

Minutes of the Elmore Annual Parish Council Meeting

held at Elmore Village Hall on Tuesday 16th May 2017

(Immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting)

Present	Parish Councillors Mr J Field (JF) Chair, Mrs J Hobbs (JH), Mr T Jones (TJ), Mrs P Turner (PT), Clerk Mrs D Jones	
Apologies	Cllr N Meek, Cllr D Mossman and Cllr G Oxley	
1 Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair.	Nomination of Chairman: TJ nominated JF. PT seconded. JF agreed to serve as Chair for a further 12 months. Nomination of Vice Chair. JH nominated NM. JH seconded. NM will be asked if you will agreed to serve as Vice Chair for 12 months. JF signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' forms for this post.	
2 Delegation of member's responsibilities	Flood issues, Severn River Issues, Ponds, Severn Voice – JF (Chair) Liaison with Highways, Notice Board, Vets alternative – NM Snow Warden – JH Bridge, Defibrillators, Salt Bins – TJ VETS alternative, Rural News Bulletins – PT Website manage – The Clerk + all Cllrs to contribute	
3 Police Report*	No report received. Looking back over the year there were 4 burglaries within a 3 month period which caused a measure of anxiety within the village. We published guidance in The Bridge regarding preventative measures that could be taken.	
4 Open Question Time	None	
5 Declaration of Members' interest in Agenda items	Nothing was declared by the Councillors.	
6 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 7 th March 2016	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 6 th March 2017 were proposed as a true record by TJ and seconded by JH.	
7 Matters arising from the Minutes of 6 th March 2017	Item 10 – grass cutting around the War Memorial. Grass is being cut but we are unsure who is doing this. JF agreed to follow this and proposed a vote of thanks to Allan Fisher who died recently. Item 11 – App for the Vets plan. NM continues to work on this. Item 15 – more photos for the website – ongoing Item 15 - Articles for The Bridge (1947 Flood?) TJ proposed to include obituaries for Allan Fisher and Marion Watts. It is likely that the 1947 Flood article will be for the following issue. Item 15 - prize for database entries. The Cllrs agreed to drop this idea. Item 16 – Letter to CEO SDC ref village life – on hold.	JF NM All TJ
8 Finance*	<i>i) Review of Parish Precept for 2017/18: We increased the Parish Precept by 3% this year but I note that it coincided with respective increases in both Stroud District Council's levy and increases in the GCC levy. It should also be noted that although we only asked for an increase of 3% for Elmore, the figures shown in the</i>	

	<p><i>SDC Council Tax Bill state that it is 7% - this is because the circumstances for more individuals in the village have changed which means they pay less Council Tax or where a property is now vacant, none at all. By the end of this FY we will have a clearer idea of where we stand financially and when we review the Precept prior to bidding for next year's allocation, we may even be able to reduce it, especially as we are likely to have additional funds from the grass cutting contract which were not evident when we set the figure for this FY.</i></p> <p>ii)Account and Audit: <i>The accounts will be posted on the notice board in accordance with the Transparency Rules. The Council check and sign both the Annual Governance Statement and the Annual accounting Statement during the Parish Council Meeting which follows this meeting.</i></p> <p>iii)Forecast Expenditure for 2017/18: <i>There are no major projects forecast for this FY but our on-going costs and standing orders will amount to some £1,572. The only change currently forecast to our financial activity is the grass verge cutting contract which will run as a trial for one year and if successful, roll-over to subsequent years.</i></p> <p>iv)The Audit Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 was approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.</p> <p>v) The Audit Account Statement for the Annual Return was approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.</p>	
<p>9 County Councillor's Report*</p>	<p><i>Change of County Councillor following the recent local elections. The newly elected Cllr is Cllr Stephen Davies (C) in place of Cllr Tony Blackburn</i></p> <p><i>The Conservatives now have 31 seats, an increase of some 7 seats which now gives them a majority.</i></p> <p><i>We do not have a report from our new County Councillor and look forward to meeting him in due course.</i></p>	
<p>10 District Councillor's Report*</p>	<p><i>Cllr D Mossman and Cllr Gill Oxley were unable to attend as they had other meeting to attend.. Cllr Oxley said that there is very little to report at the moment as the Cllrs are in 'Purdah' awaiting the General Election. The Local election did not change the political balance in Stroud which still has a coalition of Labour, Liberals and Greens leading the Council.</i></p>	
<p>11 Highways*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Verge Cutting contract Verge cutting contract. This was covered the Chairman's Annual Statement</i> • <i>Fly-tipping – we seem to have had less fly-tipping this year than in previous years but it is still a nuisance. EPC has bought CCTV cameras and signs to deter fly tipping.</i> • <i>Sellars Bridge – TJ presented a draft letter to GCC proposing a change of traffic priority on Sellars Bridge from the current westwards going priority to a eastward priority. The meeting</i> 	

	<i>approved the letter and JF supported this plan and agreed to talk to Hardwick and Longney Parish Council before sending a letter</i>	
12 Elmore Emergency Plan update*	<p><i>VETS: NM has research a range of apps for mobile phones. Use of these would enable an automatic call to be made to neighbours. He is testing these. TJ recommended setting up neighbour to neighbour contact schemes. It was suggested that we design a card for parishioners to fill in with neighbours for easy use at home.</i></p> <p><i>First Aid training is planned for Elmore residents who wish to take part. This would include training in the use of defibrillators. TJ agreed to follow this up with SDC, Red cross and other organisations. JF proposed to allocate funds from the budget to pay for this.</i></p>	TJ TJ
13 Broadband & Telephone update*	<i>This was covered in the Chairman's Annual Statement</i>	
14 Parish Communications*	<p>Website <i>Website: It was reported that the Website was working well but that more photographs were needed to show the views of Elmore. It was noted that we have not received an invoice for the web hosting fee of £60 a year. DJ agreed to follow this up.</i></p> <p><i>The Bridge: The 12th issue is about to be published. Suggestion made that simple instruction on the use of defibrillators should be published in a subsequent issue. Also that EPC could fund the production of a card to be distributed with The Bridge on which parishioners could record contact details of neighbours and friends who would help them in a medical emergency.</i></p> <p><u><i>E-mail</i></u> <i>It was agreed that we would not pursue the idea of running a competition to attract more email contact.</i></p>	
15 Any Other Business	There was no other business.	
16 Date of next Parish Council Meeting	25 th September 2017 at 7.45 in Elmore Village Hall	
	Following meeting 11 th December 2017	
	The Chairman thanked all present and declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.	
	SignedDate	
<p><i>Note: The discussions from the Annual Parish Meeting on all items marked with an asterisk(*) and in italics will not be repeated during this meeting but will be taken as if they had been discussed for the purposes of the Minutes of this meeting.</i></p>		