

**Earith Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013**

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)  
 Mr Jeff Nicholls  
 Mr Alan Spackman  
 Ms Hazel Lambert

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)  
 Mr James Woolstenholmes  
 Mrs Jenny Lloyd

DC Mr Robin Carter - No members of the public

Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 124**      **Apologies for absence** – Mr Ron Hodge, Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mr Rob Sherriff, Mr Keith Hudson, CC Mr Steve Criswell, and DC Mr Terry Rogers

**Open Meeting 7.35pm**

**Item 125**      **Open Forum** – No Public present

**Item 126**      **Ecops Report** – The Clerk read out an Ecops' report concerning catalytic converter thefts in the area and an intruder in a garden in Meadow Lane. Straw bales have been set alight in Somersham and some tractor thefts have occurred.

**Item 127**      **County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell emailed a report stating that there is considerable objection to tolling of the A14 and he urged the Council to write and express their views. This will be discussed at item 141.

The County Council have to make considerable savings and a public consultation is under way called the "You Choose" consultation which gives home owners the chance to comment on possible saving measures. The online consultation can be found on the County Council website.

Local Joint Committees have now been approved by the HDC cabinet and this will provide an opportunity for local councils to engage with the Police, District and County Council on many issues and to work together to implement new changes if needed.

DC Mr Robin Carter reported that he recently met with Mr Ron Hodge to discuss the problems in Hereward. These issues have now been passed to the Green Spaces Team who will carry out the repairs to the paving, hedge removal and tidying that is needed in this area.

The Darford Fence issue is now moving forward as the Clerk met with the homeowner and discussed the next steps needed to sort out this matter.

The District Council also need to make savings and are looking into service sharing.

Morrisons are proposing to build a supermarket and petrol station in St Ives at Compass Point. Consultations are underway regarding this on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October at the Burgess Hall and 17<sup>th</sup> October at the Corn Exchange.

**(Close open Meeting) 7.45pm****(Open closed section of Meeting)**

**Item 128**      **Code of Conduct – Dispensation received and decisions granted** – None received

**Item 129**      **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). No declarations were made.

**Item 130**      **To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013**  
 Resolved - Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded that the minutes should be signed. All in favour.  
 Miss Ann Brennan, vice Chairman, signed the minutes as she was the chair at this meeting

**Item 131**      **Matters arising** – None

**Item 132**      **Planning** – Application Reference – 1301256FUL – Retention of render to upper half of building at 9 Vermuyden.  
 Resolved - Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded to accept this application. All in favour  
**Planning** – Application Reference – 1301387FUL – Proposed timber triple bay garage with attached garden room and erection of detached log cabin – Earith Lakes, Holme Fen Drive.

Resolved - Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded to accept this application with the following covenant that at no point in the future is it to be used for accommodation of any sort.

All in favour

- Item 133**      **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the Clerk is now also the Clerk for Bluntisham Parish Council and she hoped that this would strengthen the bond between the two villages and that they can possibly work together jointly in the future if the need arises.  
The proposed fence movement at the war memorial has been confirmed with Chris Hudson so that the building of the path from High Bridge to Sluice Bridge can begin and the bench has been removed for refurbishment.  
The Chairman wanted to thank the Queens Diamond Jubilee Committee for donating the sculpture of the Bandy player to the Village and it has now been erected, under the instruction of Miss Ann Brennan, Ms Hazel Lambert and Mr Ron Hodge and two excellent helpers from Earith Timber Products and Safety Works Solutions who donated their time, equipment, products and efforts to help with this project. An information notice is being ordered to detail the importance of the Bandy Player in the history of Earith.  
A meeting was held with Earith Town Estates to discuss the siting of a Skate Park within the recreation ground following the excellent trial day that was held recently. The Council have requested that they lease a portion of the recreation field from Earith Town Estates so that they can apply for grant applications. A lease cost of £750 per annum was agreed by the Council and will be proposed to Earith Town Estates for consideration (Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mrs Jenny Lloyd seconded. All in favour) A working party will be set up and consultation with homeowners in the immediate vicinity of the recreation field will be carried out.  
Balfour Beatty have forwarded plans for street lighting changes to the Clerk for consideration by the Council but the plans are very in-depth and the Clerk has asked for a Balfour Beatty representative to attend a meeting to go through this with the Council before comments can be made.
- Item 134**      **Parish Council Representatives Report –**  
**Road Safety and HCV** – Speedwatch proposals and the A14 were discussed and these have been highlighted as separate agenda items below.  
**Footpaths and bridleways** – no report received  
**Village Pond** – A working party has been set up for the 20<sup>th</sup> October between 10am – 12pm to help clear the pond play area of weeds.  
**Recreation Field and Health and Safety** – Mr Rob Sherriff emailed to inform the Council that the swing framework is loose and the Clerk has postponed the erection of the new swings until this has been resolved. Miss Ann Brennan will look into this matter.  
Mr Sherriff was also concerned as children appear to be exiting the play park through a gap in the hedge into a neighbouring house. It is believed that the children live in the house concerned. The Clerk is to check with Earith Town Estates regarding who the boundary belongs to.  
**Hanson update** – no report received  
**Skeeles update** – no report received  
**Earith Town Estate update** – no report received  
**Crime prevention and neighbourhood watch/hunts forum** – no report received
- Item 135**      **Trees and Hedges to report for action to be taken** – 29 High Street – conifers – no action being taken.  
24 Cooks Drove – overhanging hedge – homeowner to cut back  
1 Hermitage – hedge cut back but debris to be removed  
New enquiry – 59 Greenfields – Mrs Julie Seamark and Miss Ann Brennan to visit
- Item 136**      **Drainage, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – Brian Murdoch has confirmed that action will be taken concerning the issues raised in September. No new issues raised.
- Item 137**      **Pollarding work at the Village Pond – response to tender, quotation to be accepted** -The Clerk issued three tender applications for this job but only had one reply. Quotation of £745.00 from MSP Services was tabled.  
Resolved – Mrs Jenny Lloyd proposed and Mr James Woolstenholmes seconded that this quotation is accepted. All in favour.
- Item 138**      **Speedwatch – action concerning signs and placement and response to email 27<sup>th</sup> August requesting the Council to invite Speedwatch to operate and the restraints to Speedwatch sessions** – The Clerk has written to the Chief Constable and also the Chief Commissioner regarding

the restraints to issuing letters to speeding motorists following a Speedwatch session. The restraints are due to resource issues and have to be made to ensure fairness to all Speedwatch operations. The Clerk is to write to formerly invite Speedwatch to operate in the area. She is to highlight the hot spots of Meadow Lane, High Street and Colne Road. To enable Community Speedwatch signs to be erected on the 30mph signs at the entrance and exit of the village on the High Street and again at the Colne Road/ Meadow Lane junction a certain amount of sessions need to be completed. Once the Council have confirmation that the required number of sessions will be undertaken we will go ahead and order the signs from the County Council. The signs are £69.00 each.

**Item 139 Allotments – review of plots and costs** – Mr Ron Hodge has given the Clerk the current allotment register and she is to issue invoices to the plot holders. If any Earith Resident would like to be considered for an allotment plot then please contact the Clerk who will add your name to the waiting list.

Resolved – Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the costs are to remain the same for the coming year. All in favour

**Item 140 Speeding along Meadow Lane – action to be taken** – The Clerk is to write to Speedwatch to get this area registered as a hot spot for Speedwatch sessions. She is to also ask the Police to do a check of this area.

**Item 141 A14 upgrade plans – Discussion and possible action to take** – The HCV meeting attended by Mr Jeff Nicholls on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October highlighted a number of points that need to be raised and discussed regarding this proposal. The Clerk is to write a joint letter from Earith and Bluntisham on behalf of the HCV group and she will also write a letter from Earith Council concerning the items that were raised under this agenda heading which concern Earith as a village. The primary concern was that the consultation period was too short and that making the A14 a toll road was not favourable at all.

**Item 142 Finance** – a) Payments to sign off  
b) Payment transfer from Youth Account for temp Skate Ramps £804.00  
c) Annual Return.

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 32 hrs. @ £10.04	321.28			LGHA1989,s.7
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.28	18.20			LGHA 1989, s.7
	Total Less Tax		271.68	2555	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker 7 hrs. @ £7.28	50.96			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £7.28	18.20			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		68.76	2556	
Inland Revenue	PAYE September 2013		68.20	2557	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self-employed monthly contract		100.00	2558	LGA1953,s.4
Truelink Ltd	Grass Cutting Contract x 2 cuts		600.00	2559	OSA 1906, s.10
PKF Littlejohn	External Auditor Cost		360	2560	ACA 1998
Tesco	Mobile phone 10th months rental		12.50	DD	LGA 1972 s.133
British Gas	Village Hall Electricity		25.07	DD	LGA1972,s.133
	<b>Total Spend for Sept 2013</b>		<b>£1,506.21</b>		

- a) Resolved – Mr Alan Spackman proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the finances should be accepted - All in Favour
- b) Resolved – Ms Hazel Lambert proposed and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the transfer be made All in Favour
- c) Annual Return – no comments to be raised. All in order

**Item 143 Correspondence** - All other correspondence as per the file

**Item 144 Items to report** – *please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972, s 12 10 (2)b states that business must be specified therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion* –  
This item is to be removed from future agendas

**Item 145 Items for Future Meetings** – Cil Levy on 29 High Street and Chelsea Dairy, Signage at Play Park concerning vandalism, Parish Plan, Risk assessments, white lining at Bridge End Car Park

Date of next Council Meeting –Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013

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

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Date of notice – 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013