Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of Ellington Parish Council Parish Meeting
Held 13th November 2019 at 7:30 at the Village Hall, Ellington

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs J Elliott, R Lumbers, B McCutcheon, R Palmer, D Porter and R Walters, C Cllr I Gardener

Clerk/Dist Cllr: D Tysoe

Public: 3

Open Forum

A resident complained about HGV lorries parking at the slip road and using it as a latrine/litter spot. The Clerk was asked to write to a couple of specific haulage firms to remind their drivers not to use the slip road for this purpose and to point out that Brampton Hut has facilities for HGV drivers. It was noted that drivers from other haulage firms also used this spot, and members agreed to let the Clerk know if they had seen drivers from other firms parking up in this location. **Action: Clerk**

1296 Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr M Chapman.

1297 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd Sept 2019 were approved.

1298 Matters arising from previous meeting held on 2nd Sept 2019: Japanese Knotweed – C Cllr Gardener agreed to chase the CCC Highways Team to confirm details of works undertaken. **Action: CC I Gardener.** Christmas Tree: The Clerk agreed to make arrangements to purchase a tree and solar lights. The date for the official opening is Wednesday 18th December, to coincide with the EPFC Santa Sleigh. Agreed to install the tree by the start of December (suggested date: Saturday 30th November). Action: **Clerk**. Flower Beds: Cllr Porter reported on his recommended sites for flower beds around the village. 6 locations were suggested on entrances to High Street and Grafham Road. **Action: Cllr Porter** to arrange for the purchase/creation of 6 x flower bed boxes. To liaise with Clerk as required. Litter: The Clerk was asked to contact the HDC Operations Team to organise self-help litter pick safety gear and equipment. The Clerk was asked to write to McDonalds and Buffaload to ask wat practical help they can provide for litter reduction. **Action**: **Clerk.**

1299. There were no declarations of Interest.

1300. Update from District and County Councillors. **C Cllr I Gardener**: The A14 works will be completed by 9th December. There will be a temporary library at Alconbury Weston. C Gardener stated that he would enquire about a cycle path to complete the route from Easton-Spaldwick-Ellington-Brampton. **Action: CC I Gardener.**
Dist Cllr Tysoe: HDC has pledged to deliver five litter minimisation projects across 2019 and 2020, in a bid to support its upcoming environmental project goals and its green agenda commitments. Return of free parking after 3pm in the run up to Christmas 2019. Monday to Friday (1st December – 24th December), parking in all Council-run car parks will be free after three to support local town centre shopping throughout the festive period.

1301. Finances

a) The Cashbook and Bank Reconciliation as of 31 October 2019 were both approved.

b) The following payments made since the last meeting were noted (and included in the Cashbook): Filcris for play equipment, £1364.10, Wheelie Bin Stickers, £89; TMA Bark for Play equipment £2900.16; BEAM Grass Cutting Invoice 14 2019, £243.20; BEAM Invoice 15 2019, £110.00; Function 28 Website email addresses, £24.00 x 2; HAGS play Equipment instalment 2 £27,151.20.
Donations/receipts/grants received were: EPFC Donations: £4168, £1136.75, £2416.80; Grantscape: £18,458, VAT Refund £2619
The following payments were approved: There were no cheques for payment

c) The Budget for 2020/21 was approved and a precept for **£9,270** was agreed for 2020/21. Proposer: Cllr J Elliott, Seconder: Cllr R Lumbers.

1302. Other Matters to consider/updates
   a) Renewal of Policies: postponed to next meeting. The Clerk advised that standard template policies were used where possible. **Action: Clerk**
   b) Update on A14 Legacy Fund. Cllr Lumbers queried why a street licence for works could not be achieved. The C Cllr agreed to LHI Bid. The Clerk reported that the LHI bid was submitted by the deadline. They Projects Team has responded to ask for further information, which the Clerk is progressing.
   c) Update on Neighbourhood Plan – The Clerk reported that the Joint Neighbourhood Area was designated on 5th September, just before the first joint public meeting, held on 6th September at Grafham Village Hall. Approximately 30 residents from both villages attended the meeting and heard from a former councillor from Houghton and Wyton, who gave a well-received presentation of the process and his experiences of producing a neighbourhood plan. A small sub-group subsequently met with Claire Bond from HDC to run through the support that can be received from the District Council. A workshop is planned for 22nd November in Ellington, aimed at residents who expressed an interest with supporting the production of the Plan (around 20) and enlisting the initial core members. An online survey has so far received 15 respondents to help capture the skills, interests, and tasks.
   d) Grass Cutting Contract 2020-22 – 2 bids were received. It was agreed to award the contract to BEAM. **Action: Clerk.**
   e) Christmas Lights. See under matters arising.
   f) Village Hall Update. Correspondence had been received regarding works to the village hall roof. It was agreed to pursue this in the new year, including obtaining quotes and utilising grants where possible. Defibrillator training was scheduled for Friday, November 15h. The Clerk said he would attend on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**.
   g) Playing Field Committee Update. The new play equipment was installed. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to formally thank members of the Playing Field Committee for their successful project. **Action: Clerk**.
   h) Neighbourhood Watch Update. Cllr Porter agreed to monitor the e-cops service. The Clerk will investigate setting this up. **Action: Clerk/Cllr Porter**.

1293. Correspondence – a resident ran through a presentation detailing locations throughout the village for flower bulbs. It was agreed to distribute the presentation, and subsequently liaise with the resident to discuss how best to carry out the works and consult with neighbours, ensure the locations would not impact on views, and the grass cutting contract. The resident was thanked for taking the time to carry out the investigations and provide his recommendations. As some aspects overlapped the flower bed locations, it was suggested to involve Cllr Porter. **Action: Clerk/Chairman/Resident/Cllr Porter.**

1294. Items for discussion at next meeting –renewal of policies, power for the village green, grants and bids, flower beds and planting, village gates, land registry, road repairs.

1295. Date of next Meeting – Monday, January 6th 2020.