

East Donyland Parish Council

Full Parish Council Meeting – 9th November 2017

St Lawrence School, Rectory Rd, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Phil George, Richard Helliwell, Anna Appleyard, John Rowland, Nina Crouchman, Dave Myers, Dan Slade Peter Case; CBC Ward Cllr Lee Scordis; Asst Clerk – Elizabeth Nelson-Hayes and 9 members of the public.

The Chairman, Cllr Phil George, opened the meeting at 7pm congratulating Nicki & her family on their new addition. Cllr Dave Myers congratulated the PTA on an excellent firework display.

106/17 To receive and accept apologies and to note absences: Apologies received from Cllr Clay, and CBC Ward Cllrs Lilley & Fox.

107/17 To minute pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests of members relating to items on the agenda: NC – non-pecuniary, item 113/17; DM – pecuniary, items 111/17 112/17

108/17 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2017: The minutes were proposed as correct by PG, 2nd RH – agreed; minutes approved.

109/17 Have your say! The Chairman will allocate a max.15 minutes to ask members of the public to speak (max. 3 minutes each) on any matters relevant to parish business:

The following issues and questions were raised:

- Footpath 27 – Due to be reopened in Dec, has anyone heard anything to the contrary as the footpath still looks “ill prepared” for opening. Could EDPC make enquiries & note that the public notices are hard to spot.
- Item 116/17 – Resident is in full support of potentially adopting the footpath as a PROW.
- Clerks report– Worth noting that the proposed play area is contrary to what the public were told previously.
- Item 112/17 – Concerns that the minutes do not reflect accurately due process of 044/17, visited the office and assured it has.
- Pearsons Quay – after concerns were raised about the scope of job to fix the uneven ground, a knowledgeable local resident was reassuring that the repair is interim and is the right course of action.
- Item 114/17 – The leaves will be below knee height and impractical, and potentially dangerous, suggested an upright post, or use the scheme up at the burial ground or even on the Rowhedge sign post on Lion Quay.
- Item 115/17 – Adoption of allotment land as an asset of community value; Brilliant, worth doing.
- Item 119/17 – Well Done, some excellent work done there.
- Item 120/17 – The stepping stones are unnecessary, there are more important things to look at, also a suggestion to put money aside as there has been no provision for benches, bins, dog poo bins up at the new development by Bloor.
- Article from the paper – To clarify that the public do want trees in the village, just not on the quayside. Looking from the Wivenhoe side and seeing the backdrop of trees behind Rowhedge, is beautiful. Would be good to make a plan of tree planting.
- Welcome Party - For new residents, would EDPC consider arranging something for the new year possibly.
- Roads - people seem to struggle to use roundabouts, could we speak to ECC about better signage & lines to improve the roads for road users.

110/17 To receive and note reports from

- i) County Councillor, Kevin Bentley: not present, no report.
- ii) CBC Ward Councillor Lee Scordis:

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Full Parish Council Meeting – 9th November 2017
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MINUTES

- Locality Budget – There is some money available that needs to be spent by February, to let Lee know if there is anything we need.
 - Battleswick – So far there has been no appeal and no response from Gladmans, Lee will be able to confirm this by the end of the month. The development not being in the local plan has helped.
 - 20mph – A positive project that looks like it could be happening at some point in the future.
 - Right homes in the right places – A government initiative, a national call to build houses where rent is high. Colchester 20% more houses a year, Harlow 70% as it's so close to London links. In the North of the Country – none. If the Local Plan is adopted by March this initiative shouldn't affect us. Cllr Fox previously mentioned this, with a robust response to it – we should be ok.
 - CBC Public Space Protection Order - In the town centre and Castle Park. There is now power to issue fines for antisocial behaviour, urinating in public areas, aggressive behaviour, graffiti, gangs of teenagers, alcohol abuse. This is all set up to reduce this type of intimidating behaviour.
 - A Boards are now banned from the town centre. For which Cllr Lilley got a lot of abuse.
 - Firework display - There have been complaints about traffic, parking & lack of consideration for ambulances at the fireworks here in Rowhedge, lessons to learn for the future. Didn't expect so many out of towners from the surrounding villages. PTA could speak to EDPC about future events and make sure these issues are addressed.
 - The Slipway – as previously mentioned is still shut.
- iii) Clerk: noted. PG highlighted the pontoon insurance, and the wharf development, the play area has always been in the planning application, but previous discussions were led by the wrong information about the area in question.
- iv) Village Bus Representative – Elizabeth Trellis sends her apologies.
- v) Rowhedge Residents Association – Trisha Curran: EDPC should make sure all the trees are trimmed & well looked after before thinking about planting more. The RRA are in full support of the RCRC going for planning permission. RRA are happy to help out if a welcoming party is arranged.

111/17 To agree the payments list already checked by Cllrs Appleyard & Clay: DM left the room. PG proposed the payments be agreed, RH 2nd – agreed. DM returned. *Action – the Clerk.*

112/17 To note the draft minutes from the Maintenance Meeting 18th October, and to consider any proposals/recommendations arising: 043/17 amended to read “visual to present to the Maintenance Committee before going on to Full Council” PG proposed RH 2nd – all agreed. 044/17 DM left the room. Noted the plan for Pearson's Quay uneven ground and using SAM Ltd to do the work. DM returned to the room.

113/17 To receive an update from the Hut Working Party, and to consider any proposals/recommendations made by the group. The group had a useful meeting. PG proposed that the EDPC recommends that the council give consent for the RCRC to apply for planning permission for their proposed build. DM 2nd – agreed. (NC abstained from the vote)

114/17 To consider a proposal from Cllr Rowland for a memorial scheme, allowing residents to purchase a cast bronze oak leaf (16cm long), embossed with details of a loved one, to be installed on the oak wave sculpture bench on Lion Quay. Leaves would be £250 to purchase and install, to include a maximum of 30 characters JR explained the idea is from the Eden Project, concerns were raised about the safety aspect, are the leaves user friendly, no sharp edges, the cost of original outlay & the cost passed onto residents. Would the idea be better at the burial ground? Wood carving on the bench was suggested using local resident Fabian Bush. The proposal was withdrawn.

East Donyland Parish Council

Full Parish Council Meeting – 9th November 2017

St Lawrence School, Rectory Rd, Rowhedge starting 7.00pm.

MINUTES

115/17 To consider making an application for the allotment land to be registered as an asset of community value by CBC, to ensure that if the owners decide to sell the land in the future, the council or other community group would have right to bid for purchase: After a short discussion about the exact area of land proposed. PG proposed that the allotment land be registered as an asset of community value. DS 2nd – all agreed.

116/17 To consider a request from a resident for an application to ECC to have a second well-used pathway, that links the path already under application with the junction of footpaths 26 & 27, formally recognised as a public right of way. Concerns were raised regarding flooding, the developers deciding to not erect a play area but having the PROW would safeguard the area, also potentially not wanting to build a play area if a PROW is created. RH proposed that the council do not apply now on the proviso the play area isn't completed we reserve the right to apply at a later date. DS 2nd – all agreed.

117/17 To review the following documents as part of the annual policy and procedure review process:

- i) **Standing Order – proposed amendments to Section 18 in line with the council's financial regulations and audit recommendation:**
- ii) **Financial Regulations – no amendments proposed**
- iii) **Health & Safety policy– no amendments proposed**
- iv) **Staff Handbook – no amendments proposed**
- v) **Use of EDC Land for Events Policy – no amendments proposed**
- vi) **Complaints Procedure – no amendments proposed**
- vii) **Code of Conduct – no amendments proposed**
- viii) **Communication & PR Policy – no amendments proposed**
- ix) **Payments Policy – no amendments proposed**
- x) **Purchase Order Policy– no amendments proposed**

PG proposed the amendments to the Standing order policy, NC 2nd – all agreed.

118/17 To consider and adopt a Training & Development Policy: PG proposed the adoption of the training policy circulated, JR 2nd – all agreed.

119/17 To consider the draft improvement plan which would enable the council to demonstrate it meets the criteria for a local Council Foundation Award and agree whether to carry out the actions required and apply for the award: It was noted that a lot of good work has already gone into this, and for the sake of 4 hrs work, it's worth doing. PG proposed the council carry out the actions required and apply for the award. RH 2nd – all agreed.

120/17 To deal with matters arising from the previous Council minutes not dealt with elsewhere in this agenda (refer Action List): Action list noted. The chairmans chain to be taken off the action list

121/17 To discuss planning applications and note decision papers as listed:

- i) **Planning application 172566: Three Crowns High Street; application to repairs and restore the property including internal & external works to heating system, paintwork, plaster & render, doors, windows, guttering & downpipes, chimney, roofing, walls, driveway, boundary fencing:** PG proposed that the council comments with support for the application, also request to consider repairing the damaged wall that's directly next to the pavement; DS 2nd – all agreed

East Donyland Parish Council
Full Parish Council Meeting – 9th November 2017
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The meeting closed at 7.56pm.

Agreed as a true record.

Signed: Date:

Chairman

DRAFT