

# Earith Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010

### Present

Mr Peter Brace - Chairman  
Mr Alan Spackman - Vice Chairman  
Ms Hazel Scofield  
Mr Ron Hodge  
Mr Keith Hudson  
Mrs Julie Seamark  
Mrs Jenny Lloyd

Mrs Alison Brace - Parish Clerk

And 2 members of the Public

**Item 1**      **Apologies for Absence** – CC Mr Steve Criswell

**Item 2**      **Police Report** – Police were not present but, a report that the River View Pub was broken into and Umbrellas and Benches were taken. The Chair said about a “Neighbourhood Watch” meeting at Needingworth Village Hall on Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at 7.30pm.

**Item 3**      **County Council & District Council** – The Chair read e-mails regarding

- Mick George – Mepal routing – from Block Fen not using the A1123, there is to be a Legal agreement to try to resolve the issues.
- Hansons are re-opening Block Fen and one representative from each Parish will be asked to attend a formal meeting.
- Environment Agency, Highways & County Council are involved in the Barrier across the road at the East End of the village when it is opened and closed due to the flooding of the Causeway.
- Parking at Darford is still an issue to be resolved.

**Item 4**      **Open Forum** – Prospective Councillors Statements – Mr Bob Armitt, Mr Nathan Vingoe

Both candidates gave a brief outline of, who they are and why they want to become Councillors.

**(Close open meeting)** – The Chairman asked the candidates to retire to another room; Mrs Jenny Lloyd said it would be very difficult to choose as both were very good.

The Clerk handed out voting slips with the names on for the Councillors to vote one for the co-option.

The Chairman did the count which was 3 votes each so he had to use his vote; therefore, Mr Bob Armitt was declared the new Councillor.

**(Open Meeting)** – The Chairman welcomed the candidates back into the meeting and announced the successful candidate Mr Bob Armitt to take his place at the table, and sign his declarations.

The Chair gave his commiserations to Mr Nathan Vingoe the second candidate and reiterated how close the voting was.

There were no other issues from the public, therefore,

**The Open part of the meeting was closed**

## The Closed part of the meeting was opened

- Item 5**      **Councillors declarations of interest in the following items** – none
- Item 6**      **To sign the Minutes of the meeting** – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr Keith Hudson that the minutes be signed as a true record all agreed.
- Item 7**      **Matters arising** –
- Item 7 - the wording is incorrect; the Council will not have to re-paint as it should be in this year's BT budget.
  - Item 9 – new locks have been fitted and keys signed out to regular organizations.
  - Item 14 – There are worries about the “strategic housing” implications, but the Parish Council would have the ultimate sanction.
- Item 8**      **Chairman's report** – No more information on Darford parking, awaiting meeting with Luminus and District Council. The Picnic tables at the Bridge Car Park have been installed and some of the trees have been cut back. The Barrier needs lifting back (as this was left down by the contractors) to stop unauthorised parking overnight.
- Item 9**      **Youth Club** – A new Youth Leader has now in Charge and some changes have been introduced including membership forms, entrance charge of 50p, and taking charge of behaviour problems and safety issues. The Chairman will keep a close eye on the progress, and liaising with the Youth Officer at Ramsey. Mr Alan Spackman has called in on a couple of times and the New Leader seems to be doing a good job.
- Item 10**     **Pavilion update** – Plans & Grants have been applied for regarding the internal refurbishment and repair and not an extension. At the next meeting, bills for grass cutting will be discussed. It was also mentioned about paying rent for the field play areas.
- Item 11**     **Overgrown Hedges** – The hedge between Earith & Bluntisham needs attending to again. Mr Ron Hodge to look around the village at hedges that need cutting back and will send out letters, in particular conifers at number 24 Cooks Drove & The Gables Cooks Drove trees and bushes overhanging for Bus routes, trouble for cars when busses etc pass. District Council have cleared Darford car park,
- Item 12**     **Parking on Village Green** – It was agreed to leave an edge around the green so grass cutting is not impaired. Also there needs to be a gap outside Bridge House so the footpath is not blocked off.
- Parking on the Grass outside the property's in Edwards Walk there is still no response to the meeting between DC , Luminus & the Chairman in which ideas were suggested about how to overcome the situation.  
It was also reported that many of the Verges around the village have been dug up for drainage channels, with the earth just heaped up alongside the curbs and will now be very difficult to cut the grass.
- Item 13**     **Planning** – none
- Item 14**     **Finance**
- (a) The Clerk advised the meeting that invoices for hire of the Village Hall for Karate have not been paid. The Clerk has written and personally given the hirer notices of his overdue account but still no payment has been forthcoming.  
The Councillors suggested further action, and Mr Bob Armitt proposed and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr Alan Spackman that the Clerk asks a Solicitor with the view to write to him. All agreed except Mr Ron Hodge who abstained with an interest.

**(b) - Payments**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>Chq</u>	<u>Powers</u>
Mrs AS Brace	Clerks Wages 30hrs @ 9.50	285.00		LGHA1989,s.7
xx	Booking Clerk 5hrs @ 6.93	34.65		LGHA1989,s.7
	Total less tax	303.67	2135	LGHA1989,s.7
Mrs A Smith	Caretaker 17hrs @ 6.93	117.81	2136	LGHA1972,s.133
Inland Revenue	PAYE March 10	15.98	2137	LGHA1972,s.112,119
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman – self employed	100.00	2138	LGHA1972,s.133
Mr MS Pink	Replacing loft hatch behind stage	19.50	2139	
CPALC	Cost of extra Cilca module			
	Clerks training	70.00	2140	
EVA	March magazine – PC contribution	220.00	2141	
Mrs AS Brace	Telephone, stationery, stamps,	41.49	2142	LGHA1989,s.7
Cambridge Water	Annual Water & Sewage charges	291.87	2143	LGHA1972,s.101
e-on (powergen)	Village Hall Electricity – March 10	75.00	DD	LGHA1972,s.101
Total spend for March 10		£ 1,255.32		

Mr Keith Hudson proposed and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr Ron Hodge that the payments be paid in full all agreed.

- Item 15**      **New Cleaner/Caretaker** the Clerk informed that there had been 2 responses to the advert, and after the relevant paperwork was completed she suggested a couple who would work as one with the lady doing the day work and her partner doing the evening/night work. They only live a few doors away so it would be very convenient to the Village Hall. Mrs Julie Seamark proposed and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr Ron Hodge that the couple be taken on and Mr Alan Spackman proposed and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr Ron Hodge that they work to a time sheet and hourly rate.
- Item 16**      **Correspondence** – CPALC – A training programme leaflet  
CPALC - invoice for annual fees – which have increased for next year, the Clerk has been asked to find out why.
- Item 17**      **Items to report** - Mr Ron Hodge reported that a Jeep vehicle keeps parking on the pavement outside the house next to the Old Cafe in the High Street and his Wife has injured her elbow trying to get through the gap. Police have been called and the owner was told to park opposite in the public car park.
- Items for the next meeting** –
- Pot Holes
  - Crown Public house advertising on a conservation area.
  - Fence at bridge car park

Date of next meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010

These minutes are un-adopted

Mrs Alison Brace Parish - Clerk

Date 29.4.10