

ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Elswick Parish Council held on
Thursday 24 January 2008 in Elswick and District Village Hall commencing at 7.45pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Rowe (Chair), Chedd, Hayhurst, Emmington, Molloy, James and Taylor. In attendance Mrs Elvy (Clerk).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Rowe item 4iib, Cllrs Chedd and Hayhurst 5ii and Cllr Taylor item 9i.

2. **MINUTES** – Of the meetings held on 29.11.07 were read, approved and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Resolution 07/111 Christmas Tree and Lights

It was reported that the initial cost of the lights was more than anticipated. Cllr Hayhurst had agreed to stand guarantor should the Council did not agree retrospectively to authorise the additional payment.

07/131 **Resolved: to authorise the additional cheque but noted that a refund had been received following agreement that one set of lights was sufficient.**

07/132 **Resolved: to write letters of thanks to Mr Thistlethwaite and Mr Steele for their assistance in siting the tree.**

4. PLANNING

i) FBC decisions on items previously commented up:

a) 07/1165 Sunny Cottage High Street Elswick – 2 Storey Side Extension – GRANTED – Noted.

ii) Items for consideration:

a) 07/0949 & 07/0951 Boat House, Elswick Manor, Elswick - Full Plans Application and Listed Building Consent for extension and conversion of Boat House to create games and playroom for purposed ancillary to use of Manor.

07/133 **Resolved: There are concerns relating to development of open countryside. The Council objected to the proposal.**

b) 07/1306 Barn on Corner of Chapel Farm Copp Lane Elswick – Listed Building Consent for Demolition – Cllr Rowe declared an interest and Cllr Chedd took the Chair for this item. Cllr Hayhurst reported on the recent application and this was discussed at length.

07/134 **Resolved: The Council objected on the basis that it was not in accordance with PPG51 and EP4 of the Local Plan.**

c) 07/1133 Boot N Shoe, Elswick – New window gable end

07/135 **Resolved: (A) No Specific Observation response to be emailed to FBC.**

iii) FBC Housing Policy

FBC Scrutiny Committee have placed Elswick in the urban area of Fylde and therefore there are significant implications regarding new developments in the village in the future. As this requires extensive discussion it was:

07/136 **Resolved: that a Delegation meet to identify the criteria which ensures Elswick is removed from the urban section of this document and placed back in the rural section.**

5. LEISURE AND AMENITIES

i) Playground Refurbishment/SITA Grant

The funds currently have a deficit of £1500 however this will be loaned to the Committee by the Parish Council should there be a shortfall. A price has been provided by Wicksteed to move the seesaw to the Larbreck Avenue Playground.

07/137 **Resolved: Cllr Hayhurst will write to FBC stating that should Equitable Taxation be implemented the Larbreck Avenue Playground will be returned to their custody from 1.4.08**

ii) Store Room in Old Changing Rooms

Cllrs Chedd and Hayhurst declared an interest in this item.

a) Playgroup Items

It was reported that Playgroup will hold a toy sale in February in an attempt to repay their debtors.

b) Longer Term Plans for Room

The Elswick Singers would like to use this room as storage for their stage.

07/138 **Resolved: to place this item on the February Agenda to enable more discussion to take place.**

iii) Bottle Bank

FBC have been informed that the Parish Council support any plans for a community use bottle bank.

6. FINANCE

i) Expenditure January 2008

Date	To Whom	Reason for Payment	Chq No	Nett (£)	VAT (£)	TOTAL (£)
12.1.08	Powergen E-on	Electricity Monthly payment	DDebit	159.15	27.85	£187.00
24.1.08	V Elvy	Wages	100042	144.15	0.00	144.15

24.1.08	G Thornley	Wages	100043	363.15	0.00	363.15
24.1.08	V Elvy	Expenses	100044	37.14	2.62	39.76
24.1.08	HS Dransfield	Skip Hire (Inv EPC46)	100045	80.00	14.00	94.00
24.1.08	HS Dransfield	Skip Hire (Inv EPC47)	100046	80.00	14.00	94.00
24.1.08	G Thornley	Xmas Tree	100047	190.00	0.00	190.00
24.1.08	G Thornley	Expenses	100048	59.67	5.96	65.63
31.1.08	G Hall	Bowling Green Contract	SOrder	250.00	0.00	250.00

07/139 Resolved: that these accounts are to be paid.

ii) Income January 2008

Date	Received from	Reason for Payment	Payment Type	Amount (£)
19.12.07	EVH Committee	Ground Rent for 2006/2007 and 2007/2008	Chq	10.00
19.12.07	Blackpool County Counc	Refund for Christmas Tree Lights	Chq	352.50

07/140 Resolved: Income acknowledged. Paid into bank on 19.12.07

iii) Precept 2008/2009

Despite requesting additional information from FBC regarding available grants this has not been forthcoming and this has caused difficulty when setting this year's precept. The Precept information is required by FBC by 1 March 2008. It was agreed to informally discuss this further and identify a number of budget options should equitable taxation be implemented. These will be presented at the February meeting.

07/141 Resolved: To meet informally to prepare Precept options for consideration at the meeting on 28 February.

iv) Internal Audit

07/142 Resolved: To discuss the internal audit at the informal meeting for consideration at the meeting on 28 February.

7. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Due to time constraints this item was postponed until the February meeting.

8. PARISH PLAN

i) New Website

Nil to report.

9. OPEN SPACE GRANT

i) Bowling Green

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in this item. The content of the contract has been reviewed and it was agreed to be satisfactory. The current contract ends on 31 March 2008 and three greensmen are interested in tendering. It was agreed to place an advert in the Garstang Courier.

07/143 Resolved to request tenders and hold an extra-ordinary meeting on 17 March 2008 to appoint the contractor.

ii) Summer Bedding Contract

This item was discussed in Committee due to commercial sensitivity.

iii) Trees at rear of The Meadows and Ronwood Close

It was agreed to assess these trees during the Parish Inspection in Spring.

07/144 Resolved: The Clerk will write to confirm this with the concerned residents and explain that overhanging bows may be cut.

The cherry tree on Grange Road will also be inspected at this time.

iv) Breathing Spaces Grant

Cllr Hayhurst reported that this Grant (of upto £5,000) had been submitted due to time restraints. The Council retrospectively agreed (see Resolution 07/124). A parishioner is interested in undertaking some of the work required should the application be successful.

10. AMENITY CLEANSING

Nil to report.

11. MAINTENANCE WORK

i) Dyke Clearance

Mr Thistlewaite will undertake the work.

ii) Electricity Supply

The Clerk reported that there is a significant credit on the electricity account.

07/145 Resolved: to request a refund from E-on and reduce the Direct Debit payments.

12. HIGHWAYS

i) Roseacre Road and Larbreck Avenue road signs

These road signs have still not been replaced and the Clerk will contact FBC regarding this again. There is concern regarding the road name plaque at the junction of Mill Lane and Lodge Lane as this had been moved by builders working at Mill Lodge and attached to a LCC road sign. There also appears to have been dumping of builder's rubble in the dyke at this location which may have exacerbated the recent flood on Lodge Lane.

07/146 Resolved: The Clerk will contact LCC regarding the road sign and rubble.

Concern was also raised regarding the high fence at 1 Ronwood Close due to its location to the highway.

07/147 Resolved: The Clerk will contact Mr Pinder, Enforcement Officer at FBC.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

i) Copy Letter from Parishioner to LCC Re: Copp Lane Gritting

This letter was noted and will be discussed further at the Parish Partnership meeting. The construction of the fence and planting of the hedge at Kimberley Farm appears to be causing problems and this will be reported to Gt Eccleston Parish Council.

ii) LAPTC Planning Course – 14 February 2008 7pm Howick House – Noted.

iii) Thanks from family of Eunice Curwen – Noted.

iv) Kirkham Online Information – Noted.

v) LCC Parish Charter Timetable – For circulation in Committee Room.

vi) Orders and Regulations relating to Code of Conduct – Noted.

vii) Email re: Highbury Gate

07/148 Resolved: The area mentioned is outside the urban fence and therefore FBC policy states it may not be developed. However, the enquirer will be requested to seek advice from his solicitor.

viii) Community Safety Partnership 31.1.08 and Fylde Police Meeting 7.2.08

07/149 Resolved: to email to both organisers confirming that the Council will not be attending as members of the public are not able to participate in the discussions and there is no democracy.

14. COUNCIL DIARY

Noted.

15. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Partnership Forum – Monday 28 January 2008 at 7.30 in Gt Eccleston Village Centre

Ordinary Parish Meeting - Thursday 28 February 2008 at 7.45pm in Elswick and District Village Hall

Signed: Chairman Date

Signed: Clerk Date

IN COMMITTEE

Members of the Public were asked to leave the meeting due to the commercial nature of this discussion.

9 iv) Summer Bedding Contract

Two contractors had tendered for the contract (FM & M Davies and Cutts Lane Nurseries).

07/150 Resolved: FM & M Davies were the most competitive and therefore the contract was placed with them. The Clerk will confirm the outcome by letter.