

## **ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 IN DUDDENHOE END VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00PM.**

PRESENT: Kate Chambers (Chair), Jayne Drinkwater, Penelope Gaine, John Holford  
Clerk: Belinda Irons

District and County Councillor Robert Chambers

PUBLIC: 0

11.19 Apologies for absence: Jan Leighton, Joan Sanderson; Philip Leighton

11.20 Other absences: none

11.21 Declaration of Member's Interests (prejudicial/personal): none

11.22 Minutes of Previous Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011:  
Minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011 were agreed as a true and correct record of the meeting and were duly signed.

*meeting to be suspended for*

Adjournment for Public Discussion: limited to 15 minutes: no comments received.

*Meeting to be resumed*

11.23 Planning:  
Planning Applications

UTT/0143/11/TCA Work to trees in Conservation Area	The Old Stores, Elmdon Prune/reshape 2 Plum; 4 Apple; 1 Pear
UTT/0241/11/FUL Planning application	The Old Forge, High Street, Elmdon Replace oil tank: <i>no objection</i>

Planning Decisions

UTT/2198/10/FUL Permission granted	Frondirion, Heydon Lane, Elmdon Variation of conditions C.3.1. & C.5.3
UTT/2290/10/FUL Permission granted	Bury Lodge, Bury Lane, Elmdon Single storey side extension

John Holford commented that he was pleased that the Parish Council had expressed a view with regard to recent applications, and that both Uttlesford District Council and the Planning Inspectorate had taken account of these comments when making their decisions.

11.24 Finance: Itemised Payments will be shown on a separate Appendix  
Finance Summary:

Balance Brought Forward:	£14,816.83
Plus Income	£0.00
Less Payments	£974.48
(less ring fenced )	£601.93
Total available to Council	£13,240.42

11.25 Highways Issues:  
Footpath off Hertford Road, Elmdon:  
John Holford stated that the stile situated between the road and the footpath was dangerous and needed to be removed. Jan Leighton had obtained information from Essex County Council indicating liability, duty, and funding regarding rights of way. John Holford will liaise with the landowner regarding this issue.

11.26 Wenden Lofts Post box Update  
The post box has now been sealed, which indicates that the Post Office acknowledges it requires attention.

11.27 Uttlesford District Council Emergency Plan:  
Kate Chambers is continuing to process.

11.28 Duddenhoe End Village Hall: Signage:  
Kate Chambers has contacted Essex County Council who has agreed to put signage to the village hall on the B1039, and at the hamlet church sign.

A Chrishall Parish Councillor has provided a map as a template for Elmdon and Wenden Lofts to customise. Kate Chambers will make adjustments for Councillors to comment upon.

11.29 Provision of Allotments:  
Kate Chambers met with Ickleton Parish Council for guidance.

At least six parishioners need to make representation to the Parish Council to enable the Parish Council to consider the application. Parish Councils may have areas of land which allotmenters rent at a reduced rate. More frequently, Parish Councils are involved as liaison between allotmenters and landowners, rather than formally running the allotments, although landowners may prefer to lease land to the Parish Council who then rent it to allotmenters.

Grant funding is more readily available for an Allotment Association rather than those run by Parish Councils. It is therefore more financially beneficial for the Allotment Association to self organise and fund.

John Holford advised that a parishioner and a landowner had been in discussion, but was unsure why this venture had not progressed. John Holford will offer his services as facilitator/Parish Council liaison.

Kate Chambers passed a copy of the minutes of a Workshop that the Ickleton Parish Council Clerk had attended to John Holford, which provided useful information on the setting up of Allotments and other details.

11.30 Great British Elm Experiment:  
This experiment is designed to replant Dutch Elm Disease resistant saplings and monitor them over a period greater than 10 years. The trees are raised by micro propagating from the parent trees, 'growing on' the resulting plugs into saplings at a Bedfordshire nursery. More information is available on the elm section of the website [www.conservationfoundation.co.uk](http://www.conservationfoundation.co.uk)

They are able to provide ONE sapling free of charge to schools and non profit making groups (eg to parish councils, scouts, wildlife groups etc), but are asking private individuals to buy their elms and therefore contribute to the project costs of propagation, growing on and postage/packing.

Private sales are available from Richard Beamish at Trees Direct - <http://www.treesdirect.co.uk/> and click on the elm logo - you will then be able to purchase one or more saplings.

Alison Nicholson at [elms@conservationfoundation.co.uk](mailto:elms@conservationfoundation.co.uk) can arrange purchases of 10 or more through their second distributor (Trees Direct are not handling bulk sales). The unit price for buying more than x10 saplings will come down to approx £8 plus VAT plus postage.

In return for receiving a free native elm sapling, recipients will be asked to monitor the health and growth of saplings on the website for the next ten years or more. This is a long term experiment and it will only be after ten years or even longer that resistance to DED will be known. Trees younger than 10 years do not usually succumb to DED, hence the longevity of the 'experiment'.

Councillors present believed this to be a worthwhile experiment and would be supportive of the initiative.

11.31 Correspondence:

Chairman of Duddenhoe End Village Hall Committee:

a letter was received at the meeting indicating proposed extension to the car parking area, repairs to the existing car park, and cutting back of hedges.

Email:

NHS West Essex Stakeholder meeting: 28.2.2011 UDC Offices 7.30pm

ECC changes to Library Service: noted

UDC North Community Forum: 3.3.2011 UDC Offices, 7.30pm: noted

UDC Head of Planning meeting: 18.3.2011 UDC Offices, 10am:  
noted

UDC Community Waste Skip: £97.00 per half day:  
agreed 2 x half days at Duddenhoe End

RCCE Village of the Year Competition:  
no application will be made this year.

RCCE Community Led Planning Training: 5.3.2011 @ £35.00: noted

ECC Home to school transport: proposed withdrawal of accompanied travel: Cllr Robert Chambers reported that this item was under discussion.

11.32 Any other business: *items raised under this heading are for discussion only*

Probation Service: Community Service in the community:

Kate Chambers suggested that persons undertaking Community Service may be of use undertaking maintenance work in the closed churchyard. Councillors did not feel that there was sufficient work in the closed church yard at this time.

Kate Chambers reported attending the Volkswind public exhibition. A substantial number of people attended, many in opposition to the proposal. Penelope Gaine indicated that the development would not provide local employment, but would

cause significant disruption to the local roads as very large vehicles would not be able to easily access the site. It is likely that plans will be submitted in November.

11.33 Date of Parish Council Meetings 2011:

6<sup>th</sup> April (Duddenhoe End)

18<sup>th</sup> May (Ward Meetings & PC AGM) (Elmdon)

29<sup>th</sup> June (Duddenhoe End)                      27<sup>th</sup> July( Elmdon)

14<sup>th</sup> September (Duddenhoe End)              26<sup>th</sup> October (Elmdon)

30<sup>th</sup> November (Duddenhoe End)

*Meeting closed at 9.20pm*

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