Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Parish Council Meeting
Held 5th March 2018 at 7.30 at the Village Hall, Ellington

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Elliott, King, Lumbers, Porter, Walters and Woods, CCllr Gardener
Clerk: Darren Tysoe
Public: 4

Open Forum

A resident complained about waste which had been dumped on the slip road of Thrapston Road and also the condition of the road over the flyover. CCllr Gardener said that he would contact the Highways England in respect of the flyover.
Action: CC Gardener

It was suggested that Mick George and Buffaload Logistcs could be invited to a future meeting after the May meeting.
Action: Clerk

A resident stated that there were several areas around the village which would benefit from inspection from the CC Highways Team. CC Gardener offered to meet with an Officer from the CC Highways Team and would invite representatives to attend.
Action: CCllr Gardener

A resident asked whether consideration could be given to relieving the parking issues along Windmill Close. It was suggested that consideration be given to creating an area near the garages, which is currently rough grass.
Action: Cllr Lumbers agreed to make enquiries with Luminus.

1165. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chapman and Dist Cllr White. Cllr Elliott was in the Chair.
1166. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th January and the Planning Meeting on 12th February were approved.
1167. No Matters arising.
1168. There were no declarations of interest.
1169. CCllr Gardener presented his report to the Parish Council. He apologised for not attending previously, stating that there were 20 Parishes within his Division, which makes it challenging to get round all of the meetings regularly. CCllr Gardener suggested that the LHI fund may be a source of funding for parking at Windmill Close garages. The CC portion of Council Tax was set to rise by 2.99%, with a further 2% rise in respect of adult social care. There would e no reductions in winter gritting, and #2m would be available for repairing potholes. There were no updates from County or District Councillors. Some suggestions for future funding bids were put forward: street lamps and extending the pathway at the Green to the bottom of the village, and also completing the dropped curb outside the village hall. It was suggested that this could be completed when the village sign is replaced.
Action: Clerk after the May meeting

1170. Finances
   a) The Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation as of 31 January 2018 was approved.
   b) The following cheques were approved for payment: Clerks Salary Q4 (£487.50 Net, £290.09 PAYE), and £642 in VAT for creation of new website, setting up new email accounts, and registering ellingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk account.
   c) There were no further payments approved.

1171. a) Planning Application: Yew Tree Farm (18/00249/LBC).
   The application was recommended for APPROVAL for the following reasons:
   - Removal of the existing conservatory will restore the listed building closer to its original historical condition
   - Removal of relatively modern shutters will restore the listed building closer to its original historical condition
   - Improvements to windows will provide greater insulation whilst protecting the heritage building improvements and repairs to the inside of the home will ensure the heritage building is kept in sound condition for current and future generations of owners.

1172. Other Matters to consider/updates
   a) GDPR and the website – The Clerk updated Members with the implications of GDPR and recommended that some training was scheduled after the Parish Council elections, but before May 25th. The Clerk advised that the current website was vulnerable to external hackers and that it did not meet the requirements of GDPR. Similarly, the Clerk advised that the use of private email accounts for Council business may be in breach of privacy regulations of GDPR. It was agreed to set up a new website and new email accounts from the beginning of June. Two quotes for new websites were shown. Function 28 although slightly more expensive than Parish Council Websites, offered registration of '.gov.uk' domains, which provide an additional layer of security. It was agreed to opt for the Function 28 proposal, at a cost of £642 including VAT.
   b) As there had been no further update for some time in respect of Buffaload, the Clerk was requested to chase Nigel Swaby and Dist Cllr Jim White (or his successor), for an update. **Action: Clerk.**
   c) Cllr Woods indicated that he could arrange for the village sign to be painted rather than replaced. It was agreed to explore this option, particularly if the condition of the wood was acceptable. **Action: Cllr Woods.**
   d) The Clerk handed out Nomination Packs to Councillors and agreed to publicise the elections on Facebook and in the Express, seeking further nominations.
   e) Cllr Lumbers reported on the Speedwatch training that had taken place recently. 9 volunteers had been trained on 25th March. He was arranging for some dates to carry out some Speedwatch sessions.
   f) Village Hall Update – no update.
   g) Playing Field Committee Update - Ryan Palmer had taken over as Chair of the Playing Field Committee. Several events had been planned, including a Treasure Hunt on 13th May to raise funds for new play equipment.
   h) Neighbourhood Watch Update – Cllr King stated that there had been garage/shed burglaries in the area.

1173. Correspondence - all correspondence had been distributed.
1174. Items for discussion at next meeting – AGM
1175. Date of next Meeting – 16th May 2018.