

## ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Elswick Parish Council held on  
Thursday 28 February 2008 in Elswick and District Village Hall commencing at 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Rowe (Chair), Chedd (retired early from meeting), Hayhurst, Molloy, James and Taylor.  
In attendance Mrs Elvy (Clerk).

Apologies: Cllr Emmington.

### 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs James and Chedd item 5ii and Cllr Taylor item 9i.

2. **MINUTES** – Of the meeting held on 24.1.07 were read and approved as a correct record with 3 slight grammatical amendments to be made prior to signature.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING

Resolution 07/137 – concerns were raised regarding the plans for Larbreck Avenue Playground if this is handed back to FBC on 1.4.08. However, if the PC continued to look after this area there would be significant financial implications and therefore it was agreed to discuss this in greater detail following FBC's budget meeting.

### 4. PLANNING

i) FBC Decisions:

- a) 07/1110 Land at Roseacre Road – 3 Stables and Sand Paddock – WITHDRAWN
- b) 07/0949 & 07/0951 Boat House Elswick Manor – Extension and Conversion – GRANTED
- c) 07/1133 Boot and Shoe, Beech Road – New Gable Wall Window - GRANTED

ii) Items for Consideration:

Each item was discussed at length and the following resolutions were agreed:

- a) 08/0054 Land and Garage at Roseacre Drive – Resubmission of 07/0374 (Refused)

**07/151 Resolved: (A) No Specific Observation response to be emailed to FBC.**

- b) 08/0059 Willow Bank High Street – Single Storey Extension

**07/152 Resolved: (D) The Council will ask the Officers to note that there is a general building line and request consideration as to whether this should be enforced.**

- c) 08/0140 1 Ronwood Close – Boundary Fence

**07/153 Resolved: (C) The Council object to the proposal as it was felt to be detrimental to the appearance of the High Street (3 to 2 vote).**

- d) 08/0165 Sunny Cottage High Street – Resubmission of 07/1165 (Granted). The Council felt it was very difficult to see where the amendments were.

**07/154 Resolved: The Chairman and Vice Chairman investigate the specific changes and forward their decision to FBC.**

iii) Validation of LCC Planning Applications – Noted as there will be little impact at Parish Council level.

iv) FBC Housing Policy – Correspondence had been received from FBC indicating the Council's comments had been received.

### 5. LEISURE AND AMENITIES

i) Playground Refurbishment/SITA Grant

a) Update

Work is to commence on the project on 17 March 2008. An additional £300 is to be funded by LCC. FBC have authorised house-to-house collection permits and identity badges are awaited. The fund can now be registered as a charity.

b) Consider renewing Lancashire Playing Field Association subscription

The Council noted this but were unable to commit to the subscription until the financial situation is known.

ii) Store Room in Old Changing Rooms

**07/155 Resolved: This room may be used to store the stage on a temporary basis and the situation will be reviewed at the end of August.**

### 6. FINANCE

i) Expenditure February 2008

| Date    | To Whom       | Reason for Payment          | Chq No       | Nett (£) | VAT (£) | TOTAL (£) |
|---------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 12.2.08 | Powergen E-ON | Electricity Monthly Payment | Direct Debit | £159.15  | £27.85  | £187.00   |
| 28.2.08 | V Elvy        | Wages                       | 100049       | £144.15  | £0.00   | £144.15   |
| 28.2.08 | G Thornley    | Wages                       | 100050       | £445.20  | £0.00   | £445.20   |
| 28.2.08 | V Elvy        | Expenses                    | 100051       | £18.98   | £0.63   | £19.61    |
| 28.2.08 | G Thornley    | Expenses                    | 100052       | £61.23   | £8.06   | £69.29    |
| 28.2.08 | Void          | Chq incorrectly written     | 100053       | £0.00    | £0.00   | £0.00     |
| 28.2.08 | HMRC          | Period End 5 Feb Payment    | 100054       | £0.80    | £0.00   | £0.80     |

|         |                      |  |                |         |        |         |
|---------|----------------------|--|----------------|---------|--------|---------|
| 28.2.08 | HMRC                 | Period End 5 March Payment                   | 100055         | £12.36  | £0.00  | £12.36  |
| 28.2.08 | G Hall               | Bowling Green Contract                       | Standing Order | £250.00 | £0.00  | £250.00 |
| 28.2.08 | Emmington Electrical | Inv No. 1232                                 | 100056         | £108.54 | £18.99 | £127.53 |
| 28.2.08 | R Taylor             | Reimbursement for advert in Garstang Courier | 100057         | £40.60  | £7.11  | £47.71  |
| 28.2.08 | Best Kept Village    | Competition Fees                             | 100058         | £15.00  | £0.00  | £15.00  |

**07/156 Resolved: that these accounts are to be paid.**

ii) Income February 2008

| Date    | Received from | Reason for Payment            | Payment Type | Amount (£) |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 15.2.08 | Powergen      | Payment of Outstanding Monies | Cheque       | 600.00     |

**07/157 Resolved: Income acknowledged. Paid into bank on 15.2.08**

**07/158 Resolved: All Councillors had received a copy of the budget book and its contents were reviewed and noted.**

iii) Precept 2008/2009

Cllr Hayhurst had prepared a lengthy report for the Councillors to consider. FBC require a Precept as in previous years which takes into account various grants being provided. In addition a "shadow" Precept, which is based on no grants being provided by FBC (with the exception of amenity cleansing), has been requested. This was discussed and Cllr Hayhurst was thanked for his hard work despite FBC's lack of co-operation in providing him with the requested information.

**07/159 Resolved: to Precept for £4,000 and "shadow" Precept for £32,000. The Chairman will inform FBC of this decision.**

iv) Internal Audit

A delegation of Cllrs Hayhurst, Molloy and Chedd will identify the requirements of the Internal Auditor.

**07/160 Resolved: to place this item on the next Agenda.**

v) External Auditor Appointment

The Council noted that BDO Stoy Hayward LLP have been appointed External Auditor for the next five years.

## 7. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Cllr Hayhurst once again reiterated the undemocratic system in place at FBC. The Cabinet system means despite 51 Councillors being elected only 8 make any decisions and the remainder are starved of information. FBC are currently facing a massive deficit this year mainly due to the mismanagement of the Streetscene Department and therefore it looks likely that Differential Taxation will be implemented. Unfortunately Elswick will be penalised heavily as it has all the sports facilities for the local rural area. The Parish Council have previously been provided with grants to support the local amenities but it appears that this may no longer be the situation depending upon the Cabinet's decision at the FBC Budget Meeting next week. It was also reported that FBC are looking to close the public Swimming Pools at St Annes and Kirkham to save money.

## 8. PARISH PLAN

i) New Website

Fred Moor attended the meeting to receive the Council's feedback regarding the site, which was positive. It was confirmed that the ".gov" name should be registered within a month and the site will become active soon after.

## 9. OPEN SPACE GRANT

i) Bowling Green

**07/161 Resolved: There are four interested parties in the Contract. Tenders will be opened at a Special Council Meeting to be held on 17 March 2008.**

ii) Lancashire Best Kept Village

**07/162 Resolved: It was agreed that the Village would take part in this event and the registration form and cheque will be submitted.**

## 10. AMENITY CLEANSING

It was confirmed that amenity cleansing will continue to be funded with a Grant from FBC even in the event of Differential Taxation.

## 11. MAINTENANCE WORK

i) Dyke Clearance

This item is ongoing.

ii) Electricity Payments

The outstanding balance has been requested and deposited in the bank account. The payments have been reduced to ensure a large balance just not occur again.

- iii) Fence Panels
- 07/163 Resolved: Cllr Taylor was authorised to arrange replacement of the six panels near the Village Hall.**
- 07/164 Resolved: to add "Treatment Plant" to the next Agenda.**

**12. HIGHWAYS**

- i) Roseacre Road and Larbreck Avenue Road Signs
- 07/165 Resolved: As Streetscene has recently lost its Director it was agreed to contact the Chief Executive and request he re-route this ongoing request for replacement signs.**
- ii) Mill Lane issues  
As per resolution 07/146 this has been reported to LCC.

**13. CORRESPONDENCE**

- i) FBC Community Safety Partnership – Response received from Bryan Ward on behalf of Cllr Whittle.
- 07/166 Resolved: To reply stating that all Parishes should be able to contribute and speak at the meetings.**
- ii) FBC Scrutiny Leaflets – Noted and copies available in Clerk's Office.
- 07/167 Resolved: to complete form suggesting Finance and Streetscene should be scrutinised.**
- iii) Friends of Kirkham Baths Petition – Supported and signed.
- iv) Skipton East Lancashire Railway – Noted.

**14. COUNCIL DIARY**

Noted. A Police Representative will be invited to the next meeting.

**15. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting - 27 March 2008 at 7.45pm in Elswick and District Village Hall.  
Special Meeting of Parish Council – 17 March 2008 at 8pm in the Pavilion Offices.

**Signed:** ..... **Chairman** ..... **Date**

**Signed:** ..... **Clerk** ..... **Date**