

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 4th October 2012

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)
 Mr Alan Spackman
 Ms Hazel Lambert
 Mr Ron Hodge

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)
 Mrs Marilyn Russell
 Mrs Hazel Scofield
 Mr Keith Hudson

DC Mr Robin Carter, 4 members of the public

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 118 **Apologies for Absence** – CC Mr Steve Criswell, DC Mr Terry Rogers, Mrs Jenny Lloyd, Mr James Woolstenholmes. Mr Jeff Nicholls was not present at the beginning of the meeting as he was representing the Council at another venue. He joined the meeting later.

Open Meeting

Item 119 **Open Forum** – A member of the public asked if a banner could be erected to advertise the Preschool. DC Robin Carter pointed out that if it was situated on highways land then planning permission may be needed. The Duck Pond play area and the allotments were suggested as possible sites to be used. Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded that a banner could be put at these locations. All in favour.

Item 120 **Ecops Report** – The Clerk read out the latest Ecops report which praised the people who helped in St Ives following an accident in the town centre.

Item 121 **County Council and District Council Reports** – DC Mr Robin Carter reported that the weeding along the edge of the highway had now been completed and HDC are looking into our grass cutting proposals. There are new changes to refuse collections as there will not be any sack collections from now on. Those residents affected by this change will be notified. There is also a Blue Badge consultation underway at present. CC Mr Steve Criswell sent an email to notify the Council that the Hansons Quarry sale was now finalised. Also due to the withdrawal of the Stagecoach 21 service Whippet are looking into new timings for their services which should benefit Earith. These will be announced shortly. DC Mr Terry Rogers sent an email to update the Council on the Minnaars development and said that the section 106 package is being looked into. There is no definite update regarding Darford/Edwards Walk.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 122 **Councillors declaration of interest** – The Chairman drew the Councillors attention to the legal requirement that all interests should be declared following the Code of Conduct Localism Act 2012 c7.s27(3)(b). No declarations were made.

Item 123 **To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 6th September 2012**
 Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the minutes should be signed. All in favour.

Item 124 **Matters arising** – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that item 106 – Right of Way at the Crown Public House was actioned and the landlord was not aware that this area was a right of way. He is happy for the gate to be used. Mrs Marilyn Russell reported some feedback regarding item 106. The Manager of the Woodlands Carehome, who had also contacted the Clerk wanted to make it known that the leaves are not being blown from the Home. The Manager of the Home said that the leaves come from the tree at the Village Hall and she would like to see this area of the pavement cleaned regularly. DC Mr Robin Carter is to look into this with the Highways department. Mr Alan Spackman reported that Item 111 the timing of the lights at the Recreation Ground had not yet been done and that he would look into it. The Clerk is also trying to arrange quotations for repairing those lights that are broken.

- Item 125** **Planning** – Application Ref: 1201387FUL– Siting of 4 floodlights around the Ménage at 24 Meadow Lane.
Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded that this should be accepted because the Council were assured that the lights would not be on excessively and that the light would shine down into the field. All in favour.
Application Ref: 1201319FUL- Oak Framed Garage at 44 Meadow Lane.
Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that this planning should be refused as there were concerns that the building was in the wrong place and that it was too high. It is also beyond the building line and therefore outside the scope of the Village. The Council also added a covenant to the decision that if the Parish Council's decision was overturned and planning was accepted by the District Council that this building should never be used as a dwelling. All in favour.
- Item 126** **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that she had spoken to the Landlord of the Crown Public House after he contacted her and also the Clerk regarding the right of way. He was not happy with the way that the Council had approached him about this issue and The Chairman spoke to both Simeon Carroll, the Right of Way Officer and Brian Ogden, HDC Arboriculturalist. Brian Ogden has performed a site visit and has recommended that the Ash trees can be removed as they are causing structural damage due to years of neglect
The Chairman and the Clerk attended the Cambridgeshire Acre AGM meeting which had some taster training sessions on different areas for consideration. They attended a session regarding Community Led Planning and Neighbourhood Planning. The Earith Parish Plan will be reviewed next year.
The Clerk asked the Chairman to include a cheque onto the agenda from Earith Timber Products for putting up extra fencing at High Bridge. Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that this should be added. All in favour.
- Item 127** **Parish Council Representatives Report – HCV and Road Safety** – Mrs Julie Seamark and Mr Jeff Nicholls attended the Road Safety meeting and the main discussion was concerning the siting of a new bus stop opposite Pet Zone in St Ives. Mrs Seamark also pointed out that an item had been minuted at the 17th July meeting regarding improvements to the Pedestrian Crossings in Earith. This date was prior to the Council being informed that we had been successful in our bid to the minor highways improvements committee. There were also concerns that the Police were not getting as involved with Speedwatch and are not giving as much roadside assistance although they are still delivering letters.
Pavements – Mrs Marilyn Russell reported that the pavement outside 1 Waterhaven has been repaired but action was still needed in other areas. She is to contact Jason Tyrell to discuss this.
General Estate – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the footpath behind Minnaars had now been cleared and a very good job was done by MSP Services. She also reported that additional plants had been delivered to the pond. 300 plants were planted and some of these were supplied by Mr Len Nichols who also helped with the planting.
- Item 128** **Allotments Charges for 2012 - 2013** – Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the charges should stay the same. All in favour.
- Item 129** **Refurbishment of the Village Hall** - The Clerk has obtained a quotation for adding hot water taps to connect with the boiler and this quote is quite high. She is to obtain some more quotes for comparison.
- Item 130** **Christmas Tree lights – Location** – Miss Ann Brennan is still pursuing costs for a cherry picker although it was discussed that a Christmas Tree could be purchased to go underneath the tree at the Village Hall. She is also looking into the cost of a tree and lights and will report back at the next meeting.
- Item 131** **Purchase of Jubilee Commemorative Tree** – Ms Hazel Lambert and Mr Ron Hodge had a meeting with Ms Halford from HDC and it was agreed that HDC would fund the cost of the tree and also the tree guard. A possible planting in December would be favourable.
- Item 132** **Bus Shelter Refurbishment** – It was decided that the bus shelter in Cooks Drove is to be repainted with cream masonry paint. Jeyes fluid is also to be purchased for disinfecting the floor. The Handyman is to do this as an extra job.
Mrs Marilyn Russell proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that this is carried out. All in favour.
- Item 133** **Grass Cutting in Earith** – The Clerk has approached DC Mr Robin Carter for help in approaching HDC and CCC re taking over the grass cutting within Earith. Funding from the District and County is

being looked into at present. Quotes are to be obtained for various different grass cutting options that can be discussed at the next meeting.

Item 134 Parish Council Website – The Clerk has found a website training course and will attend in November for four weeks. Domain names and registration are being looked into. Mr Ron Hodge proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Clerk is to learn how to make a web site. All in favour.

Item 135 Development of 26 High Street – The Clerk has been contacted by the developer of this site who has been notified that he has now obtained planning permission for the development although a £27,000 CIL Levy has been attached to the planning permission. DC Mr Terry Rogers is looking into this and the Clerk is also to contact CAPALC.

Item 136 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	2442	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hrs. 7 hrs. @ £7.21	50.47			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.21	18.03			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		66.70	2443	
Inland Revenue	PAYE September 2012		65.00	2445	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self employed monthly contract		100.00	2444	LGA1953,s.4
Truelink Ltd	Grass cutting contract		336.00	2446	OSA 1906 s.10
Fenland Fire App	Fire Extinguisher Servicing		115.50	2447	LGA 1972 s.133
Colin Barson Electrical	Replacement lights in Village Hall		540.00	2448	LGA 1972, s.133
Cambridgeshire Acre	Membership Renewal – 5 years		160.00	2449	LGA 1972, s.143
Mr Ron Hodge	Pond Maintenance		16.80	2450	PHA 1936, s.260
Debit Card Expenses	Enrolment on Web Design Course, Toner Cartridges		97.46	Debit Card	LGA 1963, s.5
Earith Timber Products	Fence at High Bridge		279.60	2451	OSA 1906, s.10
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		0.00	DD	LGA1972,s.133
	Total Spend for September 2012		£2,030.09		

Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the finances should be accepted. All in Favour.

Item 137 Correspondence – All correspondence as per the file.

Item 138 Items to report – Ms Hazel Lambert is to attend the Funding Fair being held in conjunction with CAPALC and she will also attend a Cambridgeshire ACRE course. Miss Ann Brennan reported that the District Council have asked the owner of the development of 2 new houses at Bridge End to erect a 2 foot high fence even though there was a wall and trellis already attached to the original planning. She is concerned that if this wall is put up then the land in between the wall and fence will not be maintained. The Clerk is to contact DC Mr Robin Carter and also the Planning officer Mr David Hincks. The Parish Council would like to see gravel to the wall rather than a fence and they are all against this development.

Item 139 Items for Future Meetings –Parish Plan, Parish boundaries between Bluntisham and Earith, White lining at the Recreation Field Car Park, Bench Replacement, Risk Assessments and Play Ground Inspections, Precept.

Date of next Council Meeting – Thursday 1st November 2012

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 01487 843983 email mpinkearithpc@aol.com

These minutes are unadopted.

Date 7th October 2012

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