

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at
Elmore Village Hall on Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.45 pm**

<p>Present Parish Councillors: Acting Chair, Mr N Meek (NM), Mr T Jones (TJ), Mrs P Turner (PT) Mrs J Hill (JH) Mrs D Jones (Clerk)</p>	
<p>In attendance. Cllr S Davies(GCC) . Parishioners: Louise and Dudley Ford, Rebecca and Michael Hodge, Jenni and Jerome Hobbs, Michael Watts, Andrew Nash, Clare and Nick Stewart, Cheryl Smith</p>	
<p>1 Apologies Mr J Field (Chair EPC). Cllr Oxley(SDC), Cllr Mossman (SDC), PCSO Kevin Lee, Neighbourhood Warden Katie Markwicke</p>	
<p>2 Open Question Time This item was placed at the beginning of the meeting to take in discussion from our police and Neighbourhood Warden. Neither attended but there was brisk discussion</p> <p>TOPICS</p> <p><u>Potholes</u> Listed were: the roads to Elmore Court, Church Farm, Beamlow and Stonebench. NM reminded everyone that we can all report potholes directly through Highways. Answers/Solutions: NM emphasized that it would be better to have lots of reports sent to Highways who will then look to see which need repair urgently</p> <p><u>Anti social behaviour</u> This includes drug and alcohol abuse taking place in a variety of quiet locations around the Parish. The request for greater police presence does not appear to have improved anything. We are picking up drug paraphernalia and empty alcohol bottles and cans from verges, gateways and laybys. Worry was expressed that these cars will be driven by those under the influence of substances. Late night noise and light from unwelcome cars was listed. Answers/Solutions: Higher level of policing would help with these issues. Contact Police Commissioner and explain that we don't believe we are getting the support we need. Gather evidence collectively to submit to Authorities (Blog idea)</p> <p>Mr Michael Watts gave details of Hare Coursing on his land and highlighted the lack of police response on that occasion.</p> <p><u>Fly Tipping and Rubbish</u> The pro's and con's of dealing with this included: Closure of laybys, erecting 'No Tipping' notices and use of cameras was discussed. The idea of installing a Rubbish Bin was met with a mixed response, although it would a gesture towards rubbish control. Closure of a layby requires a traffic control order which would cost us a lot of money. Cllr Davies agreed to follow up how the A38 layby camera was installed and let us know. Answers/Solutions: All of these pro's and con's plus gather evidence collectively to submit to Authorities (Blog idea) Action to understand the issues of installing notices, lighting or cameras to be explored</p> <p><u>Speeding</u> Highways appear to have no priority to change the speed control through Elmore. Signage about speed has been unwelcome in the past. Answers/Solutions: This ongoing issue may be helped with the use of a VAS speed monitor, which will gather speed data as well as flashing up a speed/happy sad face.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NM</p>

<p><u>Bonfires</u> Some are taking place at times, specifically hot days, which upset neighbouring properties as they may have washing out or windows open. While there is no specific regulation of Bonfires, evidence could be submitted to the Environment Authority under the Law of Nuisance Act. Answers/Solutions: It was agreed to repeat the reminder in The Bridge about consideration for others when a bonfire is being lit.</p> <p><u>Parking in the road.</u> It was noted that some cars were being parked in the road through Elmore rather than off road. This is causing a driving hazard, especially when large trucks, buses and tractors are having to avoid the cars and run into shrubbery on the other side of the road. Answers/Solution: A quiet word with car owners doing this.</p> <p>OVERALL A multi pronged approach was needed. Communication and support for one another is important. Recording incidents as they happen on a BLOG system based on our website would have to be submitted in a format which authorities such as the police and SDC want/can use. Attempting to revive the Neighbourhood Watch system could create more communication. Andy Nash offered to write about this for The Bridge. Find out what enforcement powers SDC and the police have. Attempt to ensure we have Police and Neighbourhood Warden at the next meeting in May.</p>		<p>TJ</p> <p>NM</p>
<p>3 Police Report from PCSE Keven Lee (Not Present)</p>	<p>We are still actively patrolling the area, and will pay passing attention to the areas identified below.</p> <p>I have recently put myself forward to undertake the Rural environmental crime liaison officer (RECLO) training that the constabulary is offering. Hopefully if I am considered this will give me a better insight into tackling some of those issues raised.</p> <p>We have recently received some dashcam footage of a fly tipping offender ,which will now be investigated. The environmental health dept have been informed and we will be working together to try and secure a prosecution. We will then hopefully be able to publicise this in the local media which may deter any future offences of fly tipping.</p> <p>This would also include any offences of litter that is left behind in the lay-bys .</p> <p>I would suggest that maybe an invite to the environmental health dept to ask one of their representatives attend a meeting to discuss how they might assist in the future.</p> <p>If anybody has any information in relation to Poaching / hare coursing ,please encourage them to phone 101 or 999 if they are at the scene and witness this taking place.</p>	<p>TJ</p>

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	<p>Can you identify at what location you have received reports of speeding vehicles. I can arrange a traffic operation in those locations if it is deemed necessary.</p> <p>Please let me know of any other issues raised in the meeting.</p>	
4 Declaration of member's interest in Agenda items	No declarations were made.	
5 Neighbourhood Warden	<p>Did not attend</p> <p>It was suggested by Stephen Davis that the new warden should be able to assist us with some of the issues discussed in the open question section</p>	
6 Ant-Social Behaviour in the village.	Discussed in item 2 Open Question Time.	
7 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 9 th Dcember2019	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 9 th December were proposed as a true record by TJ and seconded by PT.	
8 Matters arising from the Minutes of 9 th December 2019	<p>Entrance to Hollow Farm Soul Circus field – this was deferred.</p> <p>Highways: NM has spoken to Dan Tiffany re Lake Street Road.</p> <p>Parish Communications – No advertising in Bridge already decided</p>	
9 County Councillor's Report from Cllr Stephen Davies	<p>Report was given on the GCC Budget, Money for Road Work, Transport Vision for A38 and Affordable Housing.</p> <p>Information on VAS camera and SV explained that if we use the VAS camera, data on the number and speed of vehicles will be collected. This will be very useful in identifying how much of a problem we actually have.</p>	
10 District Councillor's Report	No report was received.	
11 Report from Severn Voice Meeting	<p>It was reported that SV have agreed to purchase a VAS camera. The police have to agree to the position in each village and this camera would be rotated between locations. NM offered to help with moving it to Elmore.</p> <p>The Verge Cutting contract was increased by 1.7% value.</p> <p>The contractor Dave Davies had reported problems with overhanging trees making access difficult. This needs to be investigated.</p>	
12 Finance	<p><u>Account update: FY 2019/20</u></p> <p>The spreadsheet and Bank Statement were viewed. The balance at 5th February is £5,009.66. The balance at the end of the financial year should be £5,304.46 after paying for the defibrillator supplies.</p> <p><u>Account spreadsheet FY 2020/21</u></p> <p>This was not discussed although we expect the new spreadsheet to begin with a working balance of £5,304.46.</p> <p><u>Expenditure Plans –</u></p>	

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	<p>The Council discussed the possibility of a Community Project. TJ consulted John Hardisty as requested. VHC has now suggested that they would like to purchase 40 light weight chairs to replace that use of the existing heavy chairs. EVHC would be grateful for help with the cost involved. Discussion was deferred until we have more information from EVH committee.</p> <p>Trees for the village. It was agreed to repeat this idea in the Bridge but with a more prominent position and more detail.</p>	
13 Highways	<p><u>Layby Farley's End (Kenton Green</u></p> <p>Discussed in item 2 'Open Question Time'.</p> <p><u>Layby Elmore Brook Street</u> TJ has cleared litter and debris from this layby including paraphernalia of substance abuse. He noted that the ditch is full of other fly tipped items. In consultation with JF he approached Graham Taylor who is prepared to use a mechanical digger to clear the ditch, suggesting that EPC should hire a skip to dispose of the debris. The suggestion of installing a litter bin of a design approved by SDC. They will regularly empty the bin free of charge. The cost of bin would be approx. £164 +vat. Other costs involved – fixing the bin to a newly laid concrete base. It was agreed to defer discussion to the meeting in May.</p> <p><u>Lake Street</u> The road to Elmore Back has been resurfaced However, it is a bit bumpy and there is a big drop off from some edges. There is a post work inspection to be carried out so we hope any problems will be fixed.</p> <p><u>VAS Speed Camera – SV Proposal</u> Discussed in item 2 and item 11.</p>	
14 Defibrillators	<p><u>Defibrillator - Elmore Back</u> New Battery and pads installed, <u>Phone Box – Defibrillator Light</u> New Battery installed. New pads needed during 2020-21</p>	
15 Broadband update	No report needed as this is no longer an issue for the Parish Council.	
16 Parish Communications	<p><u>Website.</u> DJ to investigate the means of introducing a Secure BLOG onto the Parish Council Website. <u>The Bridge.</u> No comments needed. All OK. <u>E-mail database.</u> JF reported on this previously to say contacts are up to date.</p>	DJ
17 Planning Review Update	Planning applications in the village were noted.	
18 Any Other Business	Nomination Packs were made available for potential councillors.	

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Date of Annual Parish and the Annual Parish Council Meetings 2019 - Tuesday 12th May 2020
This is depended on the development of the Coronavirus outbreak.

Following Meetings

Monday 21st September 2020

Monday 7th December 2020

The Chairman thanked those present for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10.12 pm.

Signed..... Date