

Minutes of the Foxearth & Liston Annual Electors meeting held in Foxearth Village Hall on **SATURDAY 21st. MAY 2016 at 11.30pm**

Present: Cllr T. Clayton, Cllr C. Cox, Cllr M. Posen, Cllr K. Robson and Kevin Money (Clerk)

Members of the public: 7

1. **Apologies** were received from Cllr P. Cox
2. **Approval and signature of the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 11th. July 2015**

These were proposed by Ken Nice and seconded by Keith Robson as being a true and accurate record of the meeting. **This was agreed unanimously**

3. **Report of the Chairman of the Council**

The Chairman, Cllr C. Cox, said that her report would take the form of remarks regarding an update and matters arising from the Annual Meeting held last year.

Flooding:

The proposed new scheme to by-pass the culvert system running along Mill Road & School Street, Foxearth, has now gone out to public tender. Plans will be presented to the Parish Council shortly and Mr D. Chapman from ECC has offered to give a presentation to residents, if required, at some point later in the year. The new system, as previously advised, will run along the centre of the roadway from the public footpath by Mill Forge, along Mill Road & School Street to the manhole cover at High Gables, then cross the road to run beneath the ditch system opposite Glebeside to terminate at the water treatment works.

The current 'patching' programme of potholes & gully improvement within the villages is a separate Highways project. It is envisaged that the culvert scheme will be completed before the proposed Highways surface dressing in late September. There is still a need to inform Mr M. Valentine (ECC Highways) of any suggested traffic improvement requests before the end of March. The only suggestion to date has been provision of VAS signage.

Plans are currently being finalised by ECC regarding the proposed by-pass of the current culvert drainage system in Foxearth. It is hoped that these will be available to view shortly, with work probably commencing in early April. The new system will not affect any private property. The existing culvert & associated connections will remain.

Negotiations are still on-going with ECC Highways regarding the possibility of by-passing the current drainage system along The Street (currently via a private Victorian brick culvert which is no longer fit for purpose). Engineers have undertaken various camera surveys of the system during the past year which has revealed further collapsed areas of brickwork which are causing blockages in various parts of the culvert. Some of these have been cleared but the entire system is very fragile. A replacement system to convey water from the highway gullies was being considered

but was dependent upon funding and other legal issues. There is on-going monitoring of the situation and the Parish Council's Flooding Working Party will continue to lobby for a solution to the problem.

Speedwatch:

Traffic through the village of Foxearth continues to be monitored on a regular basis by a group of willing volunteers. On average, there are 200 vehicle movements per hour during the day. There is concern that this would be exacerbated if the proposed housing development at Stafford Park goes ahead. More volunteers would be welcomed with open arms!

Our current co-ordinator, Mr Peter Routley, is no longer able to continue in his role. Thanks, are expressed to him and all the other volunteers for their sterling work to help monitor speeding traffic through the village, for the benefit & safety of residents. In order for the Speedwatch activity to continue a new co-ordinator is required. Anyone interested in this or who wishes to volunteer to join the rota of volunteers, is encouraged to contact either Mr Routley directly or the Parish Council. It is hoped that activity can resume again in April.

Planning issues:

BDC's Local Plan is currently in the process of revision. Possible 'wish lists' for local facilities or improvement were being sought, to incorporate within future development permission requirements. The only suggested site to be considered for possible future development opportunities in Foxearth, so far received, is an area of land adjacent to Glebeside.

Stafford Park: There has been no further information other than the submission of further reports and recommendations to the planning dept. from the Environment Agency. These could be viewed via BDC's planning portal.

Watchbox:

A reminder that any local incidents were posted on the noticeboard along with advice on security & other relevant matters. There had been relatively few incidents in our immediate area during the last year but all were advised to be vigilant, especially regarding false pedlar licences. Of immediate note was a local spate of dog thefts in surrounding villages.

Grass Cutting:

Thanks, were again expressed to Nick Barker for continuing to ensure the grass verges were cut near Liston Church. Concerns had been raised earlier regarding damage to verges in Liston, caused by large goods vehicles and careless parking on the green by the church.

Street Lighting:

Thanks, are expressed to Cllr P. Cox who has now removed most of the tree branches which have been preventing maintenance & repair of the street lamp outside 8 Claypits. It appears that neither Highways nor Greenfields Housing Association claim any responsibility for this problem tree. Hopefully the required annual maintenance of the lamp can now be undertaken by the contractors.

Website:

Thanks, are expressed to the Clerk and to Cllrs Posen & Robson for progressing the new Parish Council website

Public Accessible defibrillator:

Following enquiries, the cost of providing a PAD, with protective cover will be in the region of £1000. It would require permanent connection to an electricity supply to maintain its battery life. No specific training is required to use the equipment but should there be a local demand for First Aid training to be provided in the village, the cost is approx. £600 per 8 persons. It might be a good project to engage with in consultation with the Village Hall Committee. There is a grant scheme, operated by British Heart Foundation, for funding towards the cost of provision of PAD, which re-opens for applications in April. Further enquiries will be made regarding this scheme.

4. Public Forum

Mary Waite requested that at next year’s Annual Electors meeting it should stand-alone meeting as many residents had left because of the length of the previous meeting. This was agreed by Councillors and the clerk was instructed to arrange this additional meeting.

Cllr C Cox suggested that the Annual Electors Meeting is before the Parish Council AGM in May 2017.

Mary Waite stated that the website is not people friendly and needs improving.

A discussion took place about drainage in Foxearth and Cllr C. Cox said that she will keep the residents informed of any future meetings and decisions taken by ECC.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting 1.05pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed.....13th. May 2017
Tony Clayton