

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

Elmore Village Hall on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7.00 pm

Present Parish Councillors: Mr M Brandon (MB) Acting Chair, Mrs J Hill (JH), Mr V Meredith, (VM), Mrs D Jones (Clerk)		
In attendance John Field, Ed Watts and Hamish Pitt		
1 Apologies Cllr Davies GCC, Mr N Meek, Mr M Hodge, Cllr Oxley SDC		
2 Open Question Time	<p>1 Question was asked about having yellow lines replaced at Sellars Bridge. It was suggested that NM would make contact about this.</p> <p>2 Question about access to Hollow Farm is answered in Planning Update.</p> <p>3 Question about traffic using Stonebench Lane. It is well known that this is a shortcut route in and out of Elmore. It is, in places, almost a single track road with passing places. Most of this lane is in Quedgeley Parish. It was suggested that NM could liaise with the Quedgeley Chair of their Council to get support. Suggestions on how to improve this lane: Tarmac the soft verges to widen the road. Passing places could be fully tarmacked to prevent water filled holes. Taxi companies delivering to Elmore Court could be asked to take a different route.</p>	NM
3 Police Report	No report received from the Police team.	
4 Declaration of member's interest in Agenda items	No declarations were made.	
5 Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 16 th May 2023	The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 16 th May were proposed as a true record by VM and seconded by JH.	
6 Matters arising from the Minutes of 16 th May 2023	<p>Most topics are included in the Agenda for this meeting.</p> <p>A map showing the location of properties is underway with MH and NM.</p> <p>Floodlight in Taylors Yard appears to be in a better location.</p>	MH NM
7 County Councillor's Report from Cllr Stephen Davies	<p>Cllr Stephen Davies sent apologies but sent a report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCC has launched a free healthy lifestyle programme for children and families. Funded by GCC and run by BeeZee Bodies it helps educate families on healthy eating. • A national film on Fostering "Any of Us" was launched in Gloucestershire. It covers the journey of Chloe entering fostering. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCC Libraries have been shortlisted for the annual 2023 Vaisey Awards. • GCC has received £250,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to help record the County's environmental legacy and drive climate action. • GCC have made being a Care Leaver a protected characteristic. • GCC Highways are standing up against disruption cause by utility companies.80% of disruption on our roads is caused by Utility Companies. Last year GCC issued 310 charges against utility companies for over running. • Venture Community Hub who are part of the GCC Holiday Activities and Food initiative has been nominated for a National Award. • An independent enquiry has been commissioned to look at historic complaints about historic racism in the Gloucestershire Fire Service. These claims date back 20 years. • Gloucestershire firefighters were on the winners podium for the British Firefighter Challenge. • Ofsted inspectors recently conducted a Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the County Council, Police and NHS on the response to the identification of initial need and risk, also known as the "Front Door." The report praises the work done and is very positive. • £9,000 of illegal vapes have been seized by Trading Standards. <p>Finally I would draw your attention to the proposed road closures around Weir Green by Gigaclear scheduled for 22 – 29 January 2024.</p> <p>If there are any issues that arise from your meeting please let me know.</p>	
<p>8 District Councillor’s Report</p>	<p>Cllr Gill Oxley sent apologies but sent this report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The new junction on the A38 for Hunts Grove due to start in August has been delayed. Work to commence in January 2024 and last for approximately 13 months. This will include traffic lights on the McDonalds roundabout. 2. Redrow has now submitted an outline planning application for 1750 homes in Hardwicke. 3. Stroud District Council's Local Plan has been criticised by the planning inspectors and deemed as unworkable mainly due to the pressures on junction 12 and 14. SDC 	

	<p>have written to the inspectors asking for a 6-month halt whilst they come up with a way forward. Letter submitted to the inspectors with options and timeframes - still awaiting a response back from the inspectors.</p> <p>If there is anything I can help with please contact me on 07546464405 or via the SDC website.</p>	
9 Finance Update	<p><u>Account update: FY 2023/2024</u> The account remains in a healthy state with a balance on 21st August 2023 of £4,934.89.</p>	
10 Special Projects	<p>Layby Bins</p> <p>VM reported that he is working with SDC on this. Communication is difficult but we appear to be in a position to pay for one and SDC will install it and empty it. The likely location will be at the layby close to the Stonebench turning. Proposal to buy one bin was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>Consideration will be given to a second bin to be installed at Kenton Green once it has been assessed how well the first one works.</p>	VM
11 Highways Update - VM	<p>The gateway signs into the Village should help a 'Village' impact on motorists encouraging reduced speed. 40mph Bin Stickers are being offered to people in the village as part of this 'soft' approach to encouraging speed awareness.</p> <p>Footpaths – John Field continues to have correspondence about ROW plans in the village. CC have responsibility for Signs, Bridges and Gates. Landowners are responsible for keeping the paths accessible. John will ask Clr Davies for help with moving this project along.</p>	VM JF
12 Planning Update – NM	<p>New application for Elm Farm. No issues for EPC.</p> <p>Haywicks Farm barn. No enforcement so far but apparently SDC planning suggested a re submitted application. The date to do this was 11 August. This has not been done.</p> <p>Hollow Farm 'common room'. SDC expect the property to be vacated and bathroom / kitchen removed by 25 October.</p>	

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	Hollow Farm poor access to the 'event' field has been followed up by NM. It was proposed that NM could ask the new owner if cutting back hedges on both the access to the 'event' field and the main access to the farm would make an improvement to the 'line of sight' for those entering and exiting the property.	NM
13 External Services - JH	Nothing to update	MH
14 Data - MB	A google drive is used for storage of PC documents. MB and NM keep the residents database up to date. There is a Whatsapp group for Elmore (not part of the PC). TJ will be sent a reminder to put information in the Bridge informing people in the Village how they can get invited to join it.	NM MB TJ
15 Assets - MH	Both defibrillators have been checked regularly and they are working properly. Both will need new batteries in the coming year. The village notice board doors have been repaired by TJ. Oil needs to be applied to preserve the notice board.	 TJ
16 Any Other Business	Discussion about the need to recruit 2 new councillors. It was noted that Arlingham children had suffered from a lack of secondary school places. The had written to our MP. The proposed dates for 2024 Parish Council meetings looks OK at the moment and these will be booked with JH at the Village Hall, if they are available.	
Date of the next Parish Council Meetings - Monday 4 th December 2023 at 7.00 pm		
<u>2024 Meeting Dates for discussion</u> Monday 19 March 2024 Tuesday 21 May 2024 (Annual Meetings) Monday 17 September 2024 Monday 2 December 2024		
The Chairman thanked those present for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.		
Signed..... Date		

