

## Minutes of The Parish Council of Elmore Meeting

**Held at Elmore Village Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

Present	Parish Councillors: Mr J Field (JF) Chair, Mr T Jones (TJ), Mrs J Hobbs (JH), Mr N Meek (NM) Clerk Mrs D Jones (DJ)	
In Attendance	Gloucester County Councillor Anthony Blackburn Stroud District Councillor David Mossman	
1.Apologies	Mr A Nash	
2.Open Question Time	No parishioners were present	
3.Police Report	PC reps sent an email to report that there had been one recent theft of a ride on mower from Elmore and a similar theft from Longney in the week before. Police encourage us all to check our security at home and in outbuildings.	
4.Declaration of member's Interest in Agenda Items	Nothing was declared by Councillors.	
5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2015.	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2015 were proposed as a true record by JH and seconded by TJ	
6.Matters Arising from the previous minutes	JF reported that all actions proposed at the previous meeting had been completed.	
7. County Councillor's report	Cllr A Blackburn reported: GCC should urgently look into ambulance response target times, as the 8 minute target was only met on 64% of calls in rural Stroud: GCC discussed raising an extra 2% of relevant rates for Social service provision for elderly and young people: Automatic bridge working, C&RT was offering some concessions following presentations from representatives of the Severn Voice parishes: Two accidents on the A38 have resulted in fatalities, although it is alleged that the road surface or speed limits were not to blame.	
8. District Councillor's report	Cllr D Mossman reported: local government devolution is still ongoing : SDC long term plans for housing numbers and strategic plans up to 2031 are fully approved: Land lords of empty homes in SDC area will be encouraged to let their property by increasing their council tax to 150%: Garden Waste collection will begin soon: A super size Doctors Surgery is proposed for land between Huntsgrove and Kingsway	
9.Finance	Forecast Expenditure 2015/2016 – Current bank balance is £6,057.64. With planned expenditure of less than £1500 up to March 2016 the fund remains healthy Review of EPC Contingency Fund – this has been fine so far, but there is a need to budget for extra costs for maintaining our	

	Defibrillators and VETS scheme. TJ agreed to draw up a plan of costs for the coming 3 years. JF proposed that we may need to earmark approximately £500.	TJ
10. Defibrillator fund and update:	TJ reported that £1660 had been raised. It was agreed to run 2 VETS systems. Clerk to arrange a training date for volunteers with CHT. JF to approach someone to do local checking of the Defibrillator in the Phone Box. JF has prepared a map of Elmore with a clear key to finding every property. This could be kept in the Defibrillator cabinets for emergency use and placed with VETS volunteers.	Clerk JF
11. Highways	Salt bins are all topped up. No snow is predicted at this time. Lake Street repairs are holding up well. The road by Elmore Back Farm was not resurfaced and is made worse by wear from heavy vehicles. NM reported 'edge of road drop off' into a deep rut on some parts of the road. He agreed to report this to Highways as well as flooding around the Farleys End Corner. JH reported the lack of clear white lines at Junctions here, thereby making the area even more dangerous. JH stated that the road markings and signs were poorly maintained in our area generally.	NM
12. Elmore Emergency Plan	The plan is still being circulated around the village for approval. It should be published in the early part of 2016	
13. Planning	Elmore Court plans for the future were seen in the recent 'The Bridge'. Permission has now been given for the adoption of the new opening times, times of guests leaving the site and where non amplified music can be played outdoors following a six month trial with no complaints.	
14. Broadband and Telephone update	JF received an email from Paul Coles of British Telecom SW to say that the wireless backhaul link into Elmore was now in operation. JF suggested that we should approach our broadband providers to ask for faster broadband and that this will speed up the process to lay more fibre optic cable through the village. Thanks to JF for his many letters to BT.	
15. Parish Communications	TJ reported that our MP Neil Carmichael had offered local news reports for publishing in The Bridge. It was agreed that we should try to include these. It was agreed that The Bridge could have one colour copy printed for the November 2016 issue.	
16. Canal and River Trust Automated Bridges	The Severn Voice group has taken up this issue. The trial at Sandfield Bridge (Saul) has been scheduled for a trial in Jan/Feb 2016. No automation of other bridges will take place until the results of that trial have been assessed. It was considered that a trial during winter months would not be a representative trial with fewer boats on the water. This will distort the results. The new Control Centre is to be located at Fretherne Bridge which has the highest volume of traffic, rather than in Gloucester. C&RT promises to investigate parking areas adjacent to the bridges to ease the problem of parking on the bridge approach	

	<p>roads. GCC has proposed that they help fund the cost of yellow lines and CCTV to cover road approaches.</p> <p>At a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December at Shire Hall, these points were discussed and will be put into a set of Key Principles which encapsulate the concerns over bridge automation.</p> <p>Lack of traffic surveillance by CCTV</p> <p>Priority being given to leisure boat users rather than road traffic</p> <p>Lack of parking at every bridge site</p> <p>The need for immediate access by Emergency Services</p> <p>The need for consideration for effects on the wider community rather than just financial benefit for C&amp;RT.</p> <p>TJ suggested that bridge opening times for water traffic should be restricted and published, also that we should try to push for the busiest bridges (Slimbridge, Fretherne and Sellars) not to be automated at all.</p>	
17 Transparency Code	<p>New Website</p> <p>We have been successful in a bid for funds to cover the cost of setting up a new website. A local company has designed a web layout based on our 'site map' and is ready to continue with its preparation when we submit the text and images needed for it. Councillors agreed to send any text and images they have already to the Clerk for this to be done. JF demonstrated the working first version of the website to the meeting for discussion.</p>	All
18 Severn Voice Meeting Elmore	The next meeting will be held in Elmore. It was agreed that we would find a suitable date, before Easter, when the village hall is available. March 17th was proposed	Clerk
19 EPC Standing Orders	Our annual review – it was proposed that no further amendments were needed at this stage.	
20. Elections 2016	<p>District and parish Elections in May 2016. JF reported that local and national elections will be end in May 2016. This includes all the Elmore Parish Council seats.</p> <p>In January 2016, each councillor will be asked whether or not they wish to stand for re-election and will be required to file an application with SDC.</p> <p>If no more than 5 candidates are registered, then all will be deemed elected on the day of election without any formal votes being cast.</p> <p>If anyone is known to be keen to be a Councillor, they should contact Chairman, John Field who can brief them on what would be involved.</p>	
21. Any Other Business	Community Day in Spring 2016. JF and TJ agreed to look at a possible date for this event. This date will be shown in The Bridge to be published in January 2016.	JF/TJ
22. Date of Next Meeting	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March at 7.45 in Elmore Village Hall.	