

ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Elswick Parish Council held on
Thursday 27 March 2008 in Elswick and District Village Hall commencing at 7.45pm

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

Apologies: Cllr Emmington.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Taylor item 9i.

2. **MINUTES** – Of the meetings held on 28.2.07 and 17.3.08 were read and approved as a correct record with a slight amendment to the phrasing of item 2 Bowling Green Contract 2008/2009 Tenders. This change was approved by the Council and the Chairman was authorised to sign the reprinted Minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Nil.

4. PLANNING

i) FBC Decisions:

08/0054 Land and Garages at Roseacre Drive Elswick – Re-roofing of Garage - Granted

ii) Items for Consideration:

08/0117 Brenmar Lodge Lane Elswick – 2 storey side extension and 1 storey rear extension.

Following lengthy discussion it was:

07/180 Resolved: that the Chairman would respond objecting to the proposal on the grounds of scale, bulk, location outside the urban fence and asymmetry. The vote to object was 5 with one abstention.

iii) 08/0165 Sunny Cottage High Street Elswick – The Chairman confirmed that new plans were awaited following his discussion with the Planning Department.

5. LEISURE AND AMENITIES

i) Playground Refurbishment/SITA Grant

It was reported that the work had been delayed by a few weeks. Fundraising has exceeded the amount required to fund the project. It was proposed to name the Playground in memory of Bill Thistlethwaite and it was unanimously agreed.

07/181 Resolved: to fund a Name Plaque up to £200.

ii) Larbreck Avenue Playground

Following lengthy discussion it was:

07/182 Resolved: Cllr Hayhurst will write to Ian Curtis at FBC to request a meeting to consider the future of the playground and report back to the next PC meeting.

iii) Sports Facility Bookings

Block bookings can be made through Cllr Molloy.

07/183 Resolved: Revision of Fees will be placed on the next agenda.

iv) Playing Field Association Subscription

Following consideration it was agreed continued with this subscription as the Association may be useful allies in light of the FBC situation. It was reported that the Football Association has a grant fund and the availability of this will be investigated further.

6. POLICE

Sgt Helen Ford attended as Police Representative. She reported three crimes between 1 January and 27 March (stolen vehicle/burglary/theft). Newsletters are to be distributed and the next PACT meeting is 9 April where there will be a presentation by CSI. Special Constable Hudson has been retrained and is currently shadowing regular officers. Cllr James reported there had been a recent situation regarding youth nuisance/antisocial behaviour and Sgt Ford confirmed the individuals are to attend the Police Station with their parents next week. There was also an incident regarding a motorcycle being ridden in the car park and along the path causing a nuisance. Sgt Ford was unaware of this incident and confirmed she would investigate this situation in greater detail. She confirmed that the CCTV has been very useful in identifying individuals. The lid of the sewage plant has been vandalised again (see Item 12ii). It was agreed to add Policing issues to the next Parish Partnership Meeting agenda.

7. FINANCE

i) Expenditure March 2008

	To Whom	Reason for Payment	Chq No	Nett	VAT	Total
12.3.08	Powergen E-ON	Electricity Monthly Payment	DD	£132.77	£23.23	£156.00
27.3.08	V Elvy	Wages	100064	£144.15	£0.00	£144.15
27.3.08	G Thornley	Wages	100065	£363.20	£0.00	£363.20
27.3.08	HMRC	Period End 5 April Payment	100066	£0.80	£0.00	£0.80

27.3.08	V Elvy	Reimbursement (see invoice)	100067	£26.08	£1.77	£27.85
27.3.08	LAPTC	Annual Subscription	100068	262.73	0.00	262.73
27.3.08	G Thornley	Expenses	100069	£162.42	£24.64	£187.06
27.3.08	G Thornley	1/2 Village Grass Cutting	100070	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00
27.3.08	Lancashire Playing Field Assoc	Annual Subscription	100071	£15.00	£0.00	£15.00
31.3.08	G Hall	Bowling Green Contract	SO	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00

07/184 Resolved: With the exception of cheque number 100068 (shaded) that these accounts are to be paid.

07/185 Resolved: Due to the implementation of Differential Taxation the Council would not be in the financial position to subscribe to the LAPTC this year. The Clerk will send correspondence explaining this.

ii) Income March 2008

Date	Received from	Reason for Payment	Payment Type	Amount (£)
25.3.08	FBC	Christmas Tree Grant	Cheque	300.00

07/186 Resolved: Income acknowledged.

iii) Budget 2008-2009 and Maintenance Schemes

Following discussion it was:

07/187 Resolved: that the Budget for 2008-2009 would be divided as follows:

Grass Cutting £3500, Football Pitch £1400, Playground £1000, Flowerbeds £4000, Bowling Green £1650, Electricity £500, Insurance and Audit £2000, Clerk/Administration £2300, Amenity Cleansing £700. Total = £17050.

07/188 Resolved: Possible Maintenance Schemes would include: Football Pitch up to £1500, replacement of fence panels, Building Maintenance £1050, Move toilet facilities and/or septic tank £10000 or possible replacement of treatment plant £8000, move seesaw to Larbreck Playground £2000.

iv) Internal Audit

Cllr Hayhurst read out the Minutes of the Internal Audit Meeting. The Committee consists of Cllrs Hayhurst, Rowe and Emmington.

07/189 Resolved: the Council adopted the proposals in the Minutes.

v) External Audit

The Clerk distributed the Local Council Briefing Spring 2008 document as agreed during the risk assessment.

8. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Cllr Hayhurst confirmed that Differential Taxation had been implemented and that FBC had closed St Annes Swimming Baths. Elswick Parishioners will see an 1106% increase in their Parish contribution on their Council Tax bill following FBC's withdrawal of various grants.

9. PARISH PLAN

i) New Website

Work is continuing on this project.

10. OPEN SPACE GRANT

i) Bowling Green

The Bowling Green Committee have acknowledged receipt of the £1,000 rebate from this year's Open Space Grant. Cllr Hayhurst is to write to clarify the future situation.

07/190 Resolved: The Clerk is to request a signed copy of the Greenkeeper's Contract from Mr Hall and inform Cllr Taylor when this is received.

11. AMENITY CLEANSING

i) Road Sweeper

The Clerk confirmed that the price of consumables is to increase from 1 April.

07/191 Resolved: to order a new set of brushes and a new rear tyre for the spare wheel.

12. MAINTENANCE WORK

i) Dyke Clearance

This will be done when the field is drier.

ii) Treatment Plant

Mr Thornley has fenced round the access as it has been vandalised again.

iii) Letter re: Fence Panels between Church and Bungalows

07/192 Resolved: to write and confirm that the fencing is the property of New Fylde Housing.

13. HIGHWAYS

i) Roseacre Road and Larbreck Avenue Road Signs

These have finally been replaced following correspondence with FBC Chief Executive.

- ii) Pot Hole Copp Lane
- 07/193 Resolved: to report the large pot hole on the right hand bend between Elmwood and Ravenswood on Copp Lane (Easting 342037 Northing 438986).**
- 07/194 Resolved: to contact LCC again regarding the road surface along the High Street.**

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- i) LCC "Pathways to Influence" Parish and Town Council Seminar 12 April 2008 10.30-2.30pm – Noted.
- ii) Letter confirming outcome of Kirkham Swimming Bath meeting at Weeton Village Hall
Councillors who attended this meeting disputed the wording of this letter. Cllr Chedd reported that a Trust is to be established and correspondence confirming this is awaited.
- 07/195 Resolved: Cllr Hayhurst will respond to this letter.**
- iii) Various correspondence from LAPTC including subscription invoice – Noted. See Item 7i.
- iv) FBC Parish Liaison Meeting – Cllr Rowe reported on the meeting held on 13 March. It was:
- 07/196 Resolved: Cllr Rowe would write to Dave Joy at FBC to confirm that the Parish Council were unhappy with structure of Liaison Meeting as there is no constitution and therefore should not be a decision making body. The Parish Council will withdraw from future meetings and request all paperwork, including Minutes, be sent for discussion at the Parish Council's meeting.**

15. COUNCIL DIARY

Noted.

16. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 24 April 2008 at 7.45pm in Elswick and District Village Hall.

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

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