

2019/12

ELMLEY CASTLE, BRICKLEHAMPTON & NETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Annual Parish Council meeting of Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton and Netherton Parish Council, held in the village hall on Thursday 9th 2019 at 7.00pm

- 1. PRESENT:**
- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Cllr J Hickman | Cllr J Strong | Cllr D Thompson |
| Cllr C Ballard | Cllr J Martin | Cllr J Maude |
| Cllr J Douglas | Cllr A George | Cllr M Taite |
| Cllr A Parker | District Cllr G Mackison | District Cllr T Rowley |
| Clerk L Yapp | 17 members of the public | |

- 2. APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr A Hardman

ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FORMS WERE SIGNED BY CLLRS AND REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS WERE DISTRIBUTED

Outgoing councillor Mr M Axtell-Powell welcomed the new parish council and wished them well for the forthcoming term of office

ELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

- Chairman - Cllr Hickman was nominated Chairman, which he accepted, proposed by Cllr George, seconded Cllr Strong – all in favour
- Vice Chairman – Cllr Strong was nominated vice chairman, which he advised he would accept for a one-year period, proposed Cllr Hickman, seconded Cllr Thompson – all in favour

OPEN FORUM: Nothing to report

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:-

- Cllr Hickman – Queens Public House
- Cllr Taite – Queens Public House
- Cllr Parker – Queens Public House
- Cllr Parker – Neighbourhood Watch
- Cllr Douglas – Neighbourhood Watch
- Dispensation – Cllr J Strong – The Queens

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from meeting on 4th April 2019 were approved and signed – proposed Cllr Thompson, seconded Cllr Strong – all in favour – signed by Cllr Thompson

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT – Available from the clerk. An introduction was made by District Cllr T Rowley, newly elected Cllr for Bricklehampton

6. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – Nothing to report

7. REPORTS

- Lengthsman – the clerk explained the role of the LM, and asked that if there were any issues that required action by him to report direct to the clerk

8. PLANNING: Cllr Hickman asked that the previously agreed decision made by the parish council, to make site visits on ALL planning applications be re-considered .

9. FINANCE:

a) **Payments** made since the last meeting/to be paid – approved, proposed Cllr Thompson, seconded Cllr Douglas – all in favour

	731	Grass Cutting	72.00
	732	Defib. Sign	66.00
	733	Playground report	90.60
	734	Grass Cutting	72.00
	736	Lengthsman April	168.00
	737	Insurance	341.52
	738	Hall Hire	7.50
	739	Weed killer	40.00
		Church Grass Cutting	
	740	Contribution	750.00
SO		Clerks Expenses	15.00
SO		Clerks Salary	541.20
	741	Salary s/fall	43.52
	742	Subscription	516.40
	744	Grass Cutting	72.00

Account balances:

Current Account	£3,255.96
(less u/p cheques)	
Deposit Account	£28,318.77
Playground Account	£2.80

b) **Approval 2018/19 Accounts** – these had been circulated prior to the meeting for consideration. As most of the Cllrs had no knowledge of previous income and expenditure, Cllr Hickman had reviewed the accounts, asked questions where appropriate and found no issues or concerns. Cllr Thompson proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Cllr Strong – all in favour

c) **Bank Signatories** – Cllr Hickman reported that he felt it would be more beneficial to increase the number of bank signatories to enable all of the Cllrs authority to sign cheques – proposed Cllr Hickman, seconded Cllr Ballard – all in favour and the clerk would organise the relevant mandate changes. On-line banking was discussed but rejected due to the problems with authorisation by 2 Cllrs for each transaction

10. TREES/PLAYING FIELD -

- **Playground** – Cllr Thompson reported on the recent RoSPA report and some of points raised. Part of the Wetpore area (playground surface) was starting to come away, a potential trip hazard. An initial quote had been obtained for £2,250 which was considered excessive for the small area in question. A suggestion made that an infill of additional bark may be a cheaper option. Cllrs Thompson and Strong to investigate further. It was agreed that a quote be obtained for the replacement of Wetpore on the whole area and reported back at the next meeting. An issue had been raised with regard a bearing on the climbing frame (quoted £83) and a bolt on the see-saw (quoted £55) and that these would need replacing as a matter of urgency. Discussion took place as to whether there was a need to refer this work to a costly specialist, playground company. The clerk was asked in the first instance to speak to the insurance company as to whether there were

any implications if we went elsewhere (rather than using manufacturers of equipment) for the repairs

11. QUEENS PUBLIC HOUSE: *Cllrs Hickman, Taite and Parker left the meeting* Meetings between the working group and Mr Lavender-Jones had taken place and it had been agreed that to pursue with the previously agreed valuation of The Queens was a waste of parish council money. The current lease had 7 years left to run with the option to renew after. The A of CV had been renewed ensuring some security if the owner of The Queen decided to sell. This would mean an initial 6-week lead to decide if the parish council wanted to seriously consider the purchase and a further 6 months to raise funds. It was agreed that the working group be dissolved and no further action to be taken with regard any possible purchase of The Queens at this stage. All in favour *Cllrs Hickman, Taite and Parker re-joined the meeting*

12. CRIME:

- John Campion Visit – This was well attended. John Campion advised that more funding was to be made available for policing and additional police officers recruited
- Neighbourhood Watch – Lorraine Parker (NW Co-Ordinator) reported that information postcards had been delivered and additional signage awaited. Updates to be placed in the LINK. She is still looking for a co-ordinator to cover Kersoe and Netherton
- CCTV Cameras – Due to the huge volume of legislation with regard the data protection element of community CCTV cameras it had been agreed that this was an unrealistic option but a suggestion was made that the parish council would be investigating the option to offer financial assistance to parishioners towards the purchase of their own CCTV which could be placed at strategic points in the village. The clerk was asked to forward all correspondence regarding data protection legislation to Cllrs
- Smartwater – it was agreed that research into the statistics on whether SW was beneficial would be carried out before this is taken further
- Speeding Traffic – the clerk had received an email from a parishioner asking for support from the parish council with regard a request he had made to WCC for them to consider introducing a 30mph speed restriction on the road out of Elmley Castle towards Bricklehampton. The parishioner put forward a strong case with reasons for his request. The parish council were in full agreement that they would do what they could, and in the first instance the clerk would write to WCC and the County Cllr to this effect and asking what else they could do.

13. COUNCILLORS ROLES / RESPONSIBILITIES / TRAINING – the clerk suggested that in view of the fact that the majority of Cllrs were either new to the role, or previous Cllrs who had no training, that a group training session would be beneficial to everyone. CALC had advised that they would be prepared to come over to Elmley Castle and dates would be circulated to Cllrs. An invitation would be made to any other Cllrs from nearby parishes. *The clerk has since found out that the training session should ideally have no more than 20 in attendance to allow ample opportunity for discussion / questions. A provisional date has been put forward for 25th July – awaiting confirmation from CALC.*

The clerk also reported that it would be useful if there was a designated Cllr prepared to take on a specific role within the council i.e. liaison with lengthsman, Bredon Hill Conservation Group representative. Cllr Hickman advised that it was intended that working groups involving both Cllrs and parishioners, be set to cover a number of areas to include

- Crime, Prevention and Road Safety
- Finance, Legal and Administration
- Planning and Development
- Village Appearance and Maintenance
- Community Engagement and Communication
- Community Group Liaison

2019/15

➤ Village Events

These to be discussed in more detail and formally agreed at the next meeting

13. CORRESPONDENCE – emails had been circulated to Cllrs

19. OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION:

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

➤ Thursday 6th June at 7pm