

**Minutes of the Annual Elmore Council Meeting held at Elmore Village Hall on
27th April 2011 at 7.45pm**

Subject Heading		Action
Present	Mr J Field - Chairman – (JF), Mr A Nash – Vice Chairman – (AN), Mr T Jones – (TJ), & Mrs C Stewart - (CS)	
In Attendance	Parishioners present Mrs D Jones (acting Clerk)	
1) Apologies	Mrs J Hobbs – Mr J Hobbs – Mrs J Field	
	John Field opened the meeting at 7.45.p.m.	
2) Open Question Time	No questions from the floor as there were no attendees.	
3) Police Report	PSCO Fraser Mackie was not present. No written report had been received so far but it was agreed that this would be checked.	AN
4) Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 20 April 2010	The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held 20 th April 2010 were proposed by proposed by AN and seconded by CS. The minutes were adopted and signed by JF.	
5) Matters Arising	No matters arising from the minutes.	
6)Chairman’s Report	<p>The chairman (JF) gave a detailed report summarised below:</p> <p>Crime: little crime reported. Encourage continued vigilance and reporting of suspicious events or people.</p> <p>Finance : precept maintained at current level. EPC funds remain healthy and hold a contingency fund of c£1000.</p> <p>Gritting and Salting Roads: 3 bins are ready to be placed at suggested locations – opp Chapel Lane – opp Elmore Court – by Dower House. Suggested that a 4th bin be made ready for Farley’s End. Plan to distribute these October 2011. Thanks to Jenni Hobbs for providing the barrels and to TJ for converting them. TJ will try to obtain a 4th bin.</p> <p>Recession: Knock-on effects affecting local budget cuts discussed under Concessionary Bus Services.</p> <p>Flooding: Following the open meeting held in EVH in March, EPC responded firmly to EA’s proposals. Subsequent contact with SDC and GCC has shown GCC to be out of touch with the issue. Graham Littleton has hosted several visits to the Village for members of SDC. GCC Councillors and staff have been invited to a site visit to view problems with the affected residents and JF has been invited to discuss the issues at Shire Hall.</p> <p>Graham Quarrier of the EA has asked what action we would like to see the EA taking. JF has responded that we would like to see them on site in order to restore confidence in the EA’s proposals. EPC discussion lead by JF’s analysis of figures from Page 6 of the report on the EA questionnaire responses Analysis suggests some lack of interest by local reps in some communities CS recommended clear and straight forward guidance to parishioners for any future support needs.</p> <p>Road repairs : Velthouse Lane has been resurfaced. Farley’s End turnoff and Lake Street require attention. This area is suffering badly from heavy vehicle damage, compounded by the hard winter. A meeting is to be arranged with John Kaye.</p> <p>Planning Applications: Hollow Farm Wind Turbine. EPC emphasise their support for the concept of renewable energy. JF reported a robust but fair opposition to the existing application.</p>	JF

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	<p>AN reported that Darell Rogers of SDC is waiting for new planning proposals which should show a move of 250 m from current proposed location. AN reported that the noise element of the existing application did not offer adequate information.</p> <p>The Role of the Parish Council: JF's report highlighted the position of the Parish Council. To serve all sections of the community and help with any issues concerning Village life. Recommended informal contact with EPC before planning applications are submitted to SDC. EPC tries to inform the Village of key events such as road closures. E-mail contact is used where possible. There are now 40 e-mail contacts in the village. More e-mail contact to be encouraged although it was agreed that we cannot rely on e-mail contact alone.</p> <p>Census: took place at the end of March</p> <p>Referendum on the Alternative Vote to be 5th May 2011.</p> <p>Government's Localism Bill: This proposal going through Parliament is to give local government freedom to deliver key frontline services whilst making important savings. EPC will watch how this will affect us. Community Right to Buy was discussed. AN said that it could allow local interest groups to make a proposal about a building which could be designated 'an asset of community value'</p> <p>Fly Tipping: SDC will collect fly tipped rubbish free of charge when informed. The Parish Council Clerk will request removal but we must notify the Clerk.</p> <p>Concessionary Bus Services: This statutory scheme is paid for by the government. It now provides bus passes for use between 9.30 am and 11 pm weekdays and all day at weekends and bank holidays. JF reported a rural area waiver which enables passes to be used on journeys which start in rural areas such as Elmore at any time. JF to confirm this.</p>	JF
7) Questions to Chairman and Councillors	No questions	
8) District Councillor's Report	No report received. SDC Councillor not in attendance	
9) Questions about Stroud District Councils Policies and Programmes	No questions except those referred to in the Chairman's Report.	
10) Finance Report	<p>Mike Farmer has completed the Internal Audit. Deadlines need to be set for the external audit.</p> <p>Annual insurance premiums take 10% of precept. The premium is reviewed regularly in order to find the 'best deals' for Parish Councils from major insurance companies.</p>	Clerk / rep
11) Maintenance of Millennium Ponds	Nothing to report.	
12) Highways and Footpaths	TJ reported that volunteer litter patrols in Elmore are in place. Plans to clear 'Penny Lane' to the Medieval bridge were made.	TJ/JF

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13)Any Other Business	<p>CS proposed that the meeting record the recent death of John Round. EPC formally expressed their sadness and agreed that his sudden death will be a big loss to our community.</p> <p>CS encouraged support for the ‘Royal Wedding Celebration’ to be held in Longney, recognising that a great deal of work had been done to organise this event.</p> <p>TJ asked for information about the War Memorial disrepair. JF thought that he could explore what help is available through military connections. JF agreed to follow up local ‘Land Charities’ through Michael Watts for possible support and funding.</p> <p>JF (Chair) offered his official thanks to the EPC councillors. AN (Vice Chair) responded with thanks to JF for his hard work and great leadership through what is often a difficult role</p>	JF
14)Date of Next Meeting	<p>Annual Parish Council Meeting 17th May 2011.</p> <p>A minimum of 4 Council meetings/year + one annual meeting is shown in the Standing Orders. Councillors agreed to consider arranging the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting as a single evening event with one to follow the other.</p>	Consider next meeting
	There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.00 pm	
	<p>Chairman.....</p> <p>Date.....</p>	