

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Elmsett Parish Council held on 7 May, 2024 at the Elmsett Methodist Church.

- 05.24.00 **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:** As there were no other nominations it was proposed by Nick Bird and seconded by Fiona Watt to elect the existing officers – namely Alan Newman Chair and Paul Firman Vice Chair, seconded by Fiona Watt – this was unanimously accepted. As well as Village Hall Rep – Fiona Watt and revolving rep for SALC. Declarations of Acceptance of Office to be signed.
- 05.24.01 **PRESENT:** Alan Newman in the chair, Paul Firman, Nick Bird, Andrew Woodgate, John Sones, Fiona Watt, Fran Williams the clerk was present and 5 members of the public.
- 05.24.02 **APOLOGIES:** District Councillor Jamieson and County Councillor R Lindsay
- 05.24.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Fiona Watt declared an interest under item communication – clearance of ditch adjacent Berberis and signed the interest book accordingly.
- 05.24.04 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the meetings held on 5.28 March and 9 April, 2024 were signed as accurate records.
- 05.24.05 **5.1 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT: Circulated prior to the meeting. School Bus** It was disappointing to learn that SCC informed parents late in the Easter holidays that there would be no school bus while Whatfield Road was closed, especially as it happened shortly after the meeting that Paul West attended in Elmsett. I petitioned both Paul West and Andrew Reid at County Council a number of times over this as did many residents, and questioned why lorries could use the diversion but not the school bus. I was pleased to learn that a school bus restarted on the 18th even if it was smaller than normal.
- Compost giveaway.** Babergh gave away free compost on a first come first serve basis in Morrisons car park last Sunday. The Council timed the free giveaways to coincide with International Compost Awareness Week (5-11 May), with further collection events taking place at:
Station Road car park, Sudbury – Saturday, 11 May, 8am to 12pm
Needham Lake, Needham Market – Sunday, 12 May, 9am to 12pm
If you missed the opportunity last weekend and want to get along to the events above, you can collect up to two bags per car.
In June, an additional loose compost event takes place in Stowmarket.
- Council’s Property Arm** Babergh and Mid Suffolk’s commercial property investment company, CIFCO, continues to generate money for the districts with more than £1.26m in net income raised last year.
- Car Parking Charges** Overview and scrutiny committee returned the decision on charging to the cabinet asking them to look into the possibility of including a free hour’s parking. The decision, which will then be final, comes up in the June meeting.
- 5.2 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:** Robert had nothing more to add to his report he gave in April.

- 05.24.06 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The chairman confirmed that he heard from Paul West following the meeting in April when he said that he would walk the routes that were affected by the diversion and see what damage has occurred. This has now been arranged for 7 June. Paul West has also agreed to send the parish council further details on the repair to Aldham Road.
- 05.24.07 **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE:** Fiona reported that the village hall AGM had been postponed to later in June. She said that there had been little interest in the call for volunteers to fill the vacancies on the committee. She reported on the progress with the EV charging units. She reported that the drains on the meadow need to be cleared of roots. The school has sorted the problem their end. **Community Shop** – Fiona has taken the lead on this. Really good initial meeting. Four sub-committees have been formed all responsible for different areas and reporting back to the main group. There is a lot of positivity. They are taking advice from the Plunkett Foundation and it could take anything from 6-9 months to two years to reach fruition. The first exercise is to carry out research of potential customers and to decide how and where to place the facility and whether planning permission is required and considering expanding the car park at the village hall. Fiona was pleased with the number of people who have come forward to assist with this both in setting it up and potential volunteers to run the shop.
- 05.24.08 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Discussion mainly on the many road closures and frustrations that were being experienced. The Chairman pointed out that Officers from SCC - Cabinet Member for Operational Highways and Mr Andrew Cook, Executive Director for Growth Highways and Infrastructure, SCC had attended the Annual Parish Meeting to hear residents' views. Both he and the chair of Aldham had met with the MP at the Aldham road collapse and that his concerns had been put forward to them. A member of the public reported that she had had a fall in Windings. Paul Firman had been aware of this and following his report had heard back from SCC that the fault did not meet their criteria for repair. It was agreed that Paul should write to SCC pointing out that the problem was caused when the Gas Board dug up the road and that they should have a duty of care to get the path reinstated.
- 05.24.09 **CORRESPONDENCE:** **Helen Davies** requesting that Tom Bartleet attend one of our meetings to say hello (quickly during the public forum) and to listen to what is happening in the parish. As members of the public can attend meetings it was agreed that the clerk should reply accepting the request as stated. **John Sones** reported on the meeting held recently at Hintlesham when James Cartlidge attended on the **consultation by National Grid** on the Norwich to Tilbury new transmission line. He had prepared a response to send to National Grid, previously circulated. Members of the council agreed the wording and that the Clerk should send this to National Grid.
Clearance of ditch adjacent Berberis. – Fiona Watt declared an interest and signed the interest book. The ditch by The Green in front of Mannings has silted up. Mannings is at the present time unoccupied. Could the pc arrange to dig out the ditch. Agreed that this item should go on Agenda next time under finance. The clerk confirmed that the **Tractor Ride** organised by James Buckle would be on 2 July this year and that there was an on-line booking form.

- 05.24.10 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFRESH:** Chairman reported that there were some 50 residents at the public consultation event at the village hall and that the cut-off date for comments is 13 May.
- 05.24.11 **EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATE:** – it was agreed that wheels should be set in motion for this to go ahead. Fran Williams agreed to start to work on the update and report back on what is required and to seek volunteers to assist with the update.
- 05.24.12 **FINANCE:** The following invoices were verified and donations agreed and cheques signed:-

Methodist Church	889	Hire 9-4-24	26.00	LGA 1972
Places 4 People	890	Appeal Statement	351.00	LGA 1972
E&A Newsletter	891	Donation	900.00	S137
Suffolk Acc Rescue	892	Donation	150.00	S137
Hitchcock	893	Cuts 17-4	75.00	OS Act 1906

Donation to Newsletter - Following the request at the Annual Parish Meeting for a donation to the newsletter committee it was proposed by Nick Bird, seconded by Fiona Watt and agreed to donate a similar sum to Aldham PC - a sum equivalent of approximately £2 per household of £900.00. This was unanimously agreed.

Donation to SARs – it was proposed by Nick Bird, seconded by Fiona and agreed to donate £150 to this worthwhile cause.

Road signage assessment and recommendations John Sones had received quotes for carrying out the work. It was proposed by Nick Bird and seconded by Fiona Watt and agreed that the parish council should accept the quote received from Mr I Booth – total cost £1,290, using CIL funding.

Transfer of funds – it was proposed by Fiona Watt and seconded by Nick Bird and agreed to transfer £60,000 from the current account to Nationwide. It was also agreed to update the mandate to include Paul Firman and Fran Williams as signatories and to delete Andrew Morton as he has resigned as Councillor. The change of authority forms were signed.

The bank reconciliation was verified as well as the draft AGAR 23/24 Section 1&2 to be presented for internal audit. Both had previously been circulated to members.

- 05.24.13 **PLANNING:** - **DC/24/00607** - DC/24/00608- Listed Building consent - Erection of single storey rear extension. Internal remodelling. Installation of first floor dormer window to existing east side elevation . Relocation of oil tank and installation of external boiler unit. Associated landscaping - Eleys Cottage, Hadleigh Road, Elmsett. The parish council did not wish to restrict the grant of permission and felt that BDC are responsible for listed building approval.
- DC/24/01848** - Change of use of Grade 3 Agricultural Land to residential amenity land to provide sensory garden. Land South East Of, Manor Road, Elmsett. Members of the parish council had no objection and did not wish to restrict the grant of permission.

05.24.14 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS:** 18 June, 23 July, 10 September, 22 October and 10 December.

The meeting closed.

Signed:-..... Dated:-.....
Chairman