

# ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council AGM and a meeting of Elsworth Parish Council held on  
Wednesday July 19<sup>th</sup> 2006 in Elsworth School Hall

**PRESENT:** Mrs Annie Howell (AH) (Chairman), David Holland (DH), Alan Farrow (AF) from 19:45, Robin Grange (RG) Ms Anne Muir (AM), Anthony Taylor (AT), Michael Taylor (MT),

## IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs E Sim (ES)(Clerk), Mr B Kenny (BK) (Chairman Fardell's Lane Committee), C. Cllr. Mandy Smith (MS).from 19:45, District Cllr N Wright (NW) Mr David Brace (DB) (Cambridgeshire County Council Traffic engineer) until 20:00, Mr Ian Penfold

## OPEN FORUM

Mr David Brace Cambridgeshire County Council's Traffic Engineer updated Councillors on issues relating to traffic calming in the village and other traffic related issues that had been raised by parishioners at the annual parish meeting and in previous correspondence. He responded to questions from councillors and the floor regarding their concerns about the inadequacy of the current traffic calming measures and the possible remedial works that could be done to improve the situation. He informed councillors that remedial work to increase the incline of the ramps onto the table at the junction of Brockley Road and Smith Street was scheduled for the following week. Cllr Grange requested that the white line at the junction of Brockley Road be moved forward to increase safety. Mr Brace agreed to review this. Councillors agreed to review the traffic calming provision and the current traffic situation in the village at the September Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mr Brace for attending

**The open forum closed at 20:00**

### 1. Apologies for absence

Ian Maddison (IM), D. Cllr Mark Howell (MH), James Witherow (JW), PC Kevin Murphy, PCSO Chris Blewett,

### 2. Declarations of Interest

AT declared an interest in item 9a  
AF declared an interest in the minutes of May 06

### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2006

Councillors **resolved** that the minutes were accurate and they were signed by the Chairman (Prop RG Sec AM) 6 in favour 1 against

### 4. Finance

a. Councillors unanimously **resolved** to sign off audit documentation for the annual accounts 2005-6; the statement of accounts and the statement of assurance ( Prop RG Sec AT) and these were signed by the Chairman and Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer. Councillors received copies of the asset register for the financial year 05-06.

b. The following payments were agreed (Prop DH Sec RG)

Harry Adcock Post for Village sign	140.42
The Play inspection Company Ltd Annual Inspection	70.50
Flynn & Rothwell Design & EA approval for bypass channel	2,500.00
Neil Kenny Fardell's Lane	82.50
Neil Kenny Verge Cut 2	310.00
Neil Kenny Verge Cut 3	310.00
Neil Kenny Village maintenance	303.50
Elsworth School hire of hall 18/01/06 - 20/03/06	64.50
Mrs E Sim Back pay April - July	111.20

Received

SCDC Recycling Credits June 147.54

c. Donation towards the re-publication of Mrs Betty Evan's Book on the history of Elsworth.

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Councillors unanimously **agreed** a donation of £369.50 (prop RG Sec DH) which would enable the publication of 500 copies. Councillors agreed unanimously that a copy be distributed to each household in the village free of charge and that the remaining copies would be made available for purchase through outlets in the church. Funding raised would go to the church.

- d. Clerk's remuneration. The Clerk advised Councillors that the previous figures quoted from the NALC recommendations had been superseded. Councillors unanimously **agreed** to increase the Clerk's remuneration in line with the top of the scale recommended by NALC and to pay backdated amounts due from 1<sup>st</sup> April 06 as per NALC guidelines. (Prop RG Sec AM)

## 5. Parish Council matters

- a. **Report from Neighbourhood Policing team.** The Clerk had an emailed report to circulate to councillors. There were three reported crimes for Elsworth for the last month. There was a dwelling burglary during the day, a car was broken into and items taken and a commercial premises had criminal damage caused. There were several incidents in Elsworth Road Conington in the same time frame. PC Murphy had been advised of antisocial behaviour in the area of the recreation ground and pavilion, and he recommend that if such behaviour were witnessed then residents should call the police..
- b. **Terms of reference for the allocation of funding to publications.** The Clerk presented draft terms of reference drawn up by the Chief Officer of CALC based on terms adopted by other parish councils. DH proposed an amendment to point 7 "*The magazine should have a clear disclaimer on the front cover stating that the views expressed in the magazine, other than those expressly written in the Parish Council sections, do not reflect the views of the council.*" – deletion of "*on the front cover*". The proposal was seconded by GR and **accepted** unanimously. Councillors **resolved** to adopt the terms of reference (Proposed RG Seconded AM) 6 in favour 1 against.
- c. **Playground safety inspection report and necessary repairs.** The Clerk reported that the inspection had been carried out by a new company and had been extensive and thorough. The written report was received and councillors **agreed** to pass this to the Amenities Committee for perusal at its next meeting in October. No repairs were agreed. Councillors **agree** unanimously that the Parish Council should claim for the item of equipment damaged by the sports club's mower. The Clerk advised councillors that a copy of the report was required by the Insurance Company.
- d. **Clerk's update.** The Clerk reported that the units for the servery were being delivered on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July. IM was discussing the design of the fence on Smith Street with Neil Kenny.

## 6. Village Matters

- a) **To consider methods of dealing with increased vandalism and anti social behaviour in the village.** Councillors expressed concern over the recent increase in vandalism in the village and Fardell's Lane Reserve and noted correspondence from parishioners asking for action to be taken to deal with this. Parishioners would be encouraged to report all incidents to the police. The Clerk would liaise with Eric Spoelstra, Community Engagement officer for Southern Division, to arrange for him to come to an open meeting and discuss the issues. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators in the village would be specifically invited.
- b) **Update on BT payphone installation.** Further to the Parish Council's objections to the proposed siting of the kiosk near the bus shelter and the District Council's grant of the application, IM and ES had a meeting at South Cambs District Council with David Hussell to advise of the Parish Council's concerns over the processes of the application. The Parish Council's Planning Committee had considered the response from the District Council and the suggestion from the Parish Council that a site meeting be held with representatives of the Highways Department, the Parish Council, the District Council's Development Control and Conservation Departments and BT. Councillors instructed the Clerk to convene a meeting

## 7. Communications

- 7.1. API Associates. Inspection report of play area Elsworth Sports field. *Dealt with under 5c.*
- 7.2. Gaynor Clements. Re vandalism in the village and speeding problems. *Dealt with under 6a*
- 7.3. Royal Mail re changes in the postal codes. Response to consultation. *Noted*
- 7.4. Cambridge Acre. AGM 5 September in the Burgess hall St Ives at 5.30pm. *Noted*

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7.5. SCDC RE Village services and amenities. Request for councillors' opinions on new production and recommendations for future style of publication. *Councillors favoured the new style of publication*

7.6. Alan Farrow Re March Minutes. *Noted*

## 8. Environment

- a. No minutes of the meeting held on June 21st 2006 were available.
- b. There were no recommendations to ratify.
- c. Fardell's Lane Reserve – a report from the committee chairman had been received. BK reported that the notices for the reserve had all been vandalised. Councillors tasked the committee with investigating the design and costings for a more substantial permanent sign that could detail the flora and fauna of the site in addition to advising on desirable conduct in the reserve. BK reminded councillors that an opening ceremony had been planned. Councillors agreed to discuss the reserve's issues and methods of circulating information relating to the reserve, in more detail at the September parish council meeting

## 9. Amenities

- a. The minutes of the meeting held on July 12<sup>th</sup> 2006 were received
- b. Recommendations brought forward by the committee
  - Cricket nets. Councillors instructed the Clerk to contact the insurance co with regard to ascertaining the possibility of cover and public liability for movable cricket nets which would not be on the areas of the sports field the Parish Council is responsible for.
  - AM reported that there was no possibility of funding for a minibus to transport youth to supervised activities in other villages. AF advised that an organisation called "Young Lives" was sending him information on guidance for youth clubs.

## 10. Planning

- a. The minutes of the meeting held on March 29<sup>th</sup> had been circulated. No minutes from the July meeting were available.

## 11. Standing Orders

- a. Councillors reviewed the decisions made at the meeting and **agreed** they were made in accordance with s17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998
- b. Councillors reviewed the decisions made at this meeting with regard to matters that should be on the website and **agreed** that the date of the proposed open meeting agreed in item 6a be publicised on the site.

## 12. Dates of next meetings

Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday September 20th 2006, Committees Wednesday October 18th 2006

The meeting closed at 21:45

Signed .....

Chairman.

Date.....