

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting Held on Thursday 1st December 2016

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)
Mr Keith Hudson
Mr Terry Rogers
Mr James Woolstenholmes
Mr Gavin Young

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)
Mrs Jenny Lloyd
Mr Jeff Nicholls
Mr Alan Spackman

DC Mr Mike Francis, DC Mr Robin Carter

Mandy Pink – Clerk

20 members of the public

Item 193 Apologies for absence – Mr John Fulcher, Mrs Marilyn Russell, CC Mr Steve Criswell
Open Meeting at 7.30pm

Item 194 Open Forum – Various members of the public commented on issues relating to the Outline Planning Permission 0401899OUT Earith Fruit Pickers 101 High Street to be discussed at agenda item 202.

Item 195 Ecops Report – The Clerk reported that a white van pulling a trailer was being driven dangerously through Earith on the 10th November. The trailer was found abandoned at Pidley and a burnt out van at Warboys. A van, stolen from Colne was found abandoned in Darford. Cold Callers are operating in Greenfields where they are knocking on doors asking if you want to buy various power tools.

Item 196 County Council and District Council Reports – DC Mr Robin Carter reported that refuse collections will now take place on bank holidays if the refuse tips are open. Calendars will be given to home owners. DC Mr Mike Francis reported that HDC are reviewing car parking charges. No report given from County Council.

(Close open Meeting) (Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 197 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received and decisions granted. None Received

Item 198 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 2011 c7.s27(3)(b). Councillor Mr Jeff Nicholls declared an interest in agenda item 207 RBL donation.

Item 199 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 3rd November 2016
Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that the minutes should be signed.
Resolved - All in favour.

Item 200 Matters arising – Mr Jeff Nicholls stated that tree and hedge visits had not been carried out but maintenance had been carried out at some properties.

Item 201 Changes to Electoral Constituency boundaries to be discussed – Proposal to move Earith to South East Cambs – This is an administrative change only resulting in voting for a different MP. Earith will still remain part of Huntingdon District Council. The Parish Council objects to this change as the boundary commission have not looked at the demographics of the other villages in the proposed group. The Council asked the Clerk to report their comments
Mrs Jenny Lloyd proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Clerk should object to the change.
Resolved – All in favour

Item 202 Planning – Application Reference – 0401899OUT Earith Fruit Pickers 101 High Street – The Parish Council discussed this application at length taking into account the comments raised at the Open Forum earlier and those from the Public Meeting held on Monday the 27th November. This application comes under planning policy number LP4 and items to be considered are traffic problems, transport problems, density of the build, link road and village hall. Mr Terry Rogers stated that whilst it was good to have the HDC planners present at the meeting on Monday they did not really contribute much to the meeting and appeared to be ill prepared. The Parish Councillors all gave an opinion on this development and all voted to accept the Outline Planning application with 11 conditions to be considered.
Miss Ann Brennan proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Outline Planning permission should be accepted with the following conditions. Resolved – All in favour
Condition 1 - Link road to have a roundabout at the High Street end and provide a link to Colne which will give access to both Earith and the surrounding villages
Condition 2 - Link road to be built first
Condition 3 - Traffic calming measures to be introduced at Colne Road/High Street junction, commonly referred to as George Corner and also along the A1123
Condition 4 - Pedestrian crossing to link the development to the community woodland and an improved pathway to Bluntisham to lead on from this crossing
Condition 5 - Pedestrian crossing on Colne Road to allow for school access from the development

Condition 6 - The density of the development needs to be looked at and to reduce the amount of properties needed the percentage and type of affordable homes need to be reduced as the Village has already reached the target for rented social housing as highlighted in the housing report which produced the exceptional rural development site at Hermitage giving 11 affordable homes and this met the needs of the Earith Residents on the current housing register to have homes in Earith. The Housing mix was also discussed at the Public Meeting and the need for bungalows, starter homes and rent to buy homes was highlighted. Earith has a large elderly population that would like to stay in the village to be close to their families

Condition 7 - There should not be a vehicular access onto the High Street (existing Minnaars entrance road) this access should be restricted to pedestrians and cycles only which will help to alleviate traffic problems entrancing and exiting onto the High Street as the High Street flow of traffic is high at the present time and we do not want to encourage vehicles to travel through the village we want them to use the link road.

Condition 8 - The Village Hall building should be provided as part of the build and not just a serviced site. The type of building and size can be discussed.

Condition 9 - Land for a playing field

Condition 10 - Community woodland

Condition 11 - Commercial outlets are not needed on this site. Earith currently has the largest industrial site in the area which allows for commercial concerns and is located to the back of the village away from the dwellings. Leisure outlets are needed such as tea/coffee shops

Planning - Application – 16/02293/CLED – Full residential use of dwelling and non-compliance with agricultural occupancy condition – Ashmire, Meadow Drove, Earith

Earith Parish Council are concerned that failure by HDC enforcement to enforce their own planning conditions has resulted in this application being presented. All previous applications for a permanent dwelling on this site have been refused. The application for an agricultural dwelling only was accepted by HDC in 2000. Therefore the whole council abstained to vote and have left the decision down to HDC to sort out. A letter from the Parish Council to HDC is to be sent voicing concerns with the enforcement department. A copy is to be sent to DC Mr Mike Francis so that he can follow this problem up.

- Item 203** **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the irrigation lakes are now operative and this will result in more HGV's using George Corner.
A planning application for amendments to dwelling on land west of 26 High Street has been received and the Clerk is to ask for an extension for comments to be made.

- Item 204** **Parish Council Representatives Report** –
Road Safety and HCV – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that the HCV meeting was held on the 3rd November and was not attended as this clashed with the Parish Council meeting. The Road Safety Group held a meeting on the 8th November and discussed that there are a lot of road signs being covered by vegetation and this is not being cut back. The review of road speed limits to 20mph was also discussed but as the police will not be enforcing the 20mph speed then it is not really worth the cost of trying to apply for a TRO. Speedwatch have carried out 12 sessions and 33% of recorded vehicles were speeding. The gritting routes have been reduced by about 70% and only A and some B roads will be gritted. (Not the B1050 Willingham Road)
Recreation Field and Play Equipment – The Clerk reported that the Council had not been successful in their grant bid to the A14 community fund. The addition of new play equipment at the pond play area will be added as an agenda item for discussion in January.
Health and Safety – No report
Hanson update – No report.
PC Cluster Meetings – No report
Saywell Charity – No report
Ouse Valley Way update – No report
Rights of Way – No report
Village Pond – The Chairman has received an application for a floating feeding platform for the ducks to be launched on the pond. In addition, as this is the festive season, a small Christmas tree will also be added onto the platform. The launch will take place on Sunday the 4th December at 3.30pm
Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that this can take place
Resolved – All in favour
Allotments – All plots are now in use
Skeeles update – A meeting is to be held on the 13th December to discuss the grant applications that have been received.
Earith Town Estate – No report
Community Plan – Draft copies of the Community Plan have been sent to the working party.
Village Car Parks – No report

- Item 205** **Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made**– Visits are to be made to, 75 High Street – Overhanging Hedge, The house opposite Edwards Walk – Overhanging

hedge, Overhanging Buddleia at 12 Orchard Crescent. Harradine Haulage have arranged for overhanging hedges on Meadow Drove to be maintained.

- Item 206 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – It was reported that 2 footpaths need to be looked at. Leaves need to be cleared from the footpath leading to the shop and also a footpath in Darford.
- Item 207 Donation request for the Royal British Legion Earith, Colne and Bluntisham branch to be discussed** – The Chairman asked the Council if they wished to make the usual donation of £60.00 to the local branch of the RBL.
Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that a £60.00 donation should be made as previous years. Resolved – All in favour
- Item 208 Earith Pre School Evacuation request to use the Village Hall** – The Clerk has received a request from Earith Pre School to name the Village Hall as a destination for evacuation if needed.
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that the Village Hall can be used if needed. Resolved – All in favour
- Item 209 Allotment – Natural Well to be discussed and update on maintenance** – The Clerk is obtaining quotations for a 2ft 6" wall to be built around each well with a hinged wooden lid locked by a padlock with tumbler number locking.
- Item 210 Electrical Installation Testing and Maintenance work in the Village Hall – Authorised by the Clerk's delegated powers – to be noted** – The Clerk has instructed the electrician to carry out works as above. These works are needed for Health and Safety purposes.
- Item 211 Consultation – Draft Supplementary Planning Document – HDC Design Guide 2016 comments to be noted** – Mr Terry Rogers gave a brief summary of this document which is to be used as a material consideration in deciding planning applications. The only comment that should be noted at present is that the document is incredibly long and could be abbreviated if all sections of repetition are taken out.
- Item 212 Earith Parish Council Precept to be set for 2017/2018** - The Clerk tabled this document at the meeting in November for all Councillors consideration prior to this meeting. It was decided that an additional amount of £350 should be included for electoral purposes when a new mayor is to be elected in May. Grass cutting, due to changes in areas has been increased by £1000. £1000 has been allocated to maintenance at the allotments and printing costs for the Parish Plan have been increased to £1000 from £750. With all of these changes taken into consideration it was decided that a Precept amount of £49,000 is requested.
Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Precept should be raised to £49,000
Resolved – All in favour

Item 213 Finance – a) Payments to sign off

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 42 hrs. @ £15.517	651.71			LGHA1989,s.7
	Clerks Expenses	25.00			LGA 1963, s.5
	Back dated pay rise	36.04			LGHA 1989, s.7
	Mobile Phone monthly rental not taxable	12.00			LGHA1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		577.46	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 5.5 @ £8.566	47.11			LGA1972,s.133
	Back dated pay rise	2.74			
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £8.566	21.42			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		70.07	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE & NI November 2016		153.56	2895	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self-employed monthly contract		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
MSP Services	Grass Cutting – Play Area Recreation Field		20.00	2896	OSA 1906, s.10
MSP Services	Recreation field hedge H&S		160.00	2897	PHA 1875,s.4
Mr R Hodge	Pond Maintenance		8.00	2898	PHA 1936, s.260
St Ives Area Road Safety Committee	Donation agenda item 179		30.00	2899	OSA 1906, s.10
Viking Direct	Office Stationery		41.68	2900	LGA 1972, s226
Cambs CC	LHI Bid Fee for 2015/16 Meadow Lane		5000.00	2901	OSA 1906, s10
EDCO2 Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Day Wreaths		40.00	2902	LGA 1972, s137
SLCC	Local Council Administration Book		76.60	2903	LGA 1972, s226
CNG	Village Hall Gas monthly charge		53.52	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
Axis	Village Hall Electricity monthly charge		19.91	DD	LGHA 1972 s.133
	Total Spend for November 2016		£6,400.80		

- a) Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the payments should be signed off. Resolved – All in Favour
- b) Online salary payments for December Mr Terry Rogers proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the payments should be made. Resolved – All in favour
- c) Chairman to sign the bank statement to confirm the online salary payments for November as above Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that the Chairman should sign.
Resolved – All in favour

Item 214 Correspondence – No correspondence

Item 215 Items for future meetings – Village Hall floor and chairs, WW1 commemoration, Risk Assessments, River Slipways, River Island Support Group, Pond Play area new equipment, Solar Powered Light.

Meeting closed 10.15pm

Meeting Dates 2017
Thursday 5th January
Thursday 2nd February
Thursday 2nd March
Thursday 6th April

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533

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These minutes are unadopted www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of notice – 10th Dec 2016