

ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELMDON & WENDEN LOFTS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16^h MAY 2012 IN DUDDENHOE END VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00PM

PRESENT: Kate Chambers (Chair), Jayne Drinkwater, Penelope Gaine, John Holford,
Alan Prosser
District Councillor Robert Chambers in attendance
Clerk: Carol Fiske

12.36 Proposal: That Jayne Drinkwater be elected Chairman
Proposed: Kate Chambers
Seconded: John Holford

12.37 Jayne Drinkwater signed the Declaration of Acceptance

12.38 Apologies of Absence were received from Chris Crane and Joan Sanderson

12.39 Declaration of Interests
Kate Chambers declared an interest as Churchwarden of the Hamlet Church
There were no other declarations of interest.

12.40 Outgoing Chairman's Report

I ended my 2011 report by saying good-bye to our Clerk, Belinda Irons and I am delighted to start this year's report by thanking Carol Fiske our "new Clerk" for taking up the reins in June 2011. Out of several applications, we felt that Carol was the best person for the job and she hasn't let us down. So thank you Carol and I am sure you will support Jayne as much as you have supported me during the last year. I hope our 2 new Councillors from last year, Alan and Chris have enjoyed their first year and although I realise due to work commitments for Alan and ill health for Chris, they have been unable to come to all the meetings, they have both played their part on the Council and I wish Chris a speedy recovery.

When I looked at my report last year, we had the Big Society which then turned itself to Localism, but so far there still does not seem to be any clear definitions of what Localism will mean to our small Parish Council.

I was hoping to report at the end of my Chairmanship that we had a new post box in Lower Pond Street, but as you all know there is now no hope that we will get it. If we had been told this at the beginning it would have saved a lot of email time and frustration over silly replies and prevaricating from Royal Mail.

We have met 9 times including tonight and we were lucky enough to be the first meeting in the refurbished Duddenhoe End Village Hall, in fact some of the paint was still wet. I would like to congratulate the Village Hall Committee for their hard work in both obtaining the funding and for the physical work in making such a big improvement and making it such an asset for the Village.

Over the year we have had quite a few planning applications and at most meetings the issue of Pot Holes is mentioned and once again it is a matter of keep reporting them and eventually they will be repaired before another one appears. As mentioned in last year's report the trimming of the trees near the electric cables is still ongoing, so goodness knows when the work will be completed. We have received the "New Homes Bonus", which has been paid out to District Councils by the Government to be used for community projects etc. For the year 2011/12 we were allocated as a Parish Council £407.00 which was calculated on the number of houses. As a Parish Council we decided to proportion it out to the 3 Wards and the appropriate amounts to be paid to Elmdon Village Hall and Duddenhoe End Village Hall. For the year 2012/2013 Uttlesford has decided that a Jubilee Fund will be set up and each Village Hall or Society can apply for a grant for a specific purpose. The amount can be up to £10,000. Both Elmdon and Duddenhoe End Village Hall committees have applied for the necessary forms. The Parish Councils are also able to apply for a grant towards a community project. It will be up to us as a Parish council to discuss and decide if or what we want to apply for. We now have the Jubilee Celebrations to look forward to with Elmdon having a street party lunch on Sunday and Duddenhoe End having a Tea and Jayne's beacon on the Monday with the Parish Council helping out with the costs. So fingers crossed for good weather. Here ends my report.

Kate Chambers 16th May 2012

The new Chairman Jayne Drinkwater thanked the outgoing Chairman Kate Chambers for all her hard work during her time as Chairman.

- 12.41 Proposal: That Penelope Gaine be elected as Vice Chairman
Proposed: Jayne Drinkwater
Seconded: Kate Chambers
- 12.42 The new Vice Chairman signed the Acceptance of Office.
Councillor Robert Chambers congratulated the incoming Chairman and Vice Chairman and explained that as yet the Code of Conduct had not been finalised and as soon as the new one was available it could be signed. Until then the old Code of Conduct would be sufficient.
- 12.43 Minutes of the previous meeting. 4th April 2012
The Clerk was asked to correct the spelling of Jamie Elbourn and minute 12.31 was to read Jayne Drinkwater and not Joan Sanderson.
- 12.44 Matters Arising
The Clerk was asked to contact Alan Starr re the insurance claim for the cricket pavilion.
John Holford said he had a special deterrent for the muntjac.
The Clerk had received the Bus Timetable book and John Holford offered to help sort out the timetable for the village.

12.45	Planning	
	There were no problems re planning	
12.46	Finance	
	Current Account	£ 8,716.45
	Business Saver Account	£ 7,066.31
	Total inc ring fenced £601	<u>£ 15,782.76</u>
	Less current expenditure	<u>£ 2,380.88</u>
	Total available to Parish Council	£ 13,401.88

Invoices were approved for the following:

EALC NALC Subs 2012/13
 Uttlesford CAB donation 2012
 Homestart donation 2012
 Whyare Inspired Ltd
 Suffolk Acre Ins
 Cyan Jubilee Benches
 Clerks Salary & Expenses
 Elmdon VH (Homes Bonus)
 Duddenhoe End VH (Homes Bonus)

Proposal: That the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2012 are accepted taking into account the remarks of the Internal Auditor

Proposed : Kate Chambers

Seconded: Penelope Gaine

Proposal: That the Clerk's Salary should be increased by 8p an hour.

Proposed: Kate Chambers

Seconded: Jayne Drinkwater

12.47 Correspondence and Emails

The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Mr Briggs thanking him for removing the white van from Ickleton Road.

The Clerk was asked to ask Melvin Clayden again for a quote for the notice board posts.

The Clerk was asked to get a quote from Treetops re the trimming of the suckers of the trees in the churchyard to be done after the Jubilee.

12.48 The Diamond Jubilee

The events were proceeding well but it was agreed that the Clerk needed to have invoices from Elmdon and Duddenhoe End to cover the grant for the Jubilee and claims to be for amount spent. Jayne Drinkwater had received a book of Sainsbury's vouchers for the Jubilee celebrations if anyone needed them.

The Jubilee benches are arriving on 28th May and should be added to the asset register. They will need to be cemented in and a quote should be arranged.

12.49 Any Other Business

Councillor Chambers reported that the District Council are trying to take over the responsibility for repairing pot holes. At the moment it is Essex County Council who send a team out to survey and spray with coloured paint, then a repair team goes out some time later to do the repairs. UDC is aiming to send a repair team that will go out and deal with any reported pot holes straight away..

It was reported that kitchen waste caddies were due to come into service and the brown lidded bins would be collected and recycled. **Anyone wanting to keep their brown bins should contact Mr Pridham at the council. Bottles can now go into the recycling bin.** John Holford was asked to put this in the Gazette.

It was reported that Copper had been stolen from the church roof. The Parish Council were asked to be vigilant about this.

Alan Prosser asked for a notice for dog walkers about their dogs fouling the footpath. Mr Prosser also asked if there could be parking restrictions for the road by the church but it was decided that it would be better to ask the church wardens to put a notice up on Sunday morning asking people to park in The Dial car park and not on the road.

12.50 Date of the next Meeting
27th June (Elmdon)

The Meeting Ended at 9,30pm

2012 Parish Council Meeting dates:

	8 th August (Duddenhoe End)	
19 th September (Elmdon)		31 st October (Duddenhoe End)
12 th December (Elmdon)		

NOTE: THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAIL FROM THE CLERK Carol Fiske, Dyers Cottage, Kings Lane, Elmdon CB11 4NN
Tel 01763 838823 Email cfiske2@btinternet.com