

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 6th July 2017

Present – Councillors

Mrs Julie Seamark (Chairman)

Mr Jeff Nicholls

Mr Allan Till

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)

Mr John Fulcher

DC Mr Mike Francis, DC Mr Robin Carter, CC Mr Steve Criswell

1 member of the public

Mandy Pink - Clerk

Item 81 Apologies for absence – Mr Gavin Young, Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mr Keith Hudson, Mr Terry Rogers, Mr James Woolstenholmes, Mr Alan Spackman

Open Meeting

Item 82 Open Forum – No comments

Item 83 Ecops Report – The Clerk reported that there had been several incidences of damage to vehicles in the Village and that locks on a security gate at Holme Drove had been damaged. There had also been a further 2 incidences of anti-social behaviour at the Recreation field.

Item 84 County Council and District Council Reports – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that there had been some changes at the County Council and he was no longer dealing with Highways issues but was now part of the new committee for community engagement. The design work on the new cycleway from Bluntisham to Earith is underway and will commence shortly. Mr Allan Till asked if the two areas on the cycleway at Bluntisham are to be finalised and CC Mr Steve Criswell said that there were no longer any issues to stop these parts being finished.

DC Mr Mike Francis had nothing of note to report but he was still chasing up the planning issues with Plum Tree Farm.

DC Mr Robin Carter reported that two car parks in Earith (Hereward and Darford) have been singled out by the District Council for possible disposal and could be sold off for housing. It is still not sure if this will be actioned. He also reported that the Earith stretch of the Ouse Valley Way was looking a little untidy and he wanted to know if our representative, Mr Gavin Young, had reported any problems. The Clerk will ask Mr Young to investigate.

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

Item 85 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received and decisions granted – The Clerk has received a dispensation from Mr John Fulcher to allow him to speak on behalf of agenda item 89. The Clerk has granted the dispensation as Mr Fulcher can give insight into the application.

Item 86 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). Mr Fulcher declared an interest in agenda item 89.

Item 87 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 1st June 2017
 Mr John Fulcher proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the minutes should be signed.
 Resolved - All in favour.

Item 88 Matters arising – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that he had carried out a village walkabout with the Clerk and that they had identified 12 areas for solar powered lights to be placed in the village however some sites would require the lights to be installed on poles. Following DC Mr Robin Carters report on the car park areas it was resolved to wait until he had obtained a report before installing lighting in these areas. A further walkabout will be held later in the year when the nights are drawing in to determine if the specified sites do require extra lighting.

Item 89 Planning – Application Reference 17/01222/HHFUL – Infill of existing carport and raising the roof of garage area and new utility to allow for sufficient insulation – 40 Greenfields – Mr John Fulcher gave a short presentation regarding the application to allow the Councillors to make an informed decision. Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the application is approved as it is in keeping with the current street scene, it will improve the family amenity, it will not harm the environment and it will allow for sufficient insulation to be installed.
 Resolved – Mr Fulcher did not vote but all other Councillors voted to accept the application.

- Item 90 Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported to the Council that she had been notified of two new incidences of anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Field which had been logged with the Police. The Skate Park conditions of use sign has been vandalised and it will be replaced as soon as possible. It was suggested that the nearest post code to the Park should be added to the sign or a new sign made so that emergency services can locate the Park if needed. The Clerk will look into this. The Chairman also reported that the Clerk had circulated 4 new District Council consultations regarding the Local Plan 2036 draft proposals along with a seminar invitation and she requested that any Councillors who are interested in attending should let the Clerk know as soon as possible. Mr Jeff Nicholls said that he would attend on Tuesday the 8th August along with the Clerk.
- Item 91 Parish Council Representatives Report –**
- Road Safety and HCV** – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that there will be a Road Safety meeting on Thursday 13th July and a HCV meeting in July is still to be decided.
- Recreation Field and Play Equipment** – No report
- Health and Safety** – Mr John Fulcher accompanied the Inspector on his annual inspection visit to the two play areas in Earith. A report will be given in August
- Hanson update** – No report.
- PC Cluster Meetings** – No report
- Saywell Charity** – No report
- Ouse Valley Way update** – No report
- ERICA Update** – Health and Safety paperwork is still to be completed
- Rights of Way** – The bridle path and footpath along the riverbank from the sluice gates at Earith Bridge to Sutton will be closed for remedial work to be carried out from July 2017 – January 2018. This work is not being carried out on behalf of the Parish, District or County Councils and any comments that you wish to make should be addressed to the Environment Agency.
- Village Pond** – No report
- Allotments** – A tenant has requested that the Council consider charging deposits for all new plots to encourage tenants to regularly maintain their plots. This will be an agenda item for discussion in August
- Skeeles update** – No report
- Earith Town Estate** – No report
- Community Plan** – No report
- Village Car Parks** – Please see comments from the District Council in agenda item 84
- Item 92 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made**– Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that all items reported in July had been actioned apart from the bush growing over the street lamp at 68 Greenfields. Two visits have been made to the property but despite the home being occupied the owner did not open the door. The Clerk is to write a letter to the homeowner. New reports of a laurel bush spreading over the pavement at 6 School Road and a visit being made to Bridge End to check the hedges in this area.
- Item 93 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – Drains are blocked along the High Street from George Corner to 101 and along Colne Road and in Orchard Crescent.
- Item 94 Community Defibrillator – Purchase and installation to be discussed**– The Chairman and Clerk have received emails from various companies offering community machines for sale. It was agreed that the Parish Council should purchase one and that it should be placed outside and in a cabinet. It will need a power source. Three possible sites in the Village were identified and the Chairman will investigate the suitability of these sites. The Council would like to see a demonstration and the Clerk will arrange this but in principle the Council agreed to purchase a community defibrillator for Earith
Mr John Fulcher proposed and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the Clerk should arrange a demonstration prior to purchase. Resolved – All in favour
- Item 95 Traffic Issues – Traffic calming measures** – Mr Allan Till presented his ideas for traffic calming measures in the village to the Council. Mr Till had put together several suggestions that had been circulated by the Clerk to all Councillors prior to the meeting so that they could be discussed. Mr Till believes that action should be taken by the Council as traffic problems will only increase. He would like to see lower speeds and more signage and more driver educational measures being taken such as traffic monitoring cameras, give way stop islands and more visible lining on the High Street. The Chairman said that the Council discuss traffic issues constantly and as the A1123 is a long road certain sections need to be looked at. It is the long-term goal to lower speeds along the entire stretch of road in Earith but this will take time. The current LHI bid has been submitted for traffic calming measures at the Bridge End section of the A1123 and this will be discussed in August when the County Council provide their report of what can be achieved in this area. CC Mr Steve Criswell commented that other initiatives such as the Ely Southern Bypass and the A14 improvements will also ultimately help Earith in the long term.

- Item 96 Textile recycling banks** – The Clerk has received an email from the District Council asking if Earith Parish Council would like to have a textile recycling bank in the Village. The Parish Council do feel that this is a good idea but there is not a site within the Village that can be used for this purpose.
- Item 97 Caretaker – Job Description and details to be decided** – The Clerk reported that a Hall Caretaker should be employed for approximately 4 hours per week (based on the number of visits to open and close the Hall) It was suggested that the employment would be in the form of a Service Level Agreement whereby the person doing the job would supply invoices for the work carried out and a basic monthly payment will be made. Any call outs needed due to electrical/plumbing issues will be chargeable separately. This position would only be for opening and closing the hall and for setting out the tables and chairs for the events being held in the Hall. The current Cleaner would still be employed.
- Item 98 Internal Auditor Report** – The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit went very well and there were only three items that were marked as substantial with an assurance level of 2. All other items were highlighted as high with an assurance level of 1 which is very good. The Council wish to thank the Clerk for her continued hard work and appreciate her commitment to the Council and the Village.
- Item 99 Finance** – a) Payments to sign off
b) Online Salary payments for July
c) Chairman to sign bank statement
d) Finance Meeting

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 42 hrs. @ £15.672	658.22			LGHA1989,s.7
	Clerks Expenses	25.00			LGA 1963, s.5
	Mobile Phone monthly rental not taxable	12.00			LGHA1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		558.23	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 5.5 @ £8.722	47.97			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £8.722	21.81			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		69.78	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE June 2017		137.99	2935	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman – self-employed monthly contract		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
MSP Services	Grass Cutting		630.00	2936	OSA 1906, s.10
MiJan Ltd	Internal Auditor Charge		50.00	2937	A&AR 2003 SI2003/533 reg 9
LCPAS	Planning Training		350.00	2938	LGA 1972, s.91
Microsoft	Office 365 monthly cost		5.99	DD	LGHA 1972, s.266
CNG	Village Hall Gas monthly charge		206.79	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
Axis	Village Hall Electricity		20.75	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
	Total Spend for June 2017		£2,178.53		

- a) Mr Allan Till proposed and Mr John Fulcher seconded that the payments should be signed off.
Resolved – All in Favour
- b) Online salary payments for June –Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mr Allan Till 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 May as above
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed and Mr John Fulcher seconded that the Chairman should sign
Resolved – All in favour.
- d) Finance Meeting – The Chairman reported that all items checked during the Finance Meeting were excellent and that there will be a further meeting in three months

Item 100 Correspondence - All other correspondence as per the file

Item 101 Items for future meetings –Village Hall floor & chairs, WW1 commemoration, River Slip Ways, Community Defibrillator, LHI Report, Caretaker, Allotment deposits.

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533
These minutes are unadopted
Email: mpinkearithpc@aol.com

Meeting Dates 2017
Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 3rd August
Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 7th September
Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 5th October
Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 2nd November
Parish Council Meeting - Thursday 7th December
Date of Notice – 15th July 2017

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