

ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARIS COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Elmdon & Wenden Lofts Parish Council held on Wednesday 2nd October 2013 at 8.00pm in Duddenhoe End Village Hall

Present: Penelope Gaine (acting Chair), Jayne Drinkwater (acting Clerk), Kate Charmers, Petrea Fagan, Alan Prosser, Joan Sanderson.

In attendance : County Councillor John Lodge.

In the absence of the Clerk, it was agreed that the meeting would be chaired by Penelope Gaine and the minutes taken by Jayne Drinkwater.

Apologies were received from John Holford.

13.70 **Declaration of Members' Interests**

There were no interests declared.

13.71 **Minutes of Previous Meeting 21st August 2013.**

These were approved.

Adjournment for Public Discussion: John Lodge explained he is trying to meet all local councils. His target with the CC is to restore the use of committees rather than cabinets as he feels this gives more transparency. On local matters: potholes – he said to use the website to report them or, if that fails, to contact him direct (he handed out cards with his contact details) and he will raise the issues at members enquiries; Contract farmers speeding through the villages – the only suggestion was to contact the farmers responsible ; 6th formers having to pay adult fares on the school bus meaning that parents tend to drive the children to school instead, when there are spaces on the school buses; broadband – we fall outside all the maps, but John Lodge said he would investigate.

Minutes to be approved and signed. This was done.

13.72 **Matters arising not being discussed later –**

- the dead tree on the B1039 has been cut down. The trunk can be seen to be badly diseased.

- Elmdon churchyard brambles. Some have been cut back. Robert Smith has offered sufficient Roundup next spring to kill what is left. It has been suggested that the path needs redoing, but it was felt this should be left for the time being.

13.73 **Planning**

UTT/13/2481/HHF	Icknield House, single storey extension
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It was pointed out that this is a retrospective application but, as it is behind the house, there are no issues.

A parishioner had brought to the attention of the Council further development at Highwood which needed to be investigated.

13.74

Finance Summary:

Balances as at 27th September 2013

Current Account	£ 5,554.65
Business Account	<u>£ 7,070.71</u>
Total in hand	£12,625.36

Invoices to be approved:

John Holford –grant towards Gazette

Jamie Elbourn – grass cutting+ petrol

Clerk salary and expenses

Essex Playing Fields (may be duplicate)

Discussion of draft budget. It was agreed that this looked reasonable.

13.75

Churchyard clearing. The top of the bank has been cleared.

13.76

Correspondence and Emails for discussion:

100 Villages – it was felt we needed more information on what this would cost and what would be gained from membership. John Holford to put a note in the Gazette to ask villagers if they felt we should join. Duddenhoe End Village Hall have their own web site which does an excellent job of advertising the village and events.

Broadband – we need this. Villagers to be further encouraged to sign up to register a need.

Uttlesford Association of Local Councils - we need to know more about it and what it can do for us. We have excellent service from EALC and do not see the advantage of another group providing similar support.

13.77

Any Other Business for discussion only:

We need to arrange a meeting at the Cricket field to inspect the elm, which is apparently doing well now it has been re-fenced.

Dates for meetings next year. A list was put forward.

Mirror at Elm Court – Alan has spoken with local inhabitants. It was suggested he contact the Community Police officers and get their view.

13.78

Date of next Parish Council Meeting :

13th November at Elmdon,

11th December Duddenhoe End

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

NOTE: THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAIL FROM THE CLERK

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