Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Parish Council Meeting
Held Monday 28th November 2016 at 7.30 pm in Ellington Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Elliott, Cllr Lumbers, Cllr Porter, Cllr King, County Cllr Bywater

Clerk: Darren Tysoe

Parishioners: 5

Open Forum

The Applicant from the land South of Grove Lane attended the Open Forum to discuss his previous application. He stated that he has a nursery in Willington which is enclosed, but he now needs more space close to his existing facility. With regards to the current application, he has put in 13 car parking spaces, but would be willing to reduce these if required. He estimated that there would be around two vehicle movements per day, which would be for vans to load and unload. There may be a very rare instance of HGVs. The application is for polytunnels. He confirmed that there would be no electricity on site, so no lighting, and no sanitation facilities. No staff would be there on a permanent basis. There would be no higher value items left on site. The Clerk advised that this item could not be discussed during Open Forum, but could be put on the Agenda for the next PC Meeting in January.

1071 Apologies for Absence – Cllrs Chapman, Walters and Woods, and District Councillor White. Cllr Elliott was in the Chair.
1072 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th October 2016 were approved.
1073 There were no matters arising from Minutes held on 12th October 2016.
1074 There were no Declarations of Interest on any agenda item.
1075 Update from District and County Councillors. Cllr Bywater provided an update, which included the forthcoming Mayoral elections in May 2017, more funding for housing and infrastructure in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cllr Bywater also discussed the Police and Crime Commissioner's new Business Plan, which included putting forward a ideas for taking over responsibility for the Fire Authority. In 2018, there will be County Council Elections. Cllr Bywater has just been selected as a candidate for Sawtry and Stilton, which means that he will not be a candidate for the County Division which includes Ellington. The Chair thanked Cllr Bywater for his work with supporting the village over the past year.
1076 Finances
   a) The Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation for month ended October 31st 2016 was approved.
   b) The following cheques were approved: Reed Roofing £10,818, CGM Gras Cutting £208.70, PKF External Auditors £120. PAYE £290.09, Clerk Quarterly Net Salary period 4,5,6 £487.14. In addition, it was agreed to pay £100 towards the Church lighting.

c) The Budget for 2017/18 was approved and the precept for 2017/18 was confirmed at £9,000 (unchanged from the previous year). The Precept was proposed by Cllr Porter and seconded by Cllr Elliott.
d) The grass cutting contract for seasons 2017, 2018, and 2019 was confirmed as BEAM Ltd. The Clerk was asked to write to BEAM Ltd t confirm the contract award, to suggest walking around the village with the contractor in February to double-check the schedule, and also to request that grass was collected from the churchyard.

1077 Planning Applications

a) 16/02432/HH FUL First Floor Extension over existing, 3 Parsons Drive

- Members recommended **APPROVAL** for the following reasons:
- Adds useful amenity space
- Minimal impact on neighbours
- Good design

b) 16/02294/LBC Removal of black paint from exposed timber beams, College Farm

- Proposed works are to restore timberwork on Grade II Listed building to original state
- Method uses a non-abrasive system with reduced risk of damaging beams
- Outcome will help to maintain the historical legacy of the building

1078 Other Matters to consider/updates:

a) Update on Buffaload Logistics Enforcement and Planning Application from Nigel Swaby. This item was brought forward and discussed after item 1075. Mr Swaby said there had been a site meeting. A planning application was originally expected in July, but still was still outstanding. The site has now been accurately survey. An updated Transport Statement is required. The applicant needs to agree with Highways England and the Highways Authority on the Transport Statement. Traffic counting needs to take place as part of this statement.
Councillors expressed frustration that the site operators had still not submitted a planning application and there appeared to be no clear date when that could be agreed. Cllr Elliot stated there must be some enforcement tools available in order to in order to Mr Swaby said that he as willing to report back to the PC at every meeting. Mr Swaby stated that there had been one new reach – the bunding on the left hand side near the bridge. This requires an environmental permit and a full planning application. This is not presenting an immediate flood risk. Mr Swaby confirmed that in view of the number of breaches, that he would review the option of taking enforcement action. He confirmed that English Planning Law is weaker than some other regions. Retrospective planning applications are permissible. It is generally not the case that enforcement action is taken just because development has taken place without planning permission. Mr Swaby said that he would share the scoping document with the PC for traffic calming. County Cllr Bywater asked about the new HGV access that had been added, which appeared to be unauthorised. Cllr Lumbers stated that Buffaload continue with their operations, without permission. Once the application is submitted, then there will be the opportunity to deal with the

planning breaches, which total 21 at the moment. Cllr Porter asked whether the lighting would also be included within the Planning Application. The lack of tree planting was also cited as an issue. The 'bleeping' noise late in the night/very early morning can also be heard in the village.

b) Removal of soil from slip road. Cllrs were concerned that some drivers were using the layby at the slip road as a latrine. Cllr Porter asked whether bollards could be installed to prevent cars/lorries from parking in this area. The Clerk would contact the Highways Authority.
c) To discuss the chicanes at Grafham Road and Thrapston Road. Cllr Lumbers raised the issue of the new chicanes on Grafham Road and Thrapston Road. He had been in contact with Mr Mark McDonald from the Highways Agency. The suggestion is for bolt-down rubber pads near Parsons Drive and Spinney Each pair of pads costs around £1400.
d) Speeding along Thrapston Road (requested in respect of Brook Cottage). A solution is needed to slow vehicles near Brook Cottage, but rubber pads can cause vehicles to vibrate which could be problematic for this part of Thrapston Road. It was suggested that more 30 mph signage would assist.
e) Village Hall Update, including works on roof – it was confirmed that the works to the roof had been carried out.
f) Playing Field Committee Update – Councillor Lumbers stated that there would be a walking treasure hunt which was intended as a family day out and to raise funds.
g) Neighbourhood Watch Update. Cllr King stated that there had been some work carried out with Trading Standards, who wanted to link up with Neighbourhood Watch. a

1079 Items for discussion at next meeting – update from Buffaload.
1080 Correspondence (see separate list)
1081 Date of next meeting – 16th January 2017

Signed Clerk: 12th December 2016 

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