

ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29th MAY 2013 IN ELMDON VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00PM

PRESENT: Jayne Drinkwater (Chair) Penelope Gaine, Kate Chambers , John Holford,, Alan Prosser, Joan Sanderson, Petrea Fagan

In attendance:. Clerk: Carol Fiske
Cllr Robert Chambers
Jane Attwood

13.35 **Re Election of Chairman**

Proposal: That Jayne Drinkwater be elected as returning Chairman of Elmdon & Wenden Lofts Parish Council
Proposed by Penelope Gaine
Seconded by Kate Chambers

13.36 **Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence

13.37 **Declaration of Interests**

There were declarations of interests from Jayne Drinkwater and Kate Chambers with regard to the planning application at Elmdonbury.

The new forms of Declaration were signed by the councillors and given to the clerk to pass on to UDC.

13.38 **Chairman's Report 29-05-2013**

The year started with us looking at a new Code of Conduct and Register of Interests to comply with the Localism Act 2011.

We then moved on to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations – a lunch in Elmdon and a tea party in Duddenhoe End, followed by the lighting of a Jubilee Beacon in Wenden Lofts. Both Elmdon and Duddenhoe End were provided with special Jubilee benches which have been well used by parishioners. We have also taken delivery of some special Elm trees which will be monitored over the next 10 years to see if they succumb to Dutch Elm disease.

Metal signs to discourage dog fouling have been purchased and put in place. They seem to be having some effect.

Wenden Lofts finally said good-bye to its post box. All that remains is a splash of red paint on the sawn off telegraph pole where it once lived.

Superfast broadband has been an issue and various suggestions put forward and avenues explored. To date we are no further forward in spite of government promises.

The Localism Act 2011 also introduced facilities for registering Community Assets. Much consideration was given to this and in the end only Duddenhoe End Village Hall and the Elmdon bus shelter and cricket pavilion have been so listed.

Sadly after several months of ill health, one of our Elmdon Councillors, Chris Crane, died. We are grateful for his wisdom and insight over the short period that he was a serving councillor. Chris had also become the Parish Recorder – a job now taken on by David Turner and Chris's place on council has been taken by Petrea Fagan, who we welcome to the team.

We have had our usual crop of potholes and overgrown footpaths and some planning applications. The salt delivery by Uttlesford for our distribution has been well received and utilised.

I would like to conclude my report by saying a big Thank You to our Clerk, Carol Fiske, for all her hard work with, not just paper work and accounts, but also battling with new legislation as it is announced – usually before the detail has been finalised. Also many thanks to all you fellow councillors for your commitment and support over the year.

J.B.D. 29/5/13

- 13.39 **Re Election of Vice Chairman**
Proposal: That Penelope Gaine be elected as returning Vice-Chairman to Elmdon & Wenden Lofts Parish Council
Proposed by Jayne Drinkwater
Seconded by Joan Sanderson
- 13.40 **Minutes of the previous meeting 8th May 2013** were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.
- The meeting was suspended for open discussion from the floor but there was none.
- 13.41 **Matters arising** that were not to be discussed later
Jubilee Elm – There was some discussion about the location of the Elm on the sports field. There was a proposal to move the Elm into the closed churchyard. The Millenium Oak is also at risk and this proposal is under consideration. The Parish Council has taken responsibility for the Elm and the point was made that the PC Tree Warden and the owner of the ground had agreed to plant the tree on the sports field. Wherever it is it should be fenced to protect it against deer. A site visit was recommended for the next meeting..
- 13.42 **Planning**
UTT/13/1032/HHF – cart lodge and tennis court Paddocks House - No objection
UTT/13/0911/FUL - development of barn at Elmdonbury. After some discussion it was decided that this would set a precedent for building outside the village envelope and the parish councillors will send their own comments to UDC not via the clerk
- 13.43 **Community Assets**
Before including Duddenhoe End Village Hall as a community asset the clerk was asked to check that the village hall committee were happy about the listing. Also to be listed are the Bus Shelter and the Cricket Pavilion.

13.44

Finance

Current Account	£ 6,534.89
Business Saver Account	<u>£ 7,069.83</u>
Total (inc. ring fenced £4,601)	£ 13,604.72
Less current expenditure	<u>£ 897.63</u>
Total in hand	£ 12,707.09

It was agreed to pay the following invoices
Essex Playing Fields Sub and Sports ground Competition
Whyare Inspired (Audit)
Suffolk Acre Insurance
Clerks Salary & Expensed for May

The clerk explained that the Appendix and the Agenda financial amounts differed as the bank statement had only arrived on the day of the meeting.

Proposal: That the accounts for 2012/2013 be accepted by Elmdon & Wenden Lofts Parish Council
Proposed: Penelope Gaine
Seconded : Jayne Drinkwater
The accounts were duly signed.

Proposal: That the internal auditor Whyare Inspired be elected for another year
Proposed: Jayne Drinkwater
Seconded: Kate Chambers.

13.45

Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:
The new Ward boundaries – these were explained to the meeting by Cllr Chambers and the meeting decided to await the outcome.

13.46

AOB

Alan Prosser is awaiting a quote for cutting back the brambles in the churchyard.
The Broadband upgrade is being pursued by Malcom Ingham
The clerk was asked to contact Highways for a mirror for Elm Court as this is a dangerous exit.
The clerk was asked to report the following potholes:
2 between Upper and Lower Pond street in Duddenhoe End.
1 on left hand side of Heydon Lane going towards Chrishall Grange
1 past Green Lane on Heydon Lane
There is a dead tree on the B 1039 near Mill House

13.47

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – July 10th Duddenhoe End.

2013 Parish Council Meeting dates:

	August 21 st Elmdon
October 2 nd Duddenhoe End	November 13 th Elmdon
December 11 th Duddenhoe End	

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

NOTE: THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAIL FROM THE CLERK Carol Fiske, Dyers Cottage, Kings Lane, Elmdon CB11 4NN
Tel 01763 838823 Email cfiske2@btinternet.com