

ELSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Methodist Church on September 13, 2011, at 7.30pm

Couns. Sam Rabjohn (Chairman)

Sue Dyer (A)

Lisa Smith

Colin Green

Peter Clark

Julie Fulton

Also present: The clerk Mike Elliott and Coun. Ivor Walker (Newark and Sherwood District Council).

1. **Apologies for absence** There were none.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on July 26, 2011,** were accepted as circulated and signed by the chairman.

3. **Declarations of interest** There were none.

4. **Casual vacancies**

The chairman introduced Mrs Julie Fulton to members saying she was willing to be co-opted. She was proposed and seconded and unanimously appointed as a member. She signed the necessary Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and was given the Register of Members Interests form to sign within 28 days.

5. **Update on items from previous meetings**

a. Parish Paths Partnership

Coun. Walker was invited to update the meeting on that subject and said progress was being made in respect of the Chapel / Stoke Field footpath. He also reported that he had spoken to Notts County Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council in regard to sweeping footpaths etc and understood some work was being planned.

b. Neighbourhood Watch

Coun. Walker reported a meeting was due to be held on October 5 at Syerston Village Hall and that Notts Police was to attend.

6. **Chairman's report**

The chairman said it was good to report that the situation involving difficulties to the village bus service brought about by the A46 road works were being overcome and arrangements were now back to normal.

7. **Playing Field**

The council had paid the £1,200 held in trust on behalf of Coun. Mrs Sue Saddington to the playing field group.

A request was made for the council to consider provision of a litter bin at the playing field. Coun. Ivor Walker said one could be attached to the fence he owned just inside the gate. The clerk was asked to check on the pricing for a post mounted bin and also in regard to the arrangements there would be for emptying it as far as the District Council was concerned. At the same time the clerk was asked to check with Newark and Sherwood District Council how many bins it was in fact now emptying within the parish.

The chairman said the lease for the land had still not been signed. He was asked to make contact with Mrs Scythia Cross who was undertaking the necessary work for the council. The question of insurance for the site would be looked at when the council was responsible for the field.

8. **Village Hall funding and access to the building**

The council had paid the first £35,000 of the grant to the Village Hall Committee. The chairman said currently there was no access to the hall, and he understood the refurbishment work would be starting shortly.

9. **Correspondence**

Notts County Council wrote in regard to its Local Improvement Scheme and the meeting agreed the clerk should look at a scheme for provision of a footpath on The Pinfold to The Spinney, as a means of reducing dangers that exist currently for pedestrians. Traffic was now heavier in that area of the village since the closure of Elston Lane. Notts County Council wrote in regard to its winter service offer of salt and grit bins, and the plans to appoint a snow warden and to organise help from farmers in times of heavy snow. The council agreed to ask for the five free bags of salt and for these to be delivered to the village shop.

Newark and Sherwood District Council wrote in regard to its Citizen of the Year 2011 nominations scheme and the council agreed to put forward the name of Kate Blair in connection with her voluntary work involving the village shop, the village hall and being involved in organising village events. Newark and Sherwood District Council was carrying out a review of polling districts and polling stations. The parish council felt present arrangements were quite acceptable.

10. **Planning applications**

Planning Applications

11/00897/ADV Mr S Joynes; A 4.5m x 3m freestanding aluminium sign advertising Eden Hall Day Spa; Land at Eden Hall, Lodge Lane. No objection

11/01098/FUL Nottinghamshire County Council; Construction of three two-storey houses with attached garages, conversion of outbuildings and alterations to front boundary wall (following demolition of existing agricultural buildings); Chapel Farm, Low Street. No objection, accepting that the scheme was in keeping with the village but asking it to be noted that the council would wish to receive confirmation that the plans would, as shown now, maintain the existing farmhouse and cowshed as part of the development scheme.

Decisions from Newark and Sherwood District Council

11/00544/FUL The Funfair Brewing Co; Change of use of first floor to the rear of the building from function room to micro brewery; The Chequers Inn Public House, Toad Lane, Elston. Application Permitted Full Planning Permission

11. Environmental items

A letter had been received from Mr Bertie Pinchera in regard to the continuing matter of the use by vehicular traffic of the Big Scutchell leading from Top Street to the village hall, school, church and shop. A letter was also read from Notts County Council's Rights of Way office. Coun. Peter Clark agreed to make contact with the Land Registry office in a further attempt to obtain information that would assist in verifying the current situation.

12. Finance Members authorised payment of cheques as per the schedule presented.

Total expenditure for the meeting	£37,535.46	£178.98	£37,714.44
Total expenditure to date in the current financial year	£44,717.56	£399.26	£45,116.82

13. Items for discussion

a] For placing on the agenda for the following meeting to be held on October 25 would include the signing of the lease for the sport field, the chairman saying he would make contact with Mrs Cross to assist in bringing that about.

The question of notices being erected for meetings of the council was raised and the chairman confirmed he carried out this task. Coun. Clark also offered to do it as well.

14. Public question time

No questions were raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.