

ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on

Thursday 25th February 2010 in Elswick and District Village Hall commencing at 7.45 pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Rowe (Chair), Hayhurst, Taylor, James, Molloy and Chedd. In attendance K Coleman (Clerk) and 3 residents.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Emmington

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – Cllrs Chedd and James – under item 16 – VH Maintenance.

3. MINUTES – Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (28.01.10) were read, approved and signed as a correct record.

09/147 The minutes of the internal audit committee meeting (22.02.10) were received and it was resolved to discuss recommendations at a special meeting or at the next full meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING

09/148 Sweeping of Village – resolved that Cllr Emmington be asked to make further enquiries/arrangements

09/149 LCC - Cllr Hayhurst made contact and proposed that a special meeting be held before end of March to check requirements/information and to discuss with new lengthsmen.

It was resolved to organise a special meeting.

09/150 Streetscene Delegated Services – Cllr Hayhurst confirmed an overlap with the LCC verge maintenance and proposed discussing at the special meeting.

It was resolved to discuss at the special meeting.

5. GREAT ECCLESTON SHOW

09/151 – the Council had been asked to discuss plans/requirements for taking part in the show. It was thought that this was an opportunity to inform people about the SHLAA/parish plan etc and it was proposed to invite Lyn Butterworth to the March meeting.

It was resolved to proceed as above.

6. PLANNING

(a) FBC Decisions

09/0061 – Land Roseacre Road, Elswick 2 stable blocks with sand paddock – planning allowed at appeal.

(b) Other

09/152 CPRE Proposed Housing Development – land North of Mowbreck Lane, Wesham – the Council had been asked to consider giving views on this application. A lengthy discussion ensued.

It was resolved by vote that no further action was necessary.

7. AMENITY CLEANING

09/153 Sweeper – it was proposed that the road tax be reclaimed and insurance continue. The cost/use of the sweeper to be further discussed when the budget situation is known.

It was resolved to reclaim the tax and discuss keeping/selling sweeper at a future meeting.

8. HIGHWAYS

09/154 Village Inspection 2009 – Fylde Borough Council actions have been completed, LCC issues to be resent and forwarded to Cllr Hayhurst. Parish Council issues to be forwarded to Cllr Emmington for update. Once LCC action updated – consider added other issues that have arisen over winter months.

9. LEISURE AND AMENITIES

09/155 Football Pitch - a high quote for maintenance had been received from Danvic. It was proposed that no further action be taken at present.

It was resolved that this be reviewed at a later date.

09/156 Playground Annual Maintenance Costs (FBC) – Cllr Hayhurst to report to next meeting. It was also reported that contact with Mark Wilde had been made re skateboard park, possibility of FBC doing maintenance work on MUGA, possible grants for projects.

09/157 Best Kept Village Competition 2010

It was resolved to enter (fee £10) and Cllr Hayhurst volunteered to complete entry forms.

10. FINANCE

09/158 - Expenditure to be resolved

DATE	TO WHOM PAID	DETAILS OF PAYMENT	CHEQ NO.	NET PAYMENTS	VAT	TOTAL PAYMENTS
01/02/10	G Hall	Mowing (January)	SO	£275.00		£275.00
10/02/10	British Gas	Electricity Charge	DD	£85.08	£4.25	£89.33
25/02/10	Inland Revenue	PAYE - February	100286	£27.00		£27.00
25/02/10	K Coleman	Salary - February	100287	£108.00		£108.00
25/02/10	K Coleman	Expenses	100288	£28.93	£1.90	£30.83
25/02/10	Global Gold	Hosting of Website	100289	£77.99	£13.65	£91.64
25/02/10	Global Gold	Domain Renewal	100290	£90.00	£15.75	£105.75
31/01/10	Dransfield	Collection of skip	100291	£90.00	£15.75	£105.75
				£782.00	£51.30	£833.30

It was resolved that all the above accounts are to be paid.

09/159 - Income to be acknowledged

DATE	PAYMENT FROM	DETAILS OF PAYMENT	METHOD	NET PAYMENTS	VAT	TOTAL PAYMENTS
14.12.09	HSBC	Interest on Money Mger	Transfer	£5.50		£5.50
28.01.10	HSBC	Interest On Deposit Bond	Transfer	£56.71		£56.71
25.02.10	Village Hall	Ground Rent	Cash	£5.00		£5.00
25.02.10	Various	MUGA Hire	Cash	£89.00		£89.00
				£156.21	£0.00	£156.21

It was resolved that the above income be acknowledged and paid into the Bank where applicable.

09/160 Budget Review/Precept

As at 25.02.10 the Parish Council forecasted that at the end of the financial year 2009/2010 they would be adding around £4000 to balances. Allocated maintenance/repair works to the MUGA/fencing etc meant that balances would not be twice the precept. The budget expenditure for 2010/2011 was presented by Cllr Hayhurst and it was proposed that the Council precept £19,250. This equated to a reduction in precept of over 10%. Cllr Hayhurst advised that no provision had been made in the new budget for replacements of equipment etc and he recommended that the Council start to consider and plan for this.

It was resolved to precept for £19,250.

Two emails had been received from the Chief Executive of FBC concerning the deadline for the submission of the precept. The emails along with a reply drafted by the Chairman were read to the meeting.

09/161 Internal Audit – (see resolution 09/147 above)

09/162 Renewal of website hosting and domain – it was reported that the domain renewal for a .gov address was £90 + VAT not £7.99 as reported at the January meeting.

It had been resolved to accept the increase in price under resolution 09/158 above)

11. OPEN SPACES

09/163 – It was resolved due to confidentiality that the Council go into Committee to open and discuss the Grass Cutting tenders. The Chairman subsequently asked the members of the public if they could leave the room whilst the tenders were opened.

3 tender submissions had been received and it was resolved to proceed with tenders as follows:-

Area 1 (Village/Roseacre Road, VH Area) – Mr A Atkinson

Area 2 (Leys Close Bungalows and surrounding area) - Mr G Thornley

Area 3 (Football Pitch/Larbreck Park) – Mr G Thornley

Cllr Taylor asked the Clerk to write to the people that had submitted successful and unsuccessful tenders. The tender cost for the cutting of the grass on Leys Close to be given to New Fylde Housing for approval.

The Chairman reconvened the Parish Council Meeting and invited members of the public to rejoin the meeting.

12. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

09/164 The Clerk gave examples of charging used by FBC and other Parish Councils. A drafted wording was read to the Council:

An additional charge may be made for retrieval and collation of information. An estimate of the cost will be advised at the time of the request and this fee will be payable in advance. If the fee is not received within 3 months of issuing a fee notice the Council is no longer obliged to respond to the request. If the costs are lower than those specified in the notice, the excess amount will be refunded.

It was resolved to proceed with the above with one amendment – change the word ‘may’ in the first line to ‘will’.

13. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

09/165 SHLLA - the Borough Councillor advised the meeting that not every potential development site that had been identified in the Borough would get planning permission. It was thought that little development would take place in the rural areas. He also advised that a pack of consultation documents was being distributed to all Parish Councils and that the Council would need to hold a special meeting to discuss and formulate responses as soon as received to ensure that the deadline was achievable.

09/166 Governance Review – it was reported that it is not intended to reduce the number of Parish Councils, more to consider boundaries.

14. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

09/167 Meeting on 4th March 6.30pm confirmed – nothing further to note.

15. STAFFING

09/168 Lengthsman Contract – Cllr Taylor to contact re start date etc. It was proposed that contract be reviewed/drafted at next special meeting.

It was resolved to proceed as above.

16. CORRESPONDENCE not already dealt with elsewhere on the agenda

- i) Police – a report was read to the meeting.
- ii) Letter from VH Committee requesting maintenance to be carried out – to be reviewed at March meeting.
- iii) Bouncy Castle – the Council were asked about using the MUGA for a bouncy castle. The Council suggested the castle be sited on the Football Pitch and any insurance be covered by the individuals hiring the VH.

17. COUNCIL DIARY

The diary was checked.

18. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday 25th March 2010 at 7.45pm in Elswick & District VH.

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