

**Earith Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

Present – Councillors

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

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

DC Mr Robin Carter, CC Mr Steve Criswell, 2 members of the public

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 59            Apologies for Absence – DC Terry Rogers**

**Open Meeting**

**Item 60            Open Forum –** A presentation was given by Mr Tim Warren concerning an update on fibre technology to the home prior to an application for planning that is ongoing at the moment.

**Item 61            Ecops Report –** no report given

**Item 62            County Council and District Council Reports –** CC Mr Steve congratulated DC Robin Carter on his appointment and discussed the early withdrawal of Stagecoach service 21. This was purely a decision by Stagecoach to withdraw the service early and it was not connected or prompted by the County Council. The Whippet service will remain and a school bus will be provided for the school children that used the withdrawn service. The “A” service for the guided busway is still in operation in the mornings and afternoons only. The street lighting PFI initiative is now underway and replacements to the street lighting in the village will be consulted on later in the year. DC Mr Robin Carter reported that he will look into weed spraying of the village to tidy up those areas that remain untidy due to the heavy rainfall that has been experienced this year.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

**Item 63            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 64            To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012**  
 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

**To sign minutes of Annual Parish meeting held on – 24th May 2012**  
 Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded. All in favour that the minutes be signed.

**Item 65            Matters arising -** Ms Hazel Lambert reported that following Item 55 where it was decided to hold back the cheque payment to AES Europe Ltd. They have now made their follow up visit and the cheque can now be released. All in favour that the cheque can now be sent.

**Item 66            Planning –** Application Ref: 1200851CAC – Demolition of existing two storey detached house and boathouse/garage at 26 High Street .  
 Mr James Woolstenholmes proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that this should be accepted. All in favour.  
**Planning –** Application Ref: 1200850FUL – Demolition of existing two storey detached house and boathouse/garage and erection of two semi detached dwellings at 26 High Street .  
 Mr James Woolstenholmes proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that this should be accepted. All in favour.

**Item 67            Chairman's Report –** The Chairman contacted the enforcement officer to enquire on the latest status of all enforcement cases at present. No update to report. The Chair reported that an application to Sportivate had been completed for a speculative grant towards the skate/bmx park.

A resident had reported that a bees nest was evident at the Village Hall and the Clerk had sought professional advice regarding its removal. She was advised that bees should be left alone unless they pose a threat.

The Clerk has sent a letter to the owner of the Minnaars site regarding the footpath at the back of the site.

A tree had been blown down at the allotment site and the boundary had been secured and repairs are to be carried out. Some damage had occurred to the gate to the childrens play area at the recreation field and the Clerk had notified Earith Town Estate who are to look into it. It was agreed that the gates should be removed for health and safety reasons. Correspondence had also been received regarding the George Corner problems when exiting at this point and a convex mirror was requested. The Clerk is to contact the Highways department to see if this could be implemented.

The Chair had attended a meeting with Sharon Piper regarding the improvements to the pedestrian crossings. Resurfacing options are to be looked into along with additional signage and repainting of the crossings. The brightness of the lights was also looked into along with the possibility of installing halos to aid reflection. The meeting was positive and Sharon Piper would contact the Clerk to advise her when decisions have been made.

- Item 68 Administration changes to agendas and minutes** – The Clerk reported that she had been told to amend the presentation of her agendas and minutes following her recent attendance at training sessions for her Cilca examination. The Council agreed that the reported changes could be made.
- Item 69 Parish Council Representatives Report – Road Safety** – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that the environment testing was now complete and the details are to be published shortly. A questionnaire is to be given to Earith residents concerning the High Street and travel movements through the village.  
**Street Lighting** – Miss Ann Brennan attended the Street Lighting PFI initiative meeting which stated that the Parish Council would be consulted regarding possible changes to the number of street lights within the Village. Improvements are to be made to the columns and lanterns and this would be discussed. There will be a 12 week consultation and replacement columns would be approximately £1,200 each so this should be considered for budgeting purposes when the precept is decided later in the year.
- Item 70 Tree funding for Diamond Jubilee and donation to the Queens Diamond Jubilee committee** – The District Council are providing trees guards to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee and the Parish Council are to provide a tree. Options are to be discussed at the next meeting.  
 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr James Woolstenholmes seconded that a tree was to be purchased and a tree guard requested from the District Council. All in favour. Ms Hazel Lambert is to report back to the District Council.  
 It was agreed that a £250 donation could be made to the Queens Diamond Jubilee Committee. Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded. All in favour.
- Item 71 River Island maintenance** – The Clerk has sent out tender invitations to three companies requesting them to tender for the one off tidy of the Island. This will also be looked at on an annual basis and this should also be included in the tender price.
- Item 72 Data Protection and Freedom of Information** – The Clerk has been informed that the Council should become members of the Data Protection Register and she is to contact the Information Commissioner to register. This will result in an annual cost of £35.00.  
 Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that the Clerk could arrange this registration. All in favour.
- Item 73 Risk Assessment and Playground Inspection** – The playground inspection is to be arranged once the gates have been removed. The slide is also in need of some refurbishment and this is to be carried out as soon as possible so that the risk assessments and inspection can take place.  
 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that repairs should be carried out. All in favour

**Item 74 Finance – a) Payments 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	2414	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hrs. 8 hrs @ £7.21	57.68			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.21	18.03			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		72.31	2415	
Inland Revenue	PAYE June 2012		66.60	2416	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self employed monthly contract		100.00	2417	LGA1953,s.4
Truelink Ltd	Grass cutting contract		336.00	2413	OSA 1906 s.10
Mr M S Pink	Tree and hedge maintenance at pond area		630.00	2418	PHA 1936, s260
Mr M S Pink	Fallen tree and replacement fence		240.00	2419	SHA 1908 s23
Zurich Municipal	Parish Council Insurance		1364.71	2420	LGA 1972 ss. 140,111
Truelink Ltd	Grass cutting contract		336.00	2421	OSA 1906 s.10
British Gas	Gas supply at Village Hall		388.47	2422	LGA 1972, s.133
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		0.00	DD	LGA1972,s.133
	<b>Total Spend for June 2012</b>		<b>£3,787.12</b>		

Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that the finances should be accepted. All in Favour.

**Item 75 Correspondence –** The Clerk reported that the District Council are to white line the car park behind the Village Hall and 19 spaces are to be made. The fence at 15 High Street is being repaired so that it does not overhang the passageway to the shop. Mrs Linda Sturrock has requested if she can take information from the Council website to be added to the Earith Echo publication and it was agreed that she could

**Item 76 Items to report –** The trees in Greenfields and Hereward need to be maintained and the Clerk is to write to the District Council to request them to look at this issue. She is also to contact them regarding adding the words In and Out at the Village Hall car park to encourage a one way system to be adopted.  
The Clerk is to issue a follow up letter to the owners of the Minnaar site regarding the footpath.  
The Clerk is to write to the landlord at the Industrial Estate to see if he can arrange for the tidy up of the Estate. Miss Ann Brennan is to provide her with the address.  
The hedge along the causeway is to be discussed at the next meeting.  
The Clerk is to contact the Environment agency to ask them to tidy the entrance area to the riverbank near the Industrial Estate and Harradines yard as they are very untidy and covered with nettles.  
Newsletter items are needed for the next letter and a September delivery is to be tabled at the next meeting.  
The Chairman is to contact the Police Chief Constable and ask for a representative to attend future Council meetings.  
Due to the heavy rains of late hedges are now overhanging the pavements and passageways and letters are to be sent.  
A finance meeting was also needed and the finance committee are to sort this out.

**Item 77 Items for Future Meetings –** Village Hall improvements, Parish Plan, Tree purchase in September, bus shelter refurbishment, Parish boundaries between Bluntisham and Earith re grass cutting, Newsletter, Hedge cutting along the Bluntisham Causeway

**Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2012**

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

**Date 24<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

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