

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

Elmore Village Hall on Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.45 pm

Present Parish Councillors: Mr J Field (JF) Chair, Mr N Meek (NM) Vice Chair, Mrs P Turner (PT) Mr T Jones (TJ), Mrs J Hobbs (JH), Mrs D Jones (Clerk)		
In attendance. Mr Chris Camm		
1 Apologies Cllr A Blackburn		
2 Open Question Time	No questions at this point.	
3 Police Report	Police Report: "No reported incidents since our last meeting"	
4 Declaration of member's interest in Agenda items	Nothing was declared by the Councillors.	
5 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 12 th December 2016	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 12 th December 2016 were proposed as a true record by PT and seconded by TJ.	
6 Matters arising from the Minutes of 12 th December 2016	i 11a Vets apps for mobile phones to be discussed in this meeting. i 15 Prize for database members to be discussed in this meeting.	
7 County Councillor's Report	<i>We have now fixed the GCC element of the 2017/18 Council tax. Regrettably it is UP by 2% plus another 1.98 % on the Social services budget ..to cover the cost of old people's and children's services. But we have put another £3m towards roads and the "councillors 's £30,000 and the lengthman's scheme will continue</i> <i>.Severn Voice and later meetings (TB with the Fire and Rescue) raised points affecting Elmore. John F. was at the former and can report. Not very satisfactory either as to Amey nor " Broadband " I thought but will keep at them. As to the latter I have got them to agree to carry out an exercise re emergency access west of the Canal before the C&RT abolition of bridge keepers goes ahead.</i>	
8 District Councillor's Report from Cllr Gill Oxley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warned of suspicious emails offering tax rebates. This is a scam to gather private banking information. • A 2% increase in the SDC Budget had been agreed. • Cllr A Blackburn is retiring in May 2017. 	
9 Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account update: The bank balance remains in a healthy state with the sum of £6218.32 forecast for the end of this month. • Forecast Expenditure for 2017/18 . A forecast extra income of £450 is shown. This follows an application from the Clerk for funding for a new laptop as part of the Transparency requirements. The chairman agreed to make available a sum up to £250 to add to this budget. This was seconded by NM. With the advent of the Grass Cutting Scheme we are likely to see a rise in our income over the next Financial Year. JF 	

	<p>(Chair) suggested that we should be thinking about possible projects because we do not want to build up more funds than necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pond Clearance: We still await the bill for pond clearance that took place earlier in the year. 	
<p>10 Highways</p>	<p>Verge cutting – possible EPC contract with SV parishes: JF(Chair) has kept Cllrs in the loop regarding the developments of the grass cutting scheme. We are at the final stages now. Last e-mail to Glos Highways questioning the funds we were due to get for the visibility splays at junctions and bends resulted in an increase from £72 to £412 – this figure is on top of the funds</p> <p>JF asked that if Cllrs were still in agreement, all that remains is for us to fill in the blanks of the standard agreement with GCC, and sign it. Draft copies were distributed to be read and signed. The contract is for one year only and then renewable, so this gives us an opt-out if we find it isn't working.</p> <p>For this first year JF suggested a programme of 2 distinct cuts of the verges plus 2 or even 3 cuts of the splays at the junctions. JF will also arrange a meeting with the contractor – preferably on site to discuss what we want, with a proposed start date of 1st May 2017.</p> <p>NM reported that he had spoken to Dan tiffany about traffic speed through Elmore. He was told that we are unlikely to get any funding for projects and advised the council to devise different strategies to slow traffic down. The council discussed problems with potential speed limit signs in the road, speed cameras and traffic calming. Any changes would need to be approved, monitored and enforced. Eventually, there could be cameras surveying all traffic over canal bridges approaching and departing from our parishes.</p> <p>Fly Tipping was discussed and suggestions made on measures that could be taken to deter this happening. PT and NM agreed to follow this up.</p> <p>Grass cutting around The War Memorial was discussed. Thanks were expressed that the late Alan Fisher had for many years done this job splendidly. The options for this work to continue to be done were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elmore Court staff to help - A Parishioner – voluntary but with paid petrol - A Contractor to be hired <p>JF (Chair) agreed to speak to Pauline Fisher to give our thanks and ask her opinion before going ahead.</p>	<p>JF</p> <p>PT/NM</p> <p>JF</p>
<p>11 Elmore Emergency Plan update - VETS alternative</p>	<p>NM reported on developments with the use of the apps for mobile phones listed here. He agreed to approach a selection of local residents to ask them to participate in trying these on different phones.</p> <p>http://redpanicbutton.com/ http://icecontact.com/ https://www.goodsamapp.org/home</p>	<p>NM</p>

Elmore Parish Council

12 Broadband update	Broadband update. : There is to be a briefing of EPC Concillors and Clerk on Friday 17th March at Fernhay. The briefing will be by the GCC Fastershire Team and will explain the current situation and the plans for Elmore for the future. The fact that a high-powered team is taking the trouble to come to Elmore to brief us indicates that there are some underlying issues which may not be easily resolved. However, Nigel Riglar, the GCC Officer responsible plans to cut through bureaucracy in order to achieve the goal!	
13 Speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 16 th May 2017	JF (Chair) suggested that it was unnecessary to invite a speaker to this meeting, as so few attend the meeting.	
14 Grant for Transparency Fund	Already covered in the i9 Finance	
15 Parish Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website. The Council agreed that more photographs could be added and some changed around. • The Bridge. TJ reported an increase in the cost of printing. He reported that as it is now 70 years since the 1947 flood, that an item using research by Prof McEwan could be included. This includes the contribution made by Vera Smith who is now 103. • E-mail database. A plan to ‘draw’ for a prize from all those on the database could go ahead. This is to encourage residents to include their email address. 	<p>DJ</p> <p>TJ</p> <p>TJ</p>
16 Meeting with Parish and Town Councils -	<p>JF (Chair) attended the annual meeting at Ebley on the 19th January. He reported that other parishes were concerned about the closure of banks in the area.</p> <p>JF reported on the new CIL scheme. Any planning application which involves a development over 100 sq m will be required to pay a separate fee, a proportion of which will then be given to the local parish council. This may have a minor spin-off for us but it is likely that applications will remain below the 100 sq m threshold. An application over this magic figure would attract a fee of £8000 of which we would get 15% or £1,200. (The current application for Shard Cottage was submitted before 1st April so would not be liable for CIL). If we did receive any money then we can spend it as we wish on infrastructure projects. The problem we have is twofold: firstly we have no settlement boundary which means that no housing developments, either commercial or affordable, can be built here. Secondly, Elmore has been designated as a flood risk area and combined with the fact that there is no mains drainage and no mains gas, severe restrictions have been placed on individual new developments.</p> <p>JF will draft a letter to David Hagg (CEO SDC) outlining the situation in Elmore as it is likely that SDC does not fully appreciate the peculiar problems faced by small parishes like ours. Once finalized the letter will circulate for comment prior</p>	

Elmore Parish Council

	to sending.	JF
17 Any Other Business	The planning application for Shard Cottage was discussed. The Council did not raise any objections.	
18 Date of the Annual Parish Council Meetings - Tuesday 16 th May 2017 <u>2017 Meetings following:</u> Monday 25 th September 2017 Monday 11 th December 2017		
The Chairman thanked those present for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.		
Signed..... Date		