

**Earith Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)  
 Mr Keith Hudson  
 Mr Ron Hodge  
 Mrs Marilyn Russell  
 Mr Jeff Nicholls

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)  
 Mr Alan Spackman  
 Mrs Jenny Lloyd  
 Mr Robert Sherriff

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

Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 250 Apologies for Absence** – Mr James Woolstenholmes, DC Mr Terry Rogers

**Open Meeting**

**Item 251 Open Forum** – Mr David Newman gave a presentation concerning planning for Colne Fen Quarry. He reminded the Council that permission already exists to remove waste minerals from the site until 2019 and the new application is for the ability to bring back in, on the empty lorries, inert waste (soil) to allow for the restoration works which he would like to carry out at the quarry. He extended an invitation for the Councillors to attend a site visit to assess the situation and to gain more knowledge to enable them to make an accurate decision concerning the planning application proposed.

**Item 252 Ecops Report** – The Clerk read out Ecops' reports referring to a Burglary at Holywell and problems experienced at the Bluntisham Service Station. There have also been telecommunication companies carrying out canvassing in the area in No Cold Calling Zones. There has also been slight disruption on the Somersham Road caused by a mains water pipe bursting near the Raptor Centre.

**Item 253 County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that surface work on the Earith Bridge is due to go ahead this weekend. Improvements to the Willingham Road are due to begin in May/June. CC Mr Steve Criswell is to look into improvements to the footpath along Chapel Road leading to School Road as the overgrown grass edges have been cut back but the pavement itself is still very limited in size. CC Mr Steve Criswell is to look into the pothole/long trench that runs from 94 Greenfields as this needs to be repaired. DC Robin Carter commented that the new road signs have not yet been installed at Colne Road and Bridge End and he will chase this up. The District Council have been making significant savings using the initiatives that have been put in place over the past year. DC Mr Robin Carter has investigated the incident in Darford concerning the fence and has been informed that the damage caused to the fence was not done by Council workers. The homeowner is disputing this. DC Robin Carter is to look into this again.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

**Item 254 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received and decisions granted.** No dispensations were received for this meeting.

**Item 255 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). The Chairman declared an interest in item 262 regarding the accident at the Village Hall.

**Item 256 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013  
 Mr Keith Hudson proposed and Mr Ron Hodge seconded that the minutes should be signed. All in favour.

**Item 257 Matters arising** – Mr Keith Hudson reported that item 248 should read “fence” and not “hedge”.

**Item 258 Planning** – Application Reference – H/05001/13/CW – Restoration at Colne Fen Quarry using imported inert waste to create conservation habitats.

Following on from Mr Newman's earlier report in the open forum the Chairman read out the views of DC Mr Terry Rogers concerning this application. It was decided that as this application is quite technical in nature and several reports need to be read and understood that the Councillors would like to request an extension concerning their decision on this matter. They are also to make a site visit on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 10am to further investigate the extent of the proposed works involved. The Clerk is to ask for an extension and this item is to be moved to the next month's agenda for consideration.

- Item 259**      **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent to Mr Dow informing him of his ownership of the trees along the causeway. The Chairman is, however, still investigating this issue. The bench on the corner of Colne Road has been refurbished and replaced and the Council would like to express their thanks to the Earith resident who carried out this refurbishment. The Clerk has sent a letter. The decorating in the Village Hall has been finished and a good job has been carried out. The Chairman would like to thank Mrs Jenny Lloyd for shortening the stage curtains. The Chairman has requested that a further agenda item is added to next month to obtain quotes for repainting of the toilets, kitchen, porch and stage steps. The new blinds have been put up in the Hall. The Clerk has looked into the damage caused by the London Plane Tree outside the Village Hall and has been told that the best idea is to carry out a crown reduction which would ultimately cause the root to shrink. Removing the root would cause the tree to become unstable and would cost a great deal of money. The Clerk is to send in a planning application for consideration by the Huntingdon District Council.
- Item 260**      **Parish Council Representatives Report – HCV and Road Safety** - Mr Jeff Nicholls attended a Road Safety meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> March and there was one Speedwatch session recorded which highlighted a top speed of 43mph along the High Street which is an improvement on earlier session reports. The next meeting is to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May. He also attended a HCV meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March. The County Council attended the previous meeting but they are still to come back with any feedback. The next meeting will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May.  
Ms Hazel Lambert reported that some further work had been carried out at the pond and the netting and supporting structures have now been removed.  
Mr Ron Hodge attended the Hansons Quarry meeting and they are to make a further planning application for the contract to be renewed for another 15 years. An application for a car park to be built along the Willingham Road to allow access to the RSPB nature reserve will also need to be made.  
Ms Hazel Lambert also reported that the school have issued an email asking if any residents are interested in becoming school governors. If they are interested then they should contact the School regarding this.
- Item 261**      **Revisit Parish Plan of 2008 which was adopted in 2011** – The Chairman informed the Council of the difference between a Neighbourhood Plan which is a core document which highlights the development and infrastructure of the Village. This needs to conform to national and regional policies. It needs to be inspected by a Government Officer and a referendum needs to be held to establish this. This plan is very costly.  
A Community Led Plan is more of a document that can be used by the Council to find out the views of the residents by using questionnaires and meetings to determine what is needed within the village. The Chairman has asked all Councillors to think about what they would like to do and what plan they would like to work on and this will be discussed again in about 2-3 months when ideas have been formulated.
- Item 262**      **Village Hall – Accident Report** - The Clerk has received a letter concerning an accident which occurred within the Village Hall when a "hearing loop speaker" fell from the wall and injured a village resident resulting in head, neck and back injuries being sustained. The Council discussed how this accident happened and decided that the speaker will be reinstated in the corner of the Hall to avoid any further accidents of this nature. The Clerk is to respond to the injured party to let them know the Council's outcome.
- Item 263**      **White Lining at Bridge End car park** - The Clerk has obtained a quotation for this work but the Council would also like her to contact the HDC to see if they would carry out this work. This is to be moved to the next agenda.
- Item 264**      **Change to Clerks wages for website administration.** – The Clerk is now to administer the Council website and a change to her wages was discussed. It was decided that a further 2 hours should be worked per month to allow for this extra work commitment. This is to start from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that this should be adopted. All in favour.

**Item 265 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			LGHA 1989, s.7
	Total Less Tax		253.03	2498	
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	2499	
Inland Revenue	PAYE March 2013		65.00	2500	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self-employed monthly contract		100.00	2501	LGA1953,s.4
Mr Ian Ankin	Painting of Village Hall		717.95	2502	LGA 1972, s.133
Somersham PC	Christmas Lights		771.44	2503	LGA 1972, s.133
Greenham Bunzl	Cleaning Products Village Hall		89.65	2504	LGA 1972, s.133
DCS Window Cleaning	Cleaning of Village Hall Windows		13.00	2505	LGA 1972, s.133
Webvertise	Payment for website		80.00	D.Card	
Tesco	Mobile phone 5th months rental		12.50	DD	LGA 1972 s.133
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		42.13	DD	LGA1972,s.133
	<b>Total Spend for March 2013</b>		<b>£2,211.40</b>		

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

**Item 266 Correspondence** – All other correspondence as per the file. The Clerk drew the councillor's attention to the water bill which is still in credit for a further year and will probably still be in credit next year which is due to the installation of the water meter in the Village Hall.

**Item 267 Items to report** – The Clerk drew the Councillors attention to a resident suffering excessive noise in the village and this should be referred to the noise abatement department within the HDC. Mrs Jenny Lloyd reported that the WI had adopted the air ambulance as their charity to support and they would like to have a fundraising cake stall on the Village Green. The Council had no objections to this happening. Miss Ann Brennan reported that the Players of Earith (POE) would be holding their quiz night on 10<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall.

**Item 268 Items for Future Meetings** –Parish Plan, Playground inspection, Risk assessments, Earith Island Clearance and Council Insurance renewal

**Date of Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

**Date of next Council Meeting – AGM - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533  
These minutes are unadopted

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**Date of notice – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

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