

ELM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

17 MAY 2011 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Brand, Chairman; Councillors Cotterell, Mrs Cotterell, Mrs Hopkin, Mrs Johnson, Pinnock, Rogers, Softley, Stokes and Webb.

Apologies: County Councillor Mrs Tuck and District Councillor Sutton.

In attendance: No parishioners attended the Assembly.

The minutes of the Annual Assembly of 2010 (held on 25 May) were confirmed and signed.

EA01/10 Annual Report from the Chairman of the Council

The Chairman read his Annual Report to those in attendance at the Annual Assembly.

The Chairman thanked all the members of Elm Parish Council and County Councillor Mrs. Tuck, for helping to make his year as Chairman go smoothly.

The Chairman expressed his thanks also to PC Julie Coales, who had been the Parish Council's police liaison officer for many years but had retired recently, and to the former Parish Council Clerk, John Smith, who retired last July. In addition, he expressed his gratitude to the current Clerk to the Council, Terry Jordan, for the support and assistance that he had given to both the Chairman personally and to the Parish Council as a whole, since taking up this role with Elm Parish Council.

The Chairman then outlined the activities, projects and achievements of Elm Parish Council during the municipal year 2010/11, including:

- Grounds and cemetery maintenance – following the retirement of the Parish Council's grounds maintenance and cemetery maintenance operatives in mid-2010 and the subsequent engagement of temporary employees/contractors for the remainder of the 2010 grass cutting season, the Parish Council now has a permanent contractor, R J Warren Ltd, to maintain all the parish Council's "green" areas.
- The Leam, Fridaybridge – removal of the ivy and vegetation from the roadside fence and subsequent replacement, in conjunction with Cambridgeshire County Council, of the damaged elements of the fence. It is considered that no further work is required at The Leam.
- Cemetery Cottage - following departure of the tenant in September 2010, the cottage was the subject of extensive refurbishment works and has subsequently been let at an increased level of rent.
- Cemetery extension – the works to raise the level of the land at the back of the cemetery, to facilitate its extension, have been completed and the next phase of the works, which are currently being planned, are to re-surface and improve the roadway. It is felt that when these works have been completed, no further works should be required for at least the next 30 years.

- Street lamps and highway signs - 5 additional street lamps and a number of "Not suitable for HGV" signs have been erected at appropriate locations within the parish.
- Play equipment for Elm – this project, to help address a deficit of provision within the parish, is still ongoing and is being led by Councillor Rogers.
- Parish Council website - the current Clerk has established a website for the Parish Council. Further information for the site is currently being produced by Councillor Rogers.

Members noted the Chairman's Annual Report and endorsed his comments.

EA02/10 Future Annual Assemblies

Councillor Mrs Johnson made comment and expressed disappointment regarding the absence of any parishioners at the Annual Assembly and suggested that, as a means of increasing public interest, local organisations within the parish should be invited to present or submit an Annual Report to future Annual Assemblies. She made the point that this happens at Annual Assemblies in some other parishes.

Councillor Mrs Johnson's suggestion found favour among members of the Parish Council.

Members decided that

- (1) with effect from 2012, local organisations within the parish be invited to present or submit an Annual Report to the Annual Assembly;
- (2) they would provide the Clerk with the names and contact details of the local organisations which they feel should be invited to present or submit an Annual Report to the Annual Assembly.

Meeting finished at 7.10 pm

Signature:.....(Council Chairman).

Date:.....