

# ELMLEY CASTLE, BRICKLEHAMPTON & NETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

*From the meeting of Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton & Netherton Parish Council.*

*Held remotely on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021** 19:00 hours.*

*The meeting was audio recorded and conducted on video conference platform Zoom.*

*It was fully accessible to the Public and Press.*

**PRESENT:** Cllr James Hickman (Chairman), Cllr Jerry Strong (Vice Chair), Cllr Jane Martin, Cllr Dave Thompson, Cllr Malcolm Meikle, Cllr Jim Douglas, Cllr Adrian Parker, Cllr Andy George, Cllr Mike Taite, Cllr James Maude, Cllr Chris Ballard, County Cllr Adrian Hardman, District Cllr Tony Rowley, Andy Robinson (Clerk). 1 member of the public joined through meeting.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None.

**2. OPEN FORUM:** None present at this time.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST REMINDERS.**

**4. DISPENSATIONS:**

- Cllr Strong 1 year from 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Queens Public House (discussion but no voting rights).
- Cllr Parker 1 year from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 Queens Public House (discussion but no voting rights).

**5. CLERK UPDATES:**

**(I)** The new dog waste bins are now in place around the Parish.

**(II)** Bricklehampton book library now stocked with books and operational.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**(I)** Cllr Hickman proposed to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020, seconded by Cllr Strong, all voted in favour. They will be duly signed by the Chairman.

**7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:**

Deferred to later in the meeting (Cllr Hardman not present at this time).

**8. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT:**

- Cllr Rowley reported that there were no planning issues relating to the Elmley Castle Ward at the most recent Planning Committee meeting.
- Two planning applications for the Parish had been received and sent to the Clerk today.
- It was reported that the current Covid-19 levels are currently 383 per 100,000 in Wychavon, this is up from 82 per 100,000 at the beginning of December. Wychavon is currently the second lowest in Worcestershire.
- Wychavon DC is awaiting details of the Business Support packages and will begin to roll these out to those that qualify.

**9. FINANCES TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020:**

**(I)** Cllr Hickman proposed to approve the below Receipts and Payments, Cllr George seconded and all voted in favour.

Bank Balances as at 31st December 2020 - **£30,435.81**

**Receipts:**

09/11/20	Interest	£0.15
18/11/20	HMRC VAT Reclaim	£3,857.14
09/12/20	Interest	£0.15

**Payments:**

02/11/20	A Robinson	SO	Clerk Salary	£ 442.65
02/11/20	A Robinson	SO	Clerk Home Office	£ 15.00
16/11/20	Brian Arrowsmith	FPO	Lengthsman Oct	£ 156.00
16/11/20	Glasdon UK	FPO	John Eaton Bench	£ 780.11
16/11/20	Sally Harte	FPO	BHCG Running Costs	£ 30.00
16/11/20	Smartcut	FPO	Grass cutting Oct	£ 144.00
01/12/20	A Robinson	SO	Clerk Salary	£ 442.65
01/12/20	A Robinson	SO	Clerk Home Office	£ 15.00
03/12/20	B Arrowsmith	FPO	Lengthsman Nov	£ 156.00
03/12/20	B Arrowsmith	FPO	Lengthsman Dog Bin Prep	£ 90.00
03/12/20	Cllr Jane Martin	FPO	Brickle Tel Box Bookshelves	£ 104.99
10/12/20	A Robinson	FPO	Brickle Tel Box De-humid	£ 10.95
10/12/20	B.EC&N Village Hall	FPO	Village Hall Hire - Re-issue	£ 30.00
10/12/20	SLCC	FPO	SLCC Subscription	£ 83.00
10/12/20	Warwickshire College	FPO	John Eaton Trees	£ 37.80
18/12/20	Cllr Jerry Strong	FPO	Playing Field Trees	£ 94.92
18/12/20	PATA Payroll	FPO	Payroll (Oct/Nov/Dec)	£ 23.25
18/12/20	WDC	FPO	Dog Waste Bins	£ 1,863.17

**10. DECISIONS MADE BETWEEN MEETING (APPROVED DELEGATION SCHEME):**

- (I) All planning decisions listed in item 11.
- (II) To approve the publication of the Winter edition of the Village News.
- (III) Approval to replace the football nets at Elmley Castle Recreation Ground – the cost of which was donated to the Parish Council by a Councillor.

**11. PLANNING:**

- (I) 20/02522/AGR New Farm House, Bricklehampton. Creation of hard-standing track. **No objections submitted 27/11/20.**

**12. BUDGET FORECAST / PRECEPT 2021-2022:**

- (I) Cllr Hickman proposed to accept the Budget forecast and to keep the Precept at the same level as previous years, as circulated in advance to all Councillors. Cllr Hickman reminded all that any individual projects featured in the Budget forecast would still come to Council for approval in the usual manner. Cllr Meikle proposed an amendment to the motion, proposing that the Budget forecast is accepted but the Post Covid Community get together should be removed. It was explained that this was not intended to celebrate the end of the pandemic which has had such a terrible impact on all communities. However a Social gathering should still feature in the Budget as many in the community would appreciate the opportunity to reconnect with their neighbours when the danger has passed. Obviously, it would be conditional on the Covid situation substantially improving. The title and format of any such event would be decided at a later date. Cllr Douglas seconded the amendment to the amendment, 9 Cllrs voted against and 2 voted for. Cllrs then voted on the original motion proposed by Cllr Hickman and seconded by Cllr Taite, all voted in favour except Cllr Meikle who voted against.

**13. BANK SIGNATORY:**

- (I) Cllr Hickman proposed to add Cllr Parker as a third signatory for the Parish Council Bank accounts, in addition to Cllr Hickman and Cllr Martin. Cllr Maude seconded the motion and all voted in favour.

**14. CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE:**

- (I) Cllr Hickman proposed seeking legal advice via the Councils insurance cover in relation to conflicting advice regarding the use of Precept paid in support of Churchyard maintenance. Cllr Martin seconded the motion and all voted in favour.

**15. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE:**

- (I) Cllr Parker proposed to spend £297.00 from reserves & appoint Mike Barnes as contractor to carry out additional village maintenance (not included in the Lengthsman Scheme). The proposal is 6 hours per month January – March 2021.
- (II) Cllr Parker proposed to appoint Mike Barnes for same village maintenance from April 2021 – March 2022 at the same rates as proposal (I). These rates are included in the Budget forecast. Three quotes were obtained and sit with the Clerk. Cllr Thompson seconded both motions and all Cllrs voted in favour.

#### **16. DOG WASTE BINS:**

- (I)** Cllr Parker proposed to replace the two old existing dog waste bins on the recreational ground up to a maximum cost of £1,100.00 from reserves (forecasted maximum expense and including new poles).
- (II)** Cllr Parker proposed to place a new dog waste bin at the top of Parkwood near to the Church up to a maximum anticipated cost of £500.00 from reserves and emptied weekly at a maximum cost of £85.00 paid in advance. The Survey from WDC is yet to be completed. Cllr Taite seconded the motion and all voted in favour.

#### **17. CORRESPONDENCE OF NOTE:**

- (I)** A complaint from a resident in Bricklehampton has been received regarding water overflow of a ditch on the main road through the Village. The Clerk has made contact with Highways and is awaiting a response.
- (II)** A letter has been received from an Elmley Castle resident asking for the Parish Councils assistance to lodge a formal complaint to EPHA and WDC in relation to neglect in dealing with an ongoing parking issue in connection to planning application W/08/02612/PN. District Cllr Rowley explained he had been looking in to this issue and had taken the matter to the Director of Housing and the Director of Rooftops. A Groundworks engineer has now been organised to conduct a site visit. Cllr Rowley hoped to see some progress but said he would remain on the case until it is done.

#### **7. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:**

- County Councillor Hardman reported that the County Council has released their Budget Consultation and they proposed to increase Council tax by 2.5% of which 1% would be Adult Social Care Precept.
- Covid-19 cases are now published on the County Council website via their Dashboard. Elmley Castle is grouped with Wick, Fladbury and The Combertons. Cllr Hardman reported a rate of 437 cases per 100,000 in our particular area. The peak of the current wave in Worcestershire is reported to be 16-20 days away.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**20:24 hours meeting concluded.**