

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 7th June 2012

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)
Mrs Marilyn Russell
Mrs Hazel Scofield
Mr Alan Spackman
Mr Jeff Nicholls

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)
Ms Hazel Lambert
Mr Ron Hodge
Mr Keith Hudson

DC Mr Terry Rogers, CC Mr Steve Criswell, 6 members of the public

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 41 Apologies for Absence – Mr James Woolstenholmes, Mrs Jenny Lloyd

Open Meeting

Item 42 Open Forum – Speedwatch Presentation from Mr David Mccandless. A presentation was made which highlighted the effective work that Speedwatch does as a purely voluntary organisation. The benefits of Speedwatch were discussed and new volunteers were called upon to continue the good work that has been carried out over the period of time that Speedwatch has been running. New volunteer forms and any enquires can be made via the Clerk.

Item 43 Ecops Report – no report given

Item 44 County Council and District Council Reports – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that Earith Parish Council had been successful in their bid for minor highways improvements to the two pedestrian crossings in the High Street. He also reported that there are still no long term plans for repairs to the B1050 Willingham Road.

DC Mr Terry Rogers reported that the Scrutiny Panel are to discuss ways in which they can make assets count which involves sharing of facilities and other initiatives that the government are considering. There are still no further reports regarding Dartford/Edwards Walk or the Minnaars development.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 45 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 46 To sign minutes of AGM meeting held on – 3rd May 2012
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

To sign minutes of Extra Ordinary meeting held on – 24th May 2012
Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

Item 47 Planning – No planning applications received.

Item 48 Chairman's Report – The Chairman contacted the enforcement officer to enquire on the latest status of all enforcement cases at present. All cases are progressing. The Chairman is to report to the enforcement officer if the Summerhouse has been stained or not. It has not been stained. The Chairman reported that she had contacted Jo Challis regarding parking in Chapel Road. It has been suggested that the Police may be contacted to ask them to attend and carry out an investigation to see if the parked cars are causing an obstruction or danger. Double yellow lines could also be an option but this would mean that residents would have to park elsewhere. Parking restrictions are costly and traffic regulation orders (TRO's) would need to be made. There is no County Council budget for TRO's and funding will need to be sought from other areas. The AGM was well attended and the Parish Council have been awarded the Chairmans Community Award for services to the community. The Chairman would like letters congratulating the Jubilee Committee for organising the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations and Ms Hazel Lambert for the Rectors Hall exhibition to be sent out by the Clerk

The Chairman sent a letter to the Queen informing her of Eariths' plans for the celebratory event and the Queen replied back to say that she was happy to hear of our plans.

- Item 49 Parish Council Representatives Report – Road Safety** – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that Speedwatch are concerned about the plans for the local joint committees and budget cuts. The HCV survey results are still being collated at present.
Tree Wardens – Ms Hazel Lambert and Mr Ron Hodge attended a meeting regarding the District Council donating trees to commemorate the Jubilee. Trees are being allocated but they will need to be purchased by the Parish Council as the District Council are only supplying engraved tree guards. The purchase of a tree will be discussed at the next meeting.
Pavements and Drains – Mrs Marilyn Russell reported that further work is still to be carried out.
Earith Duck Pond – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the work had been started earlier than expected and further seeding is still to be finished but the major refurbishment work had all been completed.
- Item 50 Skate Park/BMX Ramps** – The Parish Council do not have enough budget left to consider this item for 2012/2013 but the Clerk is to officially ask Earith Town Estate to discuss the siting of a proposed skate park on the Recreation Field. Once a site is established, other concerns can be looked into concerning noise and insurance issues. Other sites are to be considered.
- Item 51 Parish Plan** – Many items have already been discussed and are ongoing such as the Council Newsletter and possible provision of a skate park. The pavilion has also now been refurbished.
Other items are to be discussed at further meetings.
- Item 52 Review of Neighbourhood Forums** – Proposals for the establishment of local joint committees Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the new proposals be accepted. All in favour. The following comment was made. "The new grouping is better as it aligns Earith with other parishes that we already work with".
- Item 53 Parish Council Representative Responsibilities** – The existing list was discussed and changes were made to this. The changes will be displayed on the Parish Council website.
- Item 54 Consultation on the appointment of external auditors for 2012/2013 and future years**– The audit commission have recommended that the appointment of LittleJohn LLP is discussed. The commission wish to streamline the use of auditors to cover the whole country and this will enable the cost to reduce. The cost for Earith Parish Council will fall into the third band at £200. Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that Earith Parish Council should accept the appointment. All in favour
- Item 55 Finance** – The Clerk requested that an invoice for Truelink Ltd (grass contractors) be paid in June and be added to the July agenda. All councillors agreed that this could be done
- a) Final payment to AES Europe – Extra expenditure over budget. The Clerk pointed out that some extra expenditure had been occurred due to the Pond refurbishment and this had not been agreed previously. The extra expenditure has put this project over budget. It was agreed that any extra expenditure should be discussed by all Councillors and not just by the minimum of three needed to make a quorum
 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that this should happen in the future. All in favour. .
 It was also agreed to hold back cheque no 2412 until the final grass seeding had been completed and after the 30 day site visit that was highlighted in the original quotation.
- b) June payment sign off

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
	Total Less Tax		253.03	2400	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hrs. 11.5hrs @ £7.21	82.92			LGHA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.21	18.03			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		92.54	2402	
Inland Revenue	PAYE May 2012		71.60	2403	LGHA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self employed monthly contract		100.00	2404	LGHA1953,s.4
AES Europe	50% payment for pond		6031.72	2401	
Mr M S Pink	Pollarding at pond (emergency work)		285.00	2405	
Mr Ron Hodge	Pond Maintenance		16.60	2406	

DCS Window Cleaning	Village Hall Windows		13.00	2407	
Ms H Lambert	Photocopying of Parish Newsletter		33.00	2408	
EVA	Earith Echo issue 24		220.00	2409	
E.on	Street lighting to Parish		20.52	2410	
AES Europe	Final payment for pond		6031.72	2411	
AES Europe	Final payment for pond		2602.16	2412	
Viking Direct	Stationery		60.97	Debit	Card
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		0.00	DD	LGHA1972,s.101
Total Spend for May 2012			15,831.36		

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

- Item 56 Correspondence** – The Clerk read out the reply to her letter regarding pathways and cycleways. The reply was negative and said that no budget provision had been made for this. The Parish Council could submit a request for local minor highways funding when the next round of funding is to be discussed.
- Item 57 Items to report** – The Clerk reported that the Bluntisham Parish Council had suggested contacting The Rev Sheila Anthony concerning the grass cutting between Earith and Bluntisham. The Clerk is to send the parish boundaries map to the Clerk at Bluntisham for discussion. Parking at the far end of Chapel Road was discussed and this problem should be alleviated when the Edwards Walk/Darford development goes ahead.
- Item 21 Items for Future Meetings** – Village Hall improvements, Parish Plan, Tree funding, bus shelter refurbishment, footpath behind Minnaars, Parish boundaries between Bluntisham and Earith re grass cutting.

Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 5th July 2012

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 01487 843983 email mpinkearithpc@aol.com
These minutes are unadopted.

Date 16th June 2012

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