

Earith Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 1st February 2018

Present – Councillors

Mr John Fulcher (Chairman)

Mr Jeff Nicholls

Mr Allan Till

Mr Terry Rogers

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)

Mr Keith Hudson

Mrs Marilyn Russell

Mr Alan Spackman

DC Mr Mike Francis, CC Mr Steve Criswell

Mandy Pink – Clerk

4 members of the public

Item 251 Apologies for absence – Mr James Woolstenholmes, Mr Gavin Young, Mrs Julie Seamark, DC Mr Robin Carter

Open Meeting

Item 252 Open Forum – A village resident gave a short presentation regarding planning application agenda item 259. A village resident asked for an update on the Minnaars Application that is still in progress. The resident also handed out a copy of an environmental report carried out by Aspen Environmental in 2012 and commented that the issue of noise is increasing. Various statistics were quoted to bring the Council up to date with current findings.

Item 253 Ecops Report – The Clerk reported that there had been 827 incidences of crime in the Huntingdon area since the beginning of the year. A group of people were seen setting a group of lurcher dogs onto the swans at High Bridge but the police found the area to be quiet when they attended the scene. 2 metal containers at Earith Business Park have been broken into and items taken. A Vauxhall van on the High Street was broken into and two power tools were stolen. A house in Greenfields was broken into and search made but nothing stolen possibly due to the intruders being disturbed.

Item 254 County Council and District Council Reports – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that there will be a community tax rise of 2.99% from the County Council.
 DC Mr Robin Carter reported via email that the District Council have again looked at possibly passing the costs for closed church yards to the Parish Councils although this idea has been shelved for this financial year
 DC Mr Mike Francis reported that the Development Management Committee have decided that planning applications for single dwellings will only be taken to the Committee if the ward Councillor calls them in. If they do not go to the Committee for resolution, then the decision will rest solely with the Planning Officer.
 Councillor Spackman asked if the Car Park at the Village Hall could be cleared of rubbish and vegetation.
 DC Mr Mike Francis will look into this matter.

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

Item 255 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – none received

Item 256 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). - none received.

Item 257 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 4th January 2018
 Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the minutes should be signed.
 Resolved - All in favour.

Item 258 Matters arising – None.

Item 259 Planning – Application Reference 17/02327/S73 – Variation of condition 1 for application 17/02309/NMA regarding application 16/00909/FUL – Land west of 26 High Street to be renamed River Grange 40 High Street, Earith
 Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that the application is rejected.
 Resolved – All in favour
 The external cladding was not in keeping with the conservation area or the street scene. If the cladding is removed from the plans, then the Council will be able to support this application.

- Item 260 Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the Notice of Election will be posted on the 19th March 2018 and all nomination forms must be completed and hand delivered back to the District Council before 4pm on Friday the 6th April 2018. He also reported that a community café has been started up by volunteers who will be donating any profit made to charity. The first session held in January was a great success and villagers have commented on what a good community event it was. The Community Defibrillator training session has been booked for Saturday the 17th February at the Village Hall at 10.30am. There are 50 spaces available so please contact the Clerk if you are interested. The Clerk presented the LHI bid to the County Council on Wednesday the 17th January and it appeared to have been favourably received. Decisions will be made in March. The Chairman also reported that the Clerk had written 44 letters, in November, to local haulage companies, as requested by a village resident and to date there have been no replies received. Councillors' Nicholls, Till and the Clerk have nominated positions for posts for the moveable speed detector sign on both sides of the High Street, Colne Road and Meadow Lane (6 positions in total) and this will raise awareness of the 30MPH speed limit in the Village and will provide transport data to the Council for information.
- Item 261 Parish Council Representatives Report** –
- Road Safety and HCV** – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that there was no HCV meeting, but the Road Safety Group met on 9th Jan and reported that there had been some objections to the speed limit changes hoping to be introduced in an LHI bid by Bluntisham Parish Council. Pot holes and street lights are a problem in St Ives.
- Recreation Field and Play Equipment** – No report
- Health and Safety** – The Chairman reported that the swing shackles and new seats for the horse have been installed at the Rec and Pond play areas as per the recommendations highlighted in the annual inspection.
- Hanson update** – No report
- Saywell Charity** – No report
- ERICA Update** – No report
- Village Pond** – No report
- Allotments** – The Clerk had received an application for a shed on allotment plot 7. Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that this is acceptable. Resolved – All in favour
- Skeeles update** – No report
- Community Plan** – see below item 270
- PC Cluster Meetings** – No report
- Ouse Valley Way update** – No report
- Rights of Way** – No report
- Earith Town Estate** – No report
- Village Car Parks** – See above item 254
- Item 262 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made** – No new reports.
- Item 263 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – 2 road drains blocked opposite St Marys on Cooks Drove – Clerk to report
- Item 264 Caretaker – Update** – No report. The vacancy will be advertised in the Earith Echo.
- Item 265 Resident's concerns regarding the Pond Area, problems with trees - Councillor Spackman to meet with the Tree Officer** – No site visit made yet
- Item 266 Village Maintenance Schedule to be reviewed** – Mr Alan Spackman asked if the Mole problem could be looked at on the village green and at the memorial. Miss Ann Brennan will contact the pest inspector. The grass cutting contract will be reviewed in November. Mr Alan Spackman has been tasked with finding some alternative quotations as regards village maintenance and allotments and he will report back to the Council accordingly.
- Item 267 Allotment wells to be discussed** – The Chairman has inspected the allotment site and has noted that all wells are now covered/guarded adequately and must be securely locked when not in use. The Clerk is to provide padlocks for the well covers.
- Item 268 POES request for the Parish Council to move the December Parish Council meeting so that the pantomime can go ahead** – The Council agreed that on this occasion only, the December meeting can be moved to the Rectors Hall and will remain on Thursday the 6th December as per the Council meeting schedule of dates. If the Rectors Hall is not available, then the meeting will be held in the Village Hall.
- Item 269 Data Protection Regulations appointment of DPO and shredding and storage costs to be discussed** – The Clerk has received information from LCPAS to state that the Clerk can be appointed as the DPO if they are given adequate training, resources and time to carry out the extra duties. The

Council agreed that the Clerk should be appointed as the DPO and extra hours and payment will be made for any GDPR work. Training sessions must be attended when required.

Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the Clerk should be appointed DPO. The Clerk has also looked into shredding and storage costs and she will sort out what is needed when she begins the paperwork audit. Resolved – All in favour

Item 270 Community Plan design update – Proof to be OK'd – The Clerk tabled the proof for the Council to see and the Council agreed the proposed layout. The front-page picture should be used as well as pictures of the bandy player and the river lock. The inside front cover should include Council achievements so far and selected wording from the outline already indicated. It was felt that only one page of writing in bullet points should be included. The Clerk is to work with Councillor Russell to sort out the final design. The cost to print 700 copies in colour is £447.39 which includes artwork.
Ms Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that the proof should be accepted.
Resolved – All in favour.

Item 271 London Plane Tree quotations to be discussed – The Clerk had received two quotations and tabled the email trail showing her efforts to obtain a further quote dating back to November.
Option 1 was for £4300 plus Vat and Option 2 was for £5300 plus VAT
Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that Option 1 should be accepted. Resolved – All in favour.

Item 272 Community Café hall hire rates and insurance to be discussed – The Chairman reported that the Café had been a success and he asked the Council to show some support for this community venture. It was agreed that, as any surplus profit was being donated to charity, it would be acceptable, in this instance only, to offer the Hall to the Community Group free of charge. The Council also invited the Community Group to apply for a grant to cover the cost of insurance for the event.
Mr Allan Till proposed and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that this should be accepted. Resolved – All in favour.

Item 273 Wheelie Bin Stickers – Request to purchase – The Clerk reported that she had now received requests from 17 households in the village for wheelie bin stickers. The Council agreed that the Clerk could purchase 100 stickers. She had obtained two quotes.
Option 1 - £190 plus VAT Option 2 - £165 plus VAT
Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that Option 2 should be accepted.
Resolved – All in favour

Item 274 Finance – a) Payments to sign off
b) Online Salary payments for February
c) Chairman to sign bank statement

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 42 hrs. @ £16.001	672.04			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		567.60	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 5.5hrs @ £8.873	48.80			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £8.873	22.18			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		69.78	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE January 2018		144.99	2975	LGA1972,s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
Earith Echo	Earith Echo issue 46		220.00	2976	LGA 1972, s.133
Fenland Fire Appliance	Fire Exit signs at Village Hall		29.40	2977	LGA 1972, s.133
Hunts DC	Commercial Waste Removal Jan-Mar		58.50	2978	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6
LCPAS	Membership Renewal		100.00	2979	LGA 1972, s.143
Swarco Traffic Ltd	MVAS Sign		3277.09	2980	Local Govt & rating Act 1997, s.30
Lyco	Padlocks		88.70	2981	PHA 1936, s.125
Office Furniture Online	2 x filing cabinet Village Hall		288.00	Dcard	LGHA1972, s.133
Mick George Comm Fund	CTP payment slipway grant		2513.00	2982	LGA 1972, s.144
Parish Council Website	Website Renewal		120.00	2983	LGHA 1972, s.266
Microsoft	Office 365 monthly cost		5.99	DD	LGHA 1972, s.266
CNG	Village Hall Gas monthly charge		135.28	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
Axis	Village Hall Electricity		35.65	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
	Total Spend for January 2018		£7,803.98		

- a) Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the payments should be signed off.
Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for February –Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson 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 January as above
Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. Resolved – All in favour

Item 275 Correspondence – Community Defib Training Saturday 17th Feb 10.30 Village Hall. Anonymous letter regarding barking dogs – The Council asked the Clerk to submit an article to the Earith Echo regarding caring for your community and this item could be featured in the article.

Item 276 Items for future meetings –Village Hall floor & chairs, WW1 commemoration, Neighbourhood Plan, Removal of duck weed at the pond in May

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533

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Meeting Dates

These minutes are unadopted

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 1st March 2018

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 5th April 2018

Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 10th May 2018

District and Parish Council Elections – Thursday 3rd May 2018

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 10th February 2018