

ELM PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES

22 MAY 2012 – 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillors Cotterell, Mrs Cotterell, Mrs Hopkin, Mrs Johnson, Pinnock, Tilney and Webb plus District Councillor Sutton.

Apologies: Councillors Brand, Mrs Lankfer, Softley and Stokes plus County Councillor Mrs Tuck.

In attendance: No parishioners attended the Assembly.

The minutes of the Annual Assembly of 2011 (held on 17 May) were confirmed; the Clerk to the Parish Council would make arrangements for their signing by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

EA01/11 Annual Report from the Chairman of the Council

In the absence of the Chairman of the Parish Council, members asked the Parish Council Clerk to read the Chairman of the Council's Annual Report to those in attendance at the Annual Assembly.

In his report, the Chairman thanked all the members of Elm Parish Council and the County Councillor and the District Councillors for the parish for helping to make his year as Chairman go so smoothly. He also expressed his thanks to the Parish Council's Clerk, Terry Jordan, for keeping the Parish Council's "wheels turning" and for ensuring that all of the necessary processes and procedures are being followed by the Parish Council.

The Chairman's Annual Report outlined the activities, projects and achievements of Elm Parish Council during the municipal year 2011/12, including:

- Grounds maintenance across the parish - the Parish Council is enjoying a very good working relationship with its grounds maintenance contractor, R J Warren Ltd, which has recently begun its second year of providing this service. The public seem to be very satisfied with the service provided.
- Cemetery Cottage - following the renovation works carried out towards the end of 2010/11, new tenants were found for the cottage. They have now been in residence for just over 12 months and have indicated that they are happy to remain for the foreseeable future.
- Cemetery Chapel - now that the Parish Council has disposed of the grounds maintenance equipment that was stored in this building, it is now possible to pursue an alternative use; not only to utilise this asset but to potentially generate an income for the Parish Council to be used for the benefit of the community.
- Elm Cemetery - following completion of the works in late 2010/11 to provide future burial plots at the cemetery, the following works have been undertaken:
 - Laying a new roadway
 - Provision of an additional water supply
 - Erection of boundary fencing
 - Planting of boundary hedging.

- Equipped play area for Elm - the Parish Council has embarked upon a joint project with Fenland District Council to provide an equipped play area on land at Grove Gardens.
- Elm playing field - members have agreed to support proposals for the establishment of an Elm Football Club, using the playing field at Begdale Road, Elm as its home ground.
- Financial support to the community - the Parish Council continues to provide financial support, using its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, to local groups and organisations etc where this leads to benefits for parishioners of Elm. This has included groups at both ends of the age spectrum; these being the Elm and Fridaybridge Youth Club and the Elm Friendship Club.

In addition, financial support has been provided towards the cost of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebratory event in Coldham on 4 June 2012 and to meet the costs of highway works, which would not otherwise have happened, at Bramley Court, Coldham.

Members noted the Chairman's Annual Report, as presented by the Clerk, and endorsed the Chairman's comments.

EA02/11 Grove Gardens, Elm

Councillor Cotterell expressed his concerns regarding the algae on the surface of the water on one of the ponds at the entrance to Grove Gardens, Elm.

Members decided that the Clerk would refer the matter to the Environmental Health service at Fenland District Council, with the request that the situation be investigated from a public health perspective and the land owner be requested to remove the algae.

Meeting finished at 7.05 pm

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

Date:.....