

**Minutes of the Meeting of Elvetham Heath Parish Council**  
**Held at The Key Centre Elvetham Heath**  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT**

Cllr Marilyn Robson (MR)	Chairman	Elvetham Heath PC
Cllr Chris Alden (CA)	from 7.35pm	Elvetham Heath PC
Cllr George Brown (GB)		Elvetham Heath PC
Cllr Caroline Ellison (CE)		Elvetham Heath PC
Cllr Emma Watmore (EW)		Elvetham Heath PC
Jan Hyatt (JH)	Clerk	Elvetham Heath PC

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mrs Kirstie Milton (Market Manager)	Elvetham Heath PC
2 x members of the public	

**Abbreviations:**

HDC – Hart District Council  
HCC – Hampshire County Council  
HALC – Hampshire Association of Local Councils

<b>76/14</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Apologies had been received from Cllrs Nicky Bond & Richard Woods. The apologies of County Cllr Sharyn Wheale were also noted.	
<b>77/14</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest &amp; associated dispensations</b> None	
<b>78/14</b>	<b>Approval of the Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting of 21 July 2014 (nos. 60/14-75/14) were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.  The minutes and recommendations of the following committee were accepted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning committee 21 July 2014 Nos. 05/14 – 11/14</li> <li>• Finance &amp; Policy Committee 22 July 2014 Nos. 01/14 – 07/14</li> </ul>	
<b>79/14</b>	<b>Public Session</b> Mr Colin Fraser raised the following issues which he has been trying to resolve by contacting the various agencies:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weeds along the roadsides.</li> <li>• Highway verges not being properly maintained</li> <li>• 4 bollards in the Giffard Lane area which have been knocked down and not repaired/replaced for several months</li> <li>• 2 x street lights on the path leading to the footbridge which have been out for about 2 years</li> </ul> <p>MR explained that EHPC has been trying to get action on these items for years. Recent meetings with HCC Highways &amp; HDC grounds maintenance team made it clear that there is little budget for a better service. It is likely that the parish will have to take on more – negotiations are currently underway over the grounds maintenance of the highway verges and ways to deal with the bollards are being considered.</p> <p>Mr Bunn raised the issue of the adoption of the Kier housing areas – promises are made but progress seems slow or non-existent. JH explained that she has recently received an email from Kier’s contractor containing a schedule of remedial works due for completion by the end of October. The areas will then be ready for HCC to adopt.</p>	
<b>80/14</b>	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <p>Members of the local neighbourhood team were unable to attend but had sent the crime report for August which was reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeated thefts of small conifers from a property in Kintbury Close</li> <li>• Criminal damage to a vehicle – thought to be targeted</li> <li>• Reports of ASB targeted at one property</li> </ul>	
<b>81/14</b>	<p><b>Standing Orders - Amendment</b></p> <p>It was proposed that the standing orders with regards to public participation and attendance be updated to reflect the recent amendment to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> to amend Standing orders 1e and 1k as proposed.</p>	
<b>82/14</b>	<p><b>Farmers’ Market</b></p> <p>The Market Manager, Kirstie Milton, gave a verbal report about the progress of the market in addition to a brief report which had been previously circulated.</p> <p>Points of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The market has grown over its first 5 months but it is proving difficult to recruit more stalls</li> <li>• Need for permanent cheese and fruit &amp; vegetable stalls</li> <li>• There are some potential seasonal stall holders available if the market continues next year</li> <li>• More advertising is required – both signage/poster &amp; online</li> <li>• A better power source would help – as electricity is requested by some stall holders.</li> </ul> <p>CA &amp; CE offered to assist with online advertising and providing details of websites to help find stalls.</p> <p>It was agreed to investigate the possibility of providing more power to the central</p>	

	<p>Key area.</p> <p>The council considered the longer term future of the market.  <b>Resolved:</b> to continue the market into 2015 and accept some further investment will be needed.</p> <p><b>At 8.10pm KM and 1 x member of the public left the meeting.</b></p>	
83/14	<p><b>Christmas Lights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Clerk has received a quotation of £1,295 from the usual contractors to repair &amp; replace some of the lights in the trees in the Key and to re-dress the trees to match those outside the Key Centre. This includes increasing the numbers of lights in each tree. She confirmed that a budget of £2,000 had been set aside for additional/improved lights this year.  <b>Resolved:</b> to accept the quotation.</li> <li>MR proposed that the large tree between the centre and the Key be included in the lighting scheme if a suitable power source can be provided.  <b>Resolved:</b> to add lights to this tree provided that a power source can be found and the total cost including the re-dressing above does not exceed the £2,000 budget.</li> </ul>	
84/14	<p><b>Grant Request</b></p> <p>A request for a grant had been received from the Fleet Christmas Festival committee. It was accepted that residents from the parish do visit the festivities but the main benefit is to the town centre itself. EHPC supports events on the Heath and provides its own Christmas celebrations.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> not to award a grant to the Christmas festival.</p>	
85/14	<p><b>The Key Centre - Piano</b></p> <p>Members have learned of a second-hand piano which is available free of charge and thought this would be a good addition for the Key Centre. The cost of tuning would be £50-70 and transport £120. CA offered to check the condition prior to the council committing and to investigate whether there are any local residents who may be able to help with transportation.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> To accept the piano subject to it being of a suitable condition.</p>	
86/14	<p><b>The Key Centre – Garden</b></p> <p>The garden was designed and created last year by the Minding the Garden charity. No on-going maintenance was provided and the garden needs a maintenance plan.  <b>Resolved:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To write to Minding the Garden expressing disappointment that the garden bears little resemblance to the plan and that the standard of workmanship does not appear to have been high.</li> <li>In the short term to water daily and put together a small working party of</li> </ul>	

	<p>members to weed and tidy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To advertise via social media for local residents or landscape gardeners to help out longer term.</li> </ul>	
<b>87/14</b>	<p><b>Maintenance of Highway Verges</b></p> <p>A background paper had been circulated. EHPC wish to take on the maintenance of verges and roundabouts and has been in discussion with HCC &amp; HDC for the past 2 years.</p> <p>A recent meeting made significant progress and it looks as though this may be possible with a start date of April 1 2015.</p> <p>Whilst there is S106 money and a small annual payment from HCC to help cover the costs, these will only cover half of the estimated total cost. A rise in the precept is therefore inevitable but considered to be worthwhile.</p> <p>It was agreed to continue to work towards the April 1 date and to communicate to the residents the reasoning behind the anticipated increase in the precept</p>	
<b>88/14</b>	<p><b>Update Report</b></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated an update of the original status report which was circulated after the election in members' packs. This report will be updated and circulated quarterly.</p> <p>It was agreed to examine this report in detail over the next 2 meetings although the following were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Centre toilets – proving very difficult to source a third quotation but the previous two were more expensive than anticipated</li> <li>Any changes to the reception area to wait until after the proposed staffing review</li> <li>Football nets on Turner's Way pitch will not be replaced as advised by the annual safety inspection.</li> </ul>	
<b>89/14</b>	<p><b>Finance – Schedule of Payments</b></p> <p>The schedule of payments for August and September was presented to the council for review and approval.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> to accept &amp; approve the payments</p>	
<b>90/14</b>	<p><b>Chairman's report and announcements</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She represented the council at the Lights Out event to commemorate World War 1 and gave a reading.</li> <li>Attended the Local Plan seminar with Cllr Brown.</li> <li>Attended both the August and September farmers' markets</li> <li>Chaired the summer fete wash-up meeting.</li> <li>Attended the meeting regarding highway verge maintenance with the Clerk.</li> <li>Represented the council at the annual reception at RAF Odiham.</li> </ul>	

91/14	<p><b>Councillor Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cllr Brown</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attended the Local Plan seminar</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Cllr Watmore:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attended lights out event</li> <li>○ Represented the council in the photograph celebrating the Green Flag award being won again for the nature reserve</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Cllr Ellison</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nothing to report</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Cllr Alden</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nothing to report</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
92/14	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated her report previously and highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August as usual was quiet in the Key Centre but the SCL holiday club ran successfully for 4 weeks</li> <li>• Regular complaints about the state of the highway verges and roundabouts.</li> <li>• More concern about dogs being seen on the junior pitch.</li> <li>• Allotments – have been 5 changes to tenancies over the last few months.</li> <li>• HALC AGM is being held in Hartley Wintney on Saturday Oct 4. <i>It was agreed that MR &amp; JH would attend.</i></li> </ul>	
93/14	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 20 October 2014</li> </ul>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....