

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

Elmore Village Hall on Monday 16th September 2024 at 7.00 pm

Present Parish Councillors: Mr M Brandon (MB) Chair, Mr V Meredith, (VM) Vice Chair, Mr E Watts (EW), Mr T Leach (TL) M Hodge (MH), Mrs D Jones (Clerk)		
In attendance Cllr Steve Davies , Alison Innwood, John and Jenni Field, Trevor Jones		
1 Apologies Cllr Oxley SDC		
2 Open Question Time	Trevor asked the Chair if Severn Voice could be asked about CRT events parking and opening times for road bridges over the Canal. MB agreed to pass this on to the next Severn Voice Meeting. It was noted that none of the bridges over the canal are in the Parish of Elmore.	MB
3 Declaration of member's interest in Agenda items	No declarations were made, other than EW who stated that he would be silent if there were any discussions about his family farm application.	
4 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 20 th May 2024	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 20 th May were proposed as a true record by VM and seconded by MH.	
5 Matters arising from the Minutes of 20 th May 2024	Most topics are included in the Agenda for this meeting.	
6.County Councillor's Report from Cllr Stephen Davies	Cllr Stephen Davies reported: 4000 trees had been planted and these all need watering. A Suicide prevention strategy had been set up through Community Groups and The Samaritans. An adult care worker had been nominated for an award. Flood Prevention measures to be introduced involving the use of beavers. Community Hubs have been set up in Stonehouse. Library Challenge with IT Bootcamps are to help jobless with job applications. 2 million pounds was being spent to fix pot holes, white lining. Cllr Steve Davies is the Leader of Gloucester CC. £460 million is being spent by National Highways on the Air Balloon/Missing Link road project. Tall Ships event in Gloucester was 'over budget'	
7 District Councillor's Report	Cllr Gill Oxley sent apologies. If there is anything I can help with please contact me on 07546464405 or via the SDC website.	

Elmore Parish Council

8 Parish Council Resignation and co-option of new Councillor	Mike Hodge officially resigned from the Council with warm words of thanks to all for their support and wished us all well for the future. A notice of election of a new councillor will be posted with SDC.	DJ
9 Special roles of Parish Council since May	MB – Data VM – Highways TL – Planning EW – External Services MH - Assets	
10 Finance Update	<u>Account update: FY 2024/2025</u> The account remains in a healthy state with a balance on 19th August 2023 of £5,246.64	
11 Report from Severn Voice Meeting	<u>Insurance</u> – Severn Voice questioned whether a joint insurance quote for all parishes might reduce the cost. Each council to share their information. <u>Verge Cutting</u> – a 6.7% uplift is to be applied to our claim for payment from Highways. School Transport Issues were reported. Emergency Plan. It is confirmed that we do have one. M5 J14 alterations are part of S Gloucestershire but it was felt that they are unlikely to be passed. Sharon Vaughan Village Warden would like a copy of the Bridge. The Bridge can be read on our website.	
12 Highways Update	VM lead discussion about hedges, passing places and potholes in Elmore Road West. He agreed to contact CRT to ask for the hedges on the River side to be cut back further. He has developed better contacts for communication with Highways. EW pointed out that making this lane any wider might encourage more traffic to use it. Trevor asked if Highways could install a road sign describing the lane as Single Track with Passing Places.	VM
13 Planning Update	The Firewood Production business application was refused in May 2024 but they have now appealed this decision to the Secretary of State. A company Heal Planning and Developments has submitted a 34 page report. This can be read on the SDC planning website and any public objections reported. The enforcement notice situation on Haywicks Barn and Hollow Farm Common Room planning decisions will be followed up by TL. A question was asked about a 4 year old planning application changing the status of it.	All TL

Elmore Parish Council

14 External Services	<p>Rural Crime contact is Sharon Vaughan who is our Community Warden.</p> <p>Layby bin is being used correctly and emptied each week. The question of installing one in Kenton Green was raised. The purchase cost of the Layby Bin was £388 with free installation by Highways. VM agreed to follow this with his contacts in Highways.</p>	<p>EW</p> <p>VM</p>
15 Data	<p>A google drive is used for storing and sharing PC documents. TL and EW will be given links to this drive.</p> <p>Another request will be posted in The Bridge suggesting names and email addresses could be updated.</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>TL</p> <p>EW</p>
16 Assets	<p><u>Both defibrillators have been checked regularly and are working correctly.</u></p> <p>In the short term EW will be checking the Phone Box defibrillator and MB will check the Elmore Back defibrillator.</p>	<p>EW</p> <p>MB</p>
17 Communications	<p>Copy date for Bridge items is 11 October. 2024.</p>	
18 Special Projects	<p>No new project planned.</p>	
19 Ponds	<p>As far as we know the PC does not own any land that the ponds are on and cannot spend money on private land.</p> <p>All agreed to attempt a PN1 search with Land Registry to confirm this. The cost is £11.</p> <p>MH agreed to pass on his information about volunteer teams helping via the Probation Service, to see if pond tidying could be considered.</p> <p>MB agreed to ask Steve Davies if any funds exist to help rejuvenate ponds.</p>	<p>DJ</p> <p>MH</p> <p>MB</p>
20 Any Other Business	<p>PC Zoom meeting will go ahead on 1st October and 4th November.</p> <p>The proposed dates for 2025 Parish Council meetings looks OK at the moment and these will be booked with JH at the Village Hall, if they are available.</p>	<p>DJ</p>

Elmore Parish Council

Date of the next Parish Council Meetings - Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.00 pm

2025 Meeting Dates for discussion

Monday 17 March 2025

Tuesday 19 May 2025 (Annual Meetings)

Monday 15 September 2025

Monday 8 December 2025

The Chairman thanked those present for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Signed.....

Date