

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council AGM Meeting
Held on Thursday 3rd May 2012

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)
Mr Alan Spackman
Mr Ron Hodge
Mr James Woolstenholmes

Miss Ann Brennan (formerly Mrs Impey) (Vice-Chairman)
Ms Hazel Lambert
Mr Keith Hudson
Mr Jeff Nicholls

CC Steve Criswell
Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

7 members of the public

Item 22 Apologies for Absence – Mrs Hazel Scofield, Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mrs Jenny Lloyd, and DC Mr Terry Rogers

The present Vice Chairman opens the meeting and welcomes the Councillors, members of the public and then invites nominations for the new Chairman.

Item 23 Election of Chairman – Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that Mrs Julie Seamark should be Chairman. All in favour.

The new Chairman takes the Chair

Item 24 Election of Vice Chairman – Mr Alan Spackman said that he wanted to stand down from his current post of Vice Chairman and a new Vice Chairman was requested. Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that Miss Ann Brennan should be Vice-Chairman. All in favour.

Item 25 Appointment of Council Representatives – Moved to the next agenda.

Councillors to sign their Acceptance of Office forms and Financial Interests 2012

Open Meeting

Item 27 Open Forum – The persistent problem of parking on Chapel Road was raised and the Parish Council are to look into this. The Chairman will contact Jo Challis from the County Council. The volume of traffic and HCV movements was discussed and the speed that the HCV's go through the village was raised as a concern. An alternative route was tabled to the Clerk who will contact the HCV companies to request that speeds are reduced and alternative routes are used. Mr Steve Criswell is to follow this item up with the County Council. It is hoped that the Ely Southern bypass will help to eliminate these problems.

A presentation was made to the Council from two younger residents who requested that the Council look into the provision of Skate/BMX ramps at the Recreation Field. The Clerk is to contact the Earith Town Estate to see if they will allow these ramps and costs are to be gathered to see if this can be achieved. The Chairman will also look into this matter.

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident concerning the planning application for 69 High Street and the letter was read out to the Council.

Item 28 Ecops Report – The Clerk read out the latest Ecops report that highlighted many arrests across the region concerning drug offences. The new non-emergency number was also highlighted again. Call 101 for non-emergency policing matters. Details are available on the Parish Council website.

Item 29 County Council and District Council Reports – CC Mr Steve Criswell announced that he had stood down from the cabinet but that he was still our County Councillor. He reported that the local minor highways improvements committee had yet to make a decision following the Clerks presentation to the grant committee. There are still no long term plans for repairs to the B1050 Willingham Road. DC Mr Terry Rogers emailed the Clerk to say that there was still no new information regarding the Minnaars development or Edwards Walk. He also said that there are still some budget issues within the District Council and savings are still being made.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 30 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. No declarations were made.

- Item 31** **To sign minutes of meeting held on – 5th April 2012**
A small amendment was needed to wording on agenda item 20. The words “metal bars” are to be replaced with the words “thatch hooks”. The Minutes are to be signed once these amendments are made.
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.
- Item 32** **Matters arising from the minutes –** Mr Keith Hudson reported that the broken rail at the War Memorial had now been repaired.
Ms Hazel Lambert reported that Item 11 – Keep Britain tidy had been commenced as Earith had now been registered as a “Love where you live” Village and further details can be found on the Keep Britain Tidy website.
Ms Hazel Lambert also reported that Item 12 – The Parish Council Newsletter had now been printed and delivered. The Clerk reported that she had received some very positive reports following the Newsletter distribution.
- Item 33** **Planning –** Application Ref: 1102095FUL- Remove existing Barn and erect 4 bed detached unit and triple garage at 69 High Street. A report upon the Bat activity had been received as additional information regarding this planning application. It was proposed by Ms Hazel Lambert and seconded by Mr Jeff Nicholls that this application should still be rejected using the original comments and also highlighting the parking problems along Chapel Road.
Application Ref: 1200372CAC – Part demolition of outbuilding on 64 High Street. Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that this application be accepted. All in favour.
Application Ref: 1200373FUL – Change of commercial use to residential and to include formation of a garage and 1 bed annexe at 64 High Street. Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that this application be accepted. All in favour. It was decided that these changes would significantly improve the area of the Village where they are situated.
- Item 34** **Chairman’s Report –** The Chairman does not have anything new to report regarding the current enforcement cases that are active.
The Clerk attended HDC and gave a presentation to support the minor highways improvements bid that is currently active concerning upgrading the pedestrian crossings on the High Street. No decision has been received as yet.
The Multi Sports facility at the Recreation Ground is now in its 4th week and is being well attended. This facility is for 11-16 year olds to engage in sporting activity and is being held on each Wednesday from 4.30 – 5.30pm.
The Chairman would like to thank Ms Hazel Lambert for her wonderful efforts with the Parish Council Newsletter and those who helped to deliver it.
The horses on the riverbank should all be removed shortly as a 48 hour notice has now been served upon the owner of the horses. This warrant requires the owner to remove the horses over a 48 hour period if the owner does not comply then the Environment Agency will remove the horses and this needs to be done soon as the river is now in a very dangerously high state.
- Item 35** **Parish Council Representatives Report – HCV Meeting –** Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that the Environmental study has now been completed and the results are being collated and should be ready in time for the next meeting. When these results have been obtained it has been proposed that a public meeting will be held to discuss them. This is still to be finalised.
Pavements and Drains – Mr Ron Hodge and Mr Jeff Nicholls together with Mrs Marilyn Russell attended a meeting with Mr Jason Tyrell from the County Council and reported that further work is still to be carried out to the drains and curbs within the village. Some pavement surfacing should also be carried out.
Earith Town Estate – Mr Keith Hudson reported that an open day is to be held to mark the official opening of the newly refurbished Pavilion. The request for Skate ramps that was discussed in the Open Forum will be tabled at the next meeting.
Neighbourhood Forum – Miss Ann Brennan and Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the policing restructure was discussed and that they were also invited to attend a Neighbourhood Watch meeting. They attended this meeting and now get regular email updates and information on any aspect that concerns Neighbourhood Watch.
Pond Grant – Ms Hazel Lambert confirmed that the grant for the refurbishment of the pond had been confirmed and a site visit has been arranged for the 8th May 2012 so that work proposals can be discussed.
Village Hall Lights – Mr Ron Hodge has confirmed that the light in the lobby now works but that the external light is still to be completed.
- Item 36** **Council Insurance Renewal –** The Clerk had received the renewal for the Insurance from Aviva and the renewal premium quoted was £1899.38. The Clerk contacted Zurich Insurance and asked for a like for like Quotation and this proved to be significantly cheaper at £1364.71. Miss Ann Brennan

proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that a change to Zurich Insurance should be made. All in favour.

Item 37

Finance – a) To sign off End of Year Accounts and to appoint Internal Auditor. Miss Ann Brennan proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the End of Year Accounts be accepted and that the Internal Auditor used last year – Mr Gerry Whitfield – be appointed this year. All in favour.

b) Change to Building Society Account – The Clerk has been instructed by the Building Society that a new savings account has been developed for Parish Councils which gives an APR of 3.25% on savings if left for 2 years. Mr James Woolstenholmes proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that a change of account is made. The Clerk is to contact Mr Ron Hodge to arrange the transfer. The Clerk is also to investigate the tax implications of the Council to see if the Council has been set up as a tax payer. All in favour of this change.

c) Payments – An invoice from Aspen Environmental has been included in its entirety from the EVA for the Council to pay for the HCV and environmental survey so that the VAT element of the invoice can be donated to EVA from the Council. Acceptance of this invoice was given from the Finance Committee following its receipt by the Clerk. EVA is to repay the Council the cost of the survey. The Clerk is to obtain an amended invoice from Aspen Environmental.

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 30 hrs. @ £9.94	298.20			LGHA1989,s.7
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.21	18.03			LGHA1989,s.7
	Overpaid PAYE 2011 - 2012	0.08			
	Total Less Tax		316.31	2392	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hrs. 6.5hrs @ £7.21	46.87			LGHA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.21	18.03			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Underpayment of PAYE for 2011 - 2012	-14.40			
	Total Less Tax		49.49	2393	
Inland Revenue	PAYE April 2012		1.00	2394	LGHA1972,s.112-119
Inland Revenue	Underpayment of PAYE 2011 - 2012		14.32	Debit Card	
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self employed monthly contract		100.00	2395	LGHA1953,s.4
Aspen Environmental Ltd	HCV Trial and Environmental Survey		651.00	2396	
Mr Ron Hodge	Pond Maintenance		16.60	2397	
Norton Internet	Computer Security Renewal Software		33.98	Debit Card	
British Gas	Village Hall Gas		319.13	Debit Card	
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		0.00	DD	LGHA1972,s.101
C.A.P.A.L.C	Cilca training course		350.00	2398	
C.A.P.A.L.C	Annual membership renewal		516.13	2399	
	Total Spend for April 2012		2,367.96		

Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the finances should be accepted. All in Favour.

Item 38

Correspondence – All items in file for inspection. The Clerk read out several important pieces of correspondence. The Pavilion on the Recreation Ground is to be officially opened by Mr Terry Rogers at 2pm on Friday 25th May. A street lighting briefing is being held on Monday 11th June at 7-8.30pm Huntingdon Town Hall, Assembly Room, Market Hill. Miss Ann Brennan is to attend on behalf of the Council.

The Clerk had received an email from Andy Moffatt concerning the Minnaars development to say that John Dadge is looking to get the official sign off for the road as discussed with the Parish Council, a work up model and proposal for the CIL and s.106 package is to be produced initially based on the current proposal, a new masterplan is to be drawn up and the Parish Council will then be addressed on all the above.

The Clerk is to give all Councillors the hard copy of the HDC proposals for Establishment of Local Joint Committees in Huntingdonshire Town and Parish Councils so that this can be discussed in the June meeting ready to report to HDC by 8th June.

The Clerk has arranged for Mr David McCandless, Speedwatch Co-ordinator to do a 15 minute presentation with a 5 minute question time in the Open Forum of the meeting in June. New volunteers are needed and it is hoped that village residents who are interested in Speedwatch will attend to hear this presentation.

Item 39 **Items to report** – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the grass is not being cut correctly according to the Parish Boundary with Bluntisham and the Clerk is to contact the Bluntisham PC to discuss this item.

Mr James Woolstenholmes has highlighted the problem of a large amount of rubbish outside 27 Chapel Road. HDC are to write to the homeowner.

Item 40 **Items for Future Meetings** – Village Hall improvements, Joint Committees discussion, Speedwatch demonstration, grass cutting along the Causeway between Earith and Bluntisham.

Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 7th June 2012

Mrs Mandy Pink - Clerk

These minutes are unadopted.

Date 7th May 2012

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