Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Parish Council Meeting
Held Monday 5th March 2017, at 7.30 pm in Ellington Village Hall

6th March 2017

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Chapman, Cllr Lumbers, Cllr Porter, Cllr Walters

Clerk: Darren Tysoe

Public: 1 Member of the public and District Councillor White.

Open Forum

In Member of the public. Update from Buffaload requested. No update from

1093 Apologies for Absence received from Cllr Elliott, Cllr King, Cllr Woods and County Councillor Bywater. Apologies for late arrival from Cllr Chapman. Cllr Lumbers in the Chair for item 1093 to 1095.

1094 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th January 2017 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Walters and seconded by Cllr Porter.

1095 Matters arising from Minutes held on 16th January 2017

Buffaload

Action: It was agreed that the Clerk would chase whether Buffaload was working within the terms of its Operators licence.

Action: Clerk to write to Nigel Swaby to confirm the status of the Buffaload Planning Application, which was expected last year. Key issues currently, included the reversing bleepers, the temporary car park, and lighting. Parish Council Members requested that a planning application should be submitted by Buffaload before the next Parish Council Meeting on May 8th, or the District Council would be requested to commence enforcement action.

Action: Clerk to write to Buffaload to alert them to the noise problem being caused by the reversing bleepers.

Other

Action: It was decided to obtain quotes for conducting a traffic survey along Grafham Road from both the Highways Agency and a local approved contractor,

1096 There were no declarations of interest in any Agenda item.

1097 Update from District and County Councillors. Cllr White provided an update. The District Council approved a council tax increase of 2%. For Ellington, the total amount is £1,617 (for all precepting authorities for a Band D property). There had been a change on the bin schedule which took effect from the previous week. The refuge collection service was planning a secondary sweep to collect any missed

bins. Ellington was one of the villages affected by having different days for its bins. The reason for the change was to save the costs of one round, which equate to £160K per annum.

1098 Finances

a) The Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation for month ended January 31st 2017 were approved. It was agreed to add back the VAT and grant receipts to the the Capital Projects fund, once the VAT refund was received.
b) There were no payments made.

1099 Other Matters to consider/updates:

a) Update on Buffaload Logistics – the deadline for the woodland replanting expired on the 11th February. The site was inspected by the Forestry Commission on 21st February 2017. The site should have been restocked with 2,200 trees per hectare equating to 1,742 trees at this site. The case has now been referred to the Defra Investigation Service (DIS), as the Forestry Commission failed the inspection.
b) Street Lights – **Action:** It was agreed to consider obtaining a service contract for the street lamps along Thrapston Road that were not owned by the County Council. These included two at either end of Thrapston Road, and one near the flyer (3 in total). It was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Porter would investigate further.
c) Neighbourhood Plan – **Action:** It was agreed that the Clerk would ask for a representative from the District Council to speak at the May Parish Council meeting and provide an introduction to the benefits of carrying out a Neighbourhood Plan and how to start the process. Cllr Walters agreed to review the District Council's microsite on Neighbourhood Plans.
d) Village Hall Update – **Action:** It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to the Village Hall Committee Chairman to place a light outside of the village hall.
e) Playing Field Committee Update – Cllr Lumbers described an event scheduled for 14th May, which included a "Big Breakfast" and a "Treasure hunt" around the village. The costs would be £5 per adult, and £2.50 per children; dogs are free. The EPFC had submitted an application for RES for a shelter, which had been queried by the administrator of the fund due to the non-charity status of the EPFC. After some correspondence it had been agreed to treat the income as a potential one-off, capital item, and allow the application to proceed to the Committee decision stage.
   Grass Cutting - the new season was due to begin in mid-March. Access to the playing field would be required. Cllr Lumbers agreed to supply a spare key to the lock for the bollard in order for grass cutting machinery to be able to access the playing field.
f) Neighbourhood Watch Update – There was an unconfirmed report of an attempted break-in within the village.

1100 Items for discussion at next meeting – Neighbourhood Plan.

1101 Correspondence (see separate list). Mark's agreed to be nominated to attend the Parish Council Conference on 30th March.

1102 Date of next meetings: May 8th (Annual Meeting), July 3rd, Sept 4th, Nov 6th

Signed Clerk: 14th March 2017

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