

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 5th January 2012

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)

Mrs Marilyn Russell

Mr Ron Hodge

Mrs Jenny Lloyd

Mr Alan Spackman (Vice-Chairman)

Ms Hazel Lambert

Mrs Ann Impey

Mr Keith Hudson

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

CC Mr Steve Criswell, 1 member of the public

Item 215 **Apologies for Absence** – Mr James Woolstenholmes, Ms Hazel Scofield, Mr Jeff Nicholls, DC Mr Philip Godfrey, DC Mr Terry Rogers.

Open Meeting

Item 216 **Open Forum** – Item 225 was described to the Council in depth so that a relevant decision could be made. A Village resident is planning to improve broadband reception within Earith and wants to erect a 3ft x 10ft banner on the Village Green for the month of February.

Item 217 **Ecops Report** – The Clerk read out the latest Ecops report that highlighted that the crime rate had reduced over the Christmas period although the allotments have been broken into and water carriers have been stolen, the horse stables have also been broken into three nights out of four, the Christmas tree on the Village Green has been vandalised and drain covers have been stolen within the area. The Parish Council wish to urge all residents to be vigilant and to report any suspicious behaviour and crimes within the village, however trivial they appear to be.

Item 218 **County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that the planning application for Bridge Farm has been delayed due to further reports being investigated. He also commented that still no decisions have been made regarding the B1050 improvements. Ms Lambert asked for an update on Hansons Quarry and Mr Criswell said that the quarry has been sold subject to contract. Mrs Russell asked CC Mr Steve Criswell if the state of the village pavements could be looked at as they are very unsatisfactory. CC Mr Criswell will ask Mr Tyrrell to contact Mrs Russell to go over her concerns and to see where improvements can be made. Both Mr Criswell and Mr Tyrrell will also investigate the drain covers and potholes in the roads following their site visit which is to be arranged.

The Chairman pointed out that no comments have yet been made regarding the HCV trial update as Debbie Maith has not yet sent through the relevant paperwork to the Clerk. The Chairman will be contacting her shortly.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 219 **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 230 and Mr Alan Spackman was interested in item 225.

Item 220 **To sign minutes of meeting held on** – 1st December 2011
Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Hazel Lambert seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

Item 221 **Matters arising from the minutes** – The Chairman reported that the light at the pedestrian crossing has now been fixed and the Enforcement officer is to investigate the Summerhouse at Bridge End. The Chairman and the Council would like to thank Mrs Ann Impey for sorting out the Christmas Tree. Now that the lights have been vandalised it was discussed if a tree should be obtained for next year. This will be an agenda item in future meetings. It was discussed that Mrs Jenny Lloyd could be responsible for getting some new decorations for the indoor tree in the Village Hall and a cost of £20.00 was agreed. Mrs Ann Impey proposed and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that this could be done. All in favour.

Item 222 **Planning** – Application Ref: E/03006/11/CM, F/02008/11/CM, E/03004/11/CM – Land at Bridge Farm – Further environmental changes. As no significant changes to routes, movements or size of lorries were specified then the plans were rejected as per the previous application. The changes did not alleviate any concerns that the Council had regarding this proposal.

Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the plans should be rejected. All in favour.

- Item 223** **Chairman's Report – Including Common Land Registry Update.** The Chairman had received information from Cambridge County Council concerning the street lighting replacement programme which will begin in the 2nd half of 2013. It was noted that not all street lights would be replaced and it could result in a loss of 10%. The Council could decide if they want to take over the upkeep and maintenance of any lights that are to be lost following the replacement programme. This will be discussed nearer the time.
The Chairman also contacted the enforcement officer to enquire on the latest status of the 4 enforcement cases at present. All cases are progressing but no updates as yet have been received. We have received 7 requests for copies of the Parish Plan and these will now be printed ready for distribution. The Parish Plan will now become a permanent agenda item for discussion. More information is to be obtained concerning the Community Infrastructure Levy.
The Chairman and Clerk are looking into the Highway Minor Improvements funding and are to put forward an application to update the two pedestrian crossings in the Village.
The Chairman is to contact Debbie Maith concerning the HCV Trial Update as above item 218.
Mr Alan Spackman reported that further information is being gathered concerning the Common Land Registry and this will be discussed at future meetings.
- Item 224** **Parish Council Representatives Report –** Mr Ron Hodge reported that the trees had now been planted at High Bridge and that Tarmac refurbishment work had commenced at Bridge End. Mrs Jenny Lloyd reported that EVA will be holding its AGM on 11th January at the Village Hall. Road Safety – Mr Jeff Nicholls attended the HCV Joint Committee meeting on 15th December. Mr Brian Burpitt (Speedwatch) chaired the meeting and gave a summary of the HCV Strategy meeting whereby further information is to be discussed as the report gave conflicting views on Earith and that the results of the survey are to be looked at again.
- Item 225** **Erection of Banner on Village Green for one month –** Following on from the presentation given in the Open Forum the Council voted to allow the erection of the Banner on the Village Green subject to written evidence being submitted to the Council to show that the correct planning permissions have been obtained if needed and that the correct public liability insurance which shows responsibility for all legal and health and safety aspects can be provided.
The Parish Council also want it to be noted that they do not endorse this business venture in any way and that they are not held responsible for any aspect of this endeavour.
Mrs Hazel Lambert proposed and Mrs Ann Impey seconded that this can be allowed. Mr Alan Spackman abstained to vote but all other Councillors were in favour.
- Item 226** **Youth Club –** The Bus Project are to investigate access to the site provided and are recruiting suitable staff. Further updates are to be obtained.
- Item 227** **Bridge End update re development –** Ms Hazel Lambert requested that this agenda item is renamed High Bridge Earith Update. She reported that the trees have now been planted and that she has been asked to submit further information to support the application for funding.
- Item 228** **Road Safety, Traffic Regulation Orders and Environmental Survey Report –** nothing to report.
- Item 229** **HCV Trial Update –** The results of the survey were handed out and further information is to be obtained.
- Item 230** **ECA Field Lease –** No new proposals for the lease of the ECA field were received.
Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded that the field should be leased to Mrs Ann Impey for a further year. All in Favour. Mrs Ann Impey was not present when this item was being discussed and was asked to leave the room prior to discussions taking place. She did not take part in the vote. The Clerk is to sort out the lease.
- Item 231** **Poppy Appeal Funding –** The Council decided that the remaining £62.00 donation was to be split 50/50 between the Poppy Appeal and the Earith, Bluntisham and Colne British Legion.
- Item 232** **Grass Cutting Tender – Update –** Not all tenders have been received as yet and the Council wish to have this item moved to the next agenda for February.

Item 233 Finance -

<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	2354	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker 6.5 hrs @ 6.93	45.05		LGA1972,s.133
	Booking Clerk 2,5 hrs @ 6.93	17.33	58.17	2355
Inland Revenue	PAYE December 2011	63.17	2356	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman Self Employed – Monthly Contract	100.00	2357	LGA1953,s.4
Kris Gibbs	Final Pavilion Refurbishment Payment	17,275.20	2353	
EVA	Earith Echo no 22	220.00	2358	
Mrs K M Pink	Clerk Expenses – Bleach, Stationery	22.99	2359	
DCS Window Cleaning	Village Hall windows	13.00	2360	
Mr Ron Hodge	Pond Maintenance	16.60	2361	
Earith Timber Products	Concrete Spurs at Car park at Earith Bridge	132.99	2362	
Mr Ralph Drewery	Key Charge Refund – Band Practice	50.00	2363	
Earith Timber Products	Christmas Tree	240.00	2364	
Viking Direct	Office Supplies	77.60	Debit Card	
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity	0.00	DD	LGA1972,s. 101
<u>Total spend for December 2011</u>		18,504.59		

Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that the finances should be accepted. All in Favour. A Finance Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 18th January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Item 234 Correspondence – All items in file for inspection.

Item 235 Items to report – Mr Alan Spackam reported that the refuse bin at the field had been vandalised but that it had now been put right. Mrs Jenny Lloyd reported that Ely are planning to start charging for parking and any comments could be made via the website www.eastcambs.gov.uk. Mr Keith Hudson reported that the fence on the left had side of the pathway to the shop is hanging over the pathway and that a letter should be sent to the homeowner asking them to have this sorted out. The Clerk is to write to them. A Queens Diamond Jubilee meeting is to be held on Wednesday 25th January 2012 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The Clerk is to contact several local residents who have expressed an interest in helping to organise this event.

Item 236 Items for Future Meetings – Parish Plan updates. Mrs Russell would like to discuss the possible production of a Parish Council Newsletter and this is to be discussed at the next meeting. The Parish Council are to think about possible jobs for the Scouts. A donation to the homeowner at Bridge End who supplies the electricity for the Christmas Tree Lights was discussed and a donation of £25.00 is to be made. Mrs Ann Impey proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that this be done. All in favour. The Council would also like to express its thanks to the home owner and also to Earith Timber Products for their continued help with the Christmas Event.

Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 2nd February 2012

Mrs Mandy Pink - Clerk

These minutes are unadopted.

Date 7th January 2012