in the Retford Town Hall.

1962/17 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 17th October 2017

Cllr Flear proposed to accept the minutes of a true record of the meeting held 17th October 2017; this was seconded by Cllr Raper and resolved by 6 votes.

1963/17 To receive any update on actions from the previous meetings

The Chair reported:

- Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr May have laid the concrete ready for the benches on the sports field
- Met with Karen Tarburton and discussed a possible £5k donation from the District Council towards Neighbourhood Plan projects– i.e. part funding towards the village entrances; new hedging along the new path on the sports field
- Looking at ideas re landscaping the entrances into the village with community involvement
- Contacted Locality regarding applying for a £9,000 grant to help with the revision of the Neighbourhood Plan i.e. heritage and character assessment of the village. Plus £9k to carry out a village design survey

Cllr Flear reported on the litter pick which took place on the previous weekend

1964/17 Planning – To consider any planning applications below, note any correspondence and decision notices

Application: 17/01464/VOC

Proposal: Variation of conditions 2,4,6,8 and removal of condition 9 on appeal decision APP/A3010/W/16/3159336 following refusal of 16/00286/FUL

Location: The Bungalow, Brough Lane, Elkesley

After consideration, Cllr O'Brien proposed to continue to make objections against this application; this was seconded by Cllr Fish and resolved by 6 votes.

1965/17 To consider planning application to site a container on the sports field

Following discussion and with no other available options to site a container elsewhere; Cllr Wilkinson proposed to proceed with submitting a planning application to site a storage container on the sports field; this was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and resolved by 6 votes.

1966/17 Proposal to discuss the entrance into the village

As previously mentioned – a possible £5k grant from the District Council to carry out some work around the entrance into the village. Cllr O'Brien mentioned using wild flower mix for some of the areas. It was decided the first thing to do would be to establish the areas first (zones); the Chair to draw up areas for the next meeting. It was suggested to seek sponsorship from local businesses and also launch a competition.

1967/17 Update on the Christmas Tree Lighting event

The Clerk reported that she has applied for the licence to put the Christmas tree on the usual site. The Chair asked for volunteers to help with coordinating people for the event as he is not able to do so himself due to work commitments. A working group to be formed with Cllr Flear, Cllr Ffoulkes-Jones and Cllr Wilkinson. The Chair will pass on information of the people to contact.

1968/17 To receive village reports on the following:

Sports field and play area inspections

- The boulders on the play area have been moved to help with the grass cutting
- The junior BMX track has been completed and the concrete is down ready for the benches
- The signpost has been concreted in
- Hedge between the farmers field and the BMX track has been cut back and tidied up
- The small gate onto Brough Lane requires some bolts tightening and the grassed area around the entrance looks a mess; Cllr Wilkinson will have a look

Highways and service faults

- Cllr Raper and Cllr O'Brien have both reported faulty bollard lights on the bridge. Cllr Raper hasn't heard anything further from Highways regarding the gritting; he will chase them up. The trees still require looking at
- The County Council's Highways fault reporting system on-line has now been updated to show the new areas and bridge
- Lawnwood Lane has been resurfaced in error; this work should have been carried out on Lawnwood Avenue.

Cemetery - Nothing to report.

Defibrillator inspection

The second defibrillator is now installed. It was suggested to get a sign to highlight where the one in the bus shelter is.

Allotments - Nothing to report

1969/17 To receive reports from any meetings attended by Council Representatives

No meetings attended. Cllr O'Brien reported that she has received some information from the District Council regarding the A1 Garages; this will be discussed at a later date.

1970/17 Proposal to consider an Elkesley Neighbourhood Watch

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

1971/17 Proposal to review cemetery rules and regulations

A working party of Cllr Flear, Cllr Fish, Cllr Oldbury and the Parish Clerk met with Mr Blackshaw who previously was the District Council's Cemetery Manager.

The Chair reported that following discussions regarding the rules and regulations and consideration of improvements that can be made in the cemetery the following recommendations were made to the Council.

- To continue with burials on the next row rather than use for cremation plots
- To make improvements to the old part of the cremation and create areas for cremation plots
- Re-enforce the wall on the left hand side at the front of the cemetery; move the soil heap behind the wall – level out to provide additional area for cremation plots
- In consultation with residents; consider removing the Holly bush and replace with a memorial feature
- To create a memorial garden for the scattering of ashes – free of charge.

The memorial garden would be a compromise so that residents that have moved out of the parish and no longer are able to be buried in the cemetery; can have their ashes scattered in the garden at no cost.

After discussion the following proposals were made:

1. Cllr O'Brien proposed to move the current allocation area for cremation plots and allocate to the edges of the cemetery/new crated areas within the old part; this was seconded by Cllr Oldbury and resolved by 6 votes.
2. Cllr O'Brien proposed to in principal to create a memorial garden for the scattering of ashes; this was seconded by Cllr Flear and resolved by 6 votes.
3. To carry out work to level off the slopes behind the wall, add a structure inside to avoid damage to the current wall. Cllr O'Brien's husband will survey the wall and draw up design for the re-enforcement required. To cost up materials required and bring back to the Council for approval. This project will be assisted by Mr Blackshaw.

1972/17 Finance – To approve payments and receive financial update

The Clerk circulated copy of the finances and budget figures to date; plus copy of the bank statements for the Council to view.

The Chair proposed to approve the following payments; this was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and resolved by 6 votes.

- a) C.P.S (Contractors) Ltd £4507.41 – Addition work to BMX track and all VAT on project (1756)
- b) MKM Retford £214.15 – Concrete for benches and shelter (1757)
- c) Broxap Ltd £5390.40 – benches and shelter (1758) – paid using WREN funding grant

- d) C.P.S (Contractors) Ltd £13673.30 – paid using WREN funding grant (1759)
- e) C.F.S Electrical £282.50 – installation of defibrillator (funded by donation) (1760)
- f) The Poppy Appeal £17.50 – Remembrance Wreath (1761)
- g) Street Cleaner November wage £257.10 (1762)
- h) Clerk's October wage & expenses £225.20 (1763)
- i) Elkesley Memorial Hall – room hire & Post Office contribution £56.00 (1764)
- j) HMRC – p.a.y.e £50.00 (1765)
- k) Mr Oldbury – fence post concrete £38.09 (1766)
- l) Elkesley Memorial Hall – extra room hires £24.00 (1767)

1973/17 To consider donation request from the Girl Guiding Association

After consideration of the above request, Cllr Fish proposed to donate £75.00 towards sending an Elkesley representative to the Girlguiding International event in Croatia; this was seconded by Cllr O'Brien and resolved by 6 votes.

1974/17 To consider ideas/projects for the 2018 budget

- Improvements and development of the cemetery
- Improvements to the village entrances
- Hedging on the sports field
- Purchase of storage container

1975/17 To consider the Elkesley Memorial Hall room hire contract

After consideration Cllr Wilkinson proposed to sign the Elkesley Memorial Hall room hire agreement; this was seconded by Cllr Flear and resolved by 6 votes.

1976/17 To receive update on the meeting regarding the conifer hedge

Following a meeting Council representatives, Memorial Hall members and a resident of Maple Drive; the Chair reported the following:

The Chair has been looking into applying for a funding bid for £10k which the Memorial Hall Committee could use to remove the conifer hedge and replace with acoustic fencing. Clarification on whether the Parish Council or Memorial Hall Committee is best placed to apply for it.

After discussion Cllr Wilkinson proposed that the funding is applied for and used to replace the hedge with acoustic fencing; if any money left then it will be used for a landscaping project. If unsuccessful with the bid that all parties will re look at the situation and put together a written document which is agreed by both parties. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Flear and resolved by 6 votes.

1977/17 To receive items of information and for future agenda items

- Improvements to the Village entrances
- Review of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Elkesley Neighbourhood Watch

Information regarding the cemetery to be put in the Idle Times

1978/17 Time and date of the next Parish Council meeting

The time and date of the next Parish Council meeting will be held on 19th December 2017 at 7pm in the Elkesley Memorial Hall, High Street, Elkesley. The meeting closed at 8.40pm.