

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 6th October 2011

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)
Ms Hazel Scofield
Mr Ron Hodge
Mr Jeff Nicholls
Mrs Jenny Lloyd

Mr Alan Spackman (Vice-Chairman)
Ms Hazel Lambert
Mrs Ann Impey
Mr Keith Hudson
Mr James Woolstenholmes

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

4 members of the Public, Mr George May, Enforcement Officer County Council
Highways Department

Item 148 **Apologies for Absence** – DC Mr Philip Godfrey, CC Mr Steve Criswell, DC Terry Rogers,
Mrs Marilyn Russell

Open Meeting

Item 149 **Ecops Report** – No police present or Ecops report.

Item 150 **County Council and District Council Reports** – No Councillors present.

Item 151 **Open Forum** – One member of the public raised some issues regarding the Traffic, HGV issues and Road Safety within Earith. It was suggested that he contact Mr Owen McLaughlin from the Road Safety Group. The Council are very aware of these issues and are trying to do all that they can to highlight the concerns to the District and County Councils. The Parish Council are actively looking at all measures that can be taken. Each month discussions are held and new items are raised where appropriate.

One member of the public raised an issue concerning trees between 1-17 Greenfields and the Clerk is to contact Mr Ogden from the District Council.

Two members of the public raised issues concerning parking at the School and following a letter from the school and contact with PC Hansford they were urged to contact the Parish Council. The Chairman is to email County Councillor Mr Steve Criswell to find out what can be done.

Mr May was invited to the meeting by Vice Chairman Mr Alan Spackman to give an update on the travellers at Earith Bridge. Mr May urged the Council to consider measures for deterring any further traveller occupation at Earith Bridge and confirmed that Court proceedings are underway for eviction of the travellers currently occupying the Earith Bridge site.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 152 **Councillors declaration of interest** – The Chairman drew the Councillors attention to the legal requirement that all interest should be declared following the Code of Conduct LGA2000s 50. Parish Councils order 2001. Mrs Ann Impey declared an interest in item 163.

Item 153 **To sign minutes of meeting held on** – 1st September 2011
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

Item 154 **Matters arising from the minutes** – A clearer plan of the river was received regarding item 141 and it was decided that no objections were to be raised. The Clerk is to respond to the Environment Agency.

Item 155 **Planning** – Application Ref 1101466Ful – Plot 2, 42 Meadow Lane, Earith.
Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that the plans should be approved. All in favour.

Item 135 **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the reason why the tenant at New Farm had given notice was not directly related to the proposals for further traveller sites being proposed around Earith. Both the District and County Councillors had confirmed this.
The Chairman contacted the enforcement officer to enquire on the latest status of the 4 enforcement cases at present.
17 School Road – movement of fence. The owner has agreed to move the fence but so far has not done so. The Enforcement Officers is to pursue this further as no movement has been seen so far.

Amenity land at Plumb Farm – a mobile home as been put on this site - Planning application is being sort for the erection of 2 poly tunnels and to use the mobile home as overnight accommodation when the pigs are birthing. This planning application will not be upheld

Sun Fun – The owner's gates are to be moved but the owner who is in breach of enforcement conditions is set to go to court.

The Chairman confirmed that District Councillor Mr Terry Rogers has only resigned from his post of Finance within the Cabinet and he is still our local District Councillor.

The Chairman has been asked about proposed work in Edwards Walk/Darford Car Park as reported in April this year. The Chairman will ask District Councillor Mr Terry Rogers to find out more details. The Chairman wishes to thank Ms Hazel Lambert, Mr James Woolstenholmes and his son Spike Woolstenholmes for their excellent work in cutting back the hedge and clearing up at Chapel Road. Further letters are to be issued to homeowners on Parrens Road and Greenfields regarding their hedges encroaching on the pavements in these areas.

Item 157

Parish Council Representatives Report – Earith Town Estate - Mr Keith Hudson is to meet with builders regarding the Pavilion refurbishment on Saturday 8th October. It is hoped that the build will commence next week.

Neighbourhood Forum - Mrs Ann Impey attended the Neighbourhood Forum meeting at the Corn Exchange in St Ives on the 5th October and reported that the Head of Highways at County Council gave a talk on planning and how to determine the development and planning of highways.

There was also a review of the Stroke Services and details were given concerning a consultation process looking into the feasibility of Stroke Patients being treated at either Addenbrooks or Peterborough.

A police presentation was also given which highlighted that crime in our area had decreased although incidents of crime appeared to be rising within Earith.

There was also a presentation concerning "Hate Crime" and a new Department has been set up to deal with this problem. The District Councils Community Safety Team is dealing with this issue.

Further neighbourhood issues were also discussed mainly concerning speed watch figures which were reported in the September minutes.

Finance Meeting - Ms Hazel Scofield reported that there were no issues to raise following the Finance Meeting that was held on the 22nd September.

Pond Area - Mr Ron Hodge reported that the wet-pour work at the Duck Pond play area had been completed and that a very good job had been carried out.

Item 158

Bridge End update – Following on from Mr May's advice, different options were discussed to deter further traveller occupation at Earith Bridge. It was decided that when the current travellers have moved on signs will be erected as previously minuted and that the bar would be welded closed to prevent further entry. Width restrictors were also discussed. The Chairman is to contact the land owner who has access to this site to see if he objects to these measures.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Ms Hazel Scofield seconded that signs should be obtained and the bar welded if the landowner does not object. The cost for the signs is £68.50 plus vat for 2 vandal proof signs.

Item 159

Councillor and Clerk Training – The Clerk wishes to undertake the Certificate in Local Council Administration Training which will help that Council to become a Quality Council.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that this training can take place.

Item 160

Road Safety, Traffic Regulation Orders and Environmental Survey Report – The Road Safety meeting was not personally attended but it was minuted that efforts are to focus on a new roundabout to help alleviate the problems at George Corner. This could go ahead once the Minnaars Development has been approved. Concerns were raised about the poor condition of the Cats Eyes in St.Ives.

The speed camera on the Needingworth Road is to be re-instated very soon to stop speeding on this road.

The HGV survey was conducted by the Chairman, the Clerk, Mr Owen McLaughlin and Mr Brian Burpitt who measured the carriageway, pavement and area to the house and the pavement in 50m intervals along the High Street. A people and cycle count was also conducted by Mrs Wendy Oldfield and all of this information has been recorded and forwarded onto the District Council for consideration. The Chairman would like to thank those concerned on behalf of the Council for their help with this matter.

Item 161

Village Hall – Central Heating – A plaque has been sent to the Council from the AmeyCespa Community Fund and the Grant cheque will be forwarded shortly. A press release and photo opportunity will then be arranged to publicise the receiving of the Grant from the AmeyCespa Community Fund.

- Item 162** **Playground Inspection** –Tarmac quotations have been received to repair the car park area at the Recreation Field.
Quote 1 SKG Surfacing - £4,800 + VAT or £7,500 + VAT depending on the underground sub structure.
Quote 2 T Nunn Surfacing - £5,650 + VAT
Quote 3 D Watt Roadways Ltd - £5,550 + VAT
Quote 4 Allan Killick Surfacing - £6,741.90 + VAT
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded that Quotation 1 be accepted. All in favour
- Item 163** **ECA Field Lease Renewal** – The Chairman pointed out that the Lease will be up for renewal in January 2012 and this is an advance announcement to see if any Earith resident wants to take up the lease of the field in 2012. The Field does need to be maintained by the person taking on the Lease.
- Item 164** **Donations** – The Road Safety Group has requested a donation of £25.00 towards running costs. Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that this should be given. All in favour
The wreaths and a donation for the Poppy Appeal were discussed and further information is to be obtained from Mrs Helen Wilson.
- Item 165** **Proposal to Empower Town and Parish Councils** – An email request has been received from Steve Shaw who is the National Co-ordinator for Local Works which is promoting the Sustainable Communities Act following a proposal which was agreed by Leighton-cum-Sizewell Town Council and the Suffolk Association of Local Councils for new powers for parish and town councils to help when assessing major planning applications. It has been requested that Earith Parish Council join an online petition to support this proposal. So far 1,100 Parish and Town Councils have signed up to support this initiative.
Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that we respond positively to this request. All in favour.
- Item 166** **Queens Diamond Jubilee** - A discussion took place regarding how the village of Earith is to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee. Various options were tabled and discussed including purchasing memorabilia. It was agreed that all clubs and organisations in the Village are to be contacted for their views on this event. An item is to be included in the next edition of the Earith Echo regarding having an open item on the Agenda in December for Villagers to put forward their suggestions also.
- Item 167** **Review of Neighbourhood Forums in Huntingdonshire** – Correspondence was received regarding the Councils views on Neighbourhood Forums. The questions raised were discussed and the Council agreed that Neighbourhood Forums were needed to give people access to the Police who always attend these meetings. The Clerk is to respond giving the Councils views.
- Item 168** **Environment Agency – Land adjacent to the River – 2A High Street.** The Environment Agency contacted the Council to ask if they had any objections to the land being rented to the home owner. Mr Ron Hodge asked the Clerk to query the land registration with the Environment Agency as this land is believed to be owned by Earith Parish Council and not the Environment Agency.
- Item 169** **RECAP Waste Management Design Guide Consultation** – Various questions were raised by RECAP concerning the layout and information provided within the Guide. The Clerk is to respond to say that the Council think the Guide provides enough information to enable accurate understanding of the topics raised.
- Item 170** **Finance** - Payment- Cash Withdrawal form signed by 3 councillors to allow £70.00 to be obtained for the repair of the slide

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>Chq No.</u>	<u>Powers</u>
Mrs KM Pink	Clerk Wages 30hrs @ 9.253	277.50		LGHA1989,s.7
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ 6.93	17.33		LGHA1989,s.7
	<u>Total less tax</u>	235.86	2320	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker 7.25 hrs @ 6.93	50.24		LGA1972,s.133
	Booking Clerk 2,5 hrs @ 6.93	17.33	62.37	2321
Inland Revenue	PAYE September 2011	64.17	2322	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman Self Employed – Monthly Contract	100.00	2323	LGA1953,s.4

Rule & Parker	Balance payment for Central Heating	3679.87	2324	
Mr R Hodge	Pond Expenses maintenance	16.60	2325	LGHA1972,s.101
AmeyCespa East Ltd	10% payment for Central Heating	250	2326	
Bunzl UK Ltd	Cleaning products	27.50	2327	
Bunzl UK Ltd	Cleaning products	33.74	2328	
Fenland Fire	Service and maintenance of Fire Extinguishers in Village Hall	87.42	2329	
Moore Stephens Cambridgeshire Acre	Audit Costs	342.00	2330	
	Membership Renewal	25.00	2331	
Balfour Beatty	Street Lighting Maintenance	144.36	2332	
Elglaze Ltd	Repair to window in Village Hall	86.40	2333	
Cash Withdrawal	Repair to slide	70.00	cash	
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity	31.11	DD	LGA1972,s. 101
Total spend for September - 2011		5,226.40		

Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the Finances should be accepted. All in Favour.

Item 172 Correspondence – All items in file for inspection.

Item 173 Items to report – The website questions received were discussed during the Open Forum.
The bus shelter at Whybrows Lane has been vandalised and Ms Hazel Lambert has reported it.
The wall in Chapel Road has been sprayed with graffiti again but the Council have cleaned it due to the racist content of the graffiti.
Mr Ron Hodge has requested that grass cutting estimates should be obtained so that they can be discussed at the next meeting.
Mr James Woolstenholmes commented that the turnstile area at the Recreation Ground is not being properly cut and Mr Keith Hudson will bring this up at the next meeting of the Earith Town Estate.

Item 174 Items for Future Meetings – Update on Common Land, Queens Diamond Jubilee, Area of land at Earith Bridge – development.

Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 3rd November 2011

Mrs Mandy Pink - Clerk

These minutes are unadopted.

Date 15th October 2011