

## Earith Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

### Held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018

Present – Councillors

Mr John Fulcher (Chairman)  
 Mr Jeff Nicholls  
 Mr Allan Till  
 Mrs Paula Brown  
 Mr Steve Edwards

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)  
 Mr Keith Hudson  
 Mr Alan Spackman  
 Mrs Louise Reay

0 members of the public  
 Mr Steve Edwards

Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 97 Apologies for absence** – Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mr Terry Rogers, CC Mr Steve Criswell, DC Mr Jon Neish, Mr Lewis Besley

#### Open Meeting

**Item 98 Open Forum** – No comments made

**Item 99 Ecops Report** – The Clerk reported that a drone had been spotted flying around Earith

**Item 100 County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell reported via email that the Cycleway construction is nearing completion and that Earith High Street is unsuitable for the proposed extra HGV movements as stipulated in the planning application to be discussed in agenda item 106 E/3003/18/CM

DC Mr Jon Neish reported via email that the District Council are looking at ways to keep the Council Tax low in Huntingdonshire although the waste disposal budgets have already been exceeded. The new Local Plan is now with the inspectorate and new planning officers have been appointed.

#### (Close open Meeting)

#### (Open closed section of Meeting)

**Item 101 Councillor Vacancy – Co-option of new Councillor** – Mr Steve Edwards applied for the final vacant seat and gave a brief overview of his interest in the vacancy. He was asked to leave the room while the Council deliberated.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that Mr Edwards should be co-opted onto the Council.

Resolved – All in favour

Mr Edwards was asked to return to the room and to take a seat at the Council table. Acceptance of office forms, register of interest and dispensation form for financial matters along with other appropriate paperwork was completed and a Councillor pack provided.

**Item 102 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted** – none received.

**Item 103 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 104 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the minutes should be signed.

Resolved - All in favour.

**Item 105 Matters arising** – None

**Item 106 Planning** – Application Reference E/03003/18/CM – Proposed irrigation reservoirs – Willow Hall Farm, Haddenham

The Council discussed this at length and feel that the additional proposed 90 per day HGV movements throughout the village will be too much for the village to take on. The roads and houses along the High Street are not stable enough to deal with this extra volume of traffic. Road safety will be an issue particularly around the 2 pedestrian crossings on the High Street. The proposed work involved with the application would take approximately 7-8 years and, in this time, there could well be further homes and large-scale developments in the area. The Council have insisted that an alternative route is used through

Block Fen to Mepal and onto St Ives. This is a shorter route. The added noise and pollution will further harm the village environment.

Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the application is rejected.  
Resolved - All in favour.

**Planning** – Application Reference 18/01350/HHFUL – Resubmission of 18/00708/HHFUL with amended rooflights, single storey extension to side and rear – 17 School Road, Earith

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the application is rejected as per the previous application.

Resolved – All in favour

**Planning** – Application Reference 18/01143/HHFUL – Lounge extension – Earith Lakes, Holme Fen Drove, Colne

This site has no neighbours so is not causing any harm to anyone, there is no impact on the street scene and the site is large enough to take the development

Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that the application is accepted.

Resolved – All in favour

**Planning** – Application Reference 18/01409/HHFUL – To demolish a brick outhouse and construct a side extension – The Barn, 6 chapel Road, Earith

There is no impact on the street scene and as long as no trees are removed due to the conservation area and it remains mostly in the existing footprint

Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the application is accepted.

Resolved – All in favour

**Planning** – Application Reference 18/01413/HHFUL – Proposed single storey rear extension – Greensward Lodge, Whybrows Lane, Earith

There is no impact on the street scene and the site is large enough to take the development which is all at the back of the property so cannot be seen. No views will be obstructed, and it will give the family more amenity

Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that the application is accepted.

Resolved – All in favour

**Item 107 Chairman's Report** – Firstly, I would like to welcome Mr Edwards to the Council and can now state that we have a full council with no vacant seats.

Work has commenced on the riverbank and the Clerk is being provided with updates. There are weekly sessions that you can attend to find out more about the ongoing work at the Rectors Hall from 10am-12pm each Wednesday.

CCTV has now been installed at the Village Hall and the Recreation Field and the Clerk is working with Earith Town Estate to monitor security at the Pavilion.

The Clerk has given homeowners living alongside the ditch on Colne Road/Whybrows Lane letters concerning maintenance of the ditch. It is hoped that clearance work will be undertaken by the homeowners.

**Item 108 Parish Council Representatives Report -**

**Road Safety and HCV** – Cllr Nicholls reported that there was a Road Safety meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> July and they were happy that the Parish Councils supported their proposals for the Wheatsheaf junction. The HCV meeting is tonight, and they will be discussing the planning application for irrigation lakes in Haddenham.

**Recreation Field and Play Equipment** – The Inspection visit is to be discussed at agenda item 112

**Health and Safety** – No report

**Hanson update** – No report

**PC Cluster Meetings** – No report

**Saywell Charity** – No report

**Ouse Valley Way update** – No report

**ERICA Update** – No report

**Rights of Way** – No report

**Village Pond** – Another Duckweed clearance has taken place

**Allotments** – Request for erection of a summerhouse – The Council granted permission for this to be done.

**Skeeles update** – No report

**Earith Town Estate** – No report

**Village Car Parks** – A village resident has been undertaking weed clearance to the sides of the Car Park and the Council thanked the resident for doing this.

**Item 109 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made** – The back hedge at the pond needs to be cut as it is overgrowing into the garden of the house behind the pond. Cllr Spackman will do this as a volunteer. Visits are to be made to 35 High Street and 22 Darford.

- Item 110 Drainage, Roads and pavements** – The drainage grids in the High Street have been repaired. The white lines at Meadow Lane/Drove junction need to be replaced. The Clerk will report this to the County Council.
- Item 111 Neighbourhood Planning** – Huntingdon and Sutton plans to be discussed. The council decided that no comments should be made regarding the two plans currently being consulted on. Cllr Nicholls stated that it would take a lot of time and effort to create a plan for Earith and a working party of residents would be hard to find as highlighted by the Earith Parish Community plan. Cllr Reay stated that the District Plan can still override a Parish plan and where in Earith would houses be allocated to be built. It was proposed by Cllr Till that this should be tabled as an agenda item in six months' time for review.
- Item 112 Playground Inspection Reports** – The Chairman read through the reports and noted that the items from last year had all been sorted out and Colne Road play area was given a medium risk rating. The wooden stairs should be monitored as should the dog rocker. It is recommended that a tightening tool can be purchased from Wicksteed. The notice sign has a broken bracket. The Recreation Field was also given a medium rating. The rocking horse and swings needs to be painted and a skirt can be purchased for the horse to prevent trapping accidents. The wet pour underneath should be replaced with grass matting if it deteriorates in the future. The skate park and tarmac path are to be monitored as there are some cracks. The graffiti needs to be removed. Earith Town Estate should monitor the external fencing. Cllr Till commented that it is time to put in a new bid to Aviva and this will be added to the agenda in September.
- Item 113 Pond filters to be discussed** – The Clerk has received a quotation from UK Power Networks of several thousand pounds and with the extra items needed such as a cabinet, traffic management and a qualified electrician to wire in the pump the cost would probably exceed £6-7000. It was proposed to relook at this if any possible grants come up that can be applied for and the Council should look to introduce chemicals to the pond on a quarterly basis.
- Item 114 River Slip Way update** – The Clerk has negotiated with the contractor to return to site and extend the slip way by approximately 1.5m so that it slopes more gently into the water. The cost of this extension will be provided via the grant applied for. The Clerk has submitted the final grant bid paperwork and the payment was made on the 31<sup>st</sup> July.
- Item 115 Street Lighting Maintenance Contract to be discussed** – The Clerk has been looking into a street lighting maintenance contract so that the street lights at the Hall and on Orchard Crescent can be maintained. Some columns at the Hall have been fixed but a permanent fix for all the lights is still to be sorted out. The Clerk was requested to sort the final repairs out and to enter into a maintenance contract for the future.
- Item 116 Rubbish Collection at the Village Hall** – The Clerk is to sort out a contract with HDC for rubbish removal for the grey bin. The green bin is to be returned. Alternative removal for green waste is to be looked at.
- Item 117 Cooks Drove LHI bid proposal design to be discussed** – The Council would like the Clerk to find out why there is still a white area outside no 23 Cooks Drove. Six bollards and the grass verge are to be maintained with a 1.6m pathway from the fence. Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the design is approved providing the white area is looked into by the Clerk.  
Resolved – All in favour
- Item 118 Residents concerns over cleanliness of play area near the pond (Colne Road)** – The Clerk has received an email from a resident whose son plays in the park and he is concerned with the cleanliness of the equipment and the presence of blue rubbish bags. The Clerk has responded to say that this area is looked after by volunteers although she would ask the Council if they wanted to employ a cleaner for this area. The Council stated that the volunteers do a good job at the pond and a cleaner is not necessary.
- Item 119 Finance** –
- a) Payments to sign off
  - b) Online Salary payments for August
  - c) Chairman to sign bank statement

| Payee                        | Description                             |        | £               | Chq    | Powers                  |
|------------------------------|---|--------|-----------------|--------|-------------------------|
| Mrs K M Pink                 | Clerks Wages 42 hrs. @ £16.321          | 685.48 |                 |        | 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                          |        | 579.46          | online |                         |
| Mrs C Shook                  | Caretaker hours 5.5hrs @ £9.341         | 51.38  |                 |        | LGA1972,s.133           |
| xx                           | Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £9.341           | 23.35  |                 |        | LGHA 1989,s.7           |
|                              | Total Less Tax                          |        | 73.73           | online |                         |
| Inland Revenue               | PAYE July 2018                          |        | 145.19          | online | LGA1972, s.112-119      |
| Mr M S Pink                  | Parish Handyman                         |        | 150.00          | online | LGA1953,s.4             |
| MSP Services                 | Grass Cutting                           |        | 285.00          | online | OSA 1906, s.10          |
| MSP Services                 | Maintenance at the Recreation Field     |        | 110.00          | online | OSA 1906,s.10           |
| Mr R Hodge                   | Pond Maintenance                        |        | 8.00            | 3017   | PHA 1936, s.260         |
| Create Signs                 | River Slipway and CCTV signs            |        | 192.00          | online | OSA 1906, s.10          |
| Seagrave Inspection Services | Playground Inspections x 2              |        | 220.00          | online | OSA 1906, s.10          |
| Advanced Security            | CCTV at Hall and Rec                    |        | 3702.00         | online | OSA 1906, s.10          |
| Viking                       | Cleaning products at the Hall           |        | 73.56           | online | LGA 1972,s.226          |
| Earith Echo                  | Earith Echo                             |        | 220.00          | online | LGA 1972, s.133         |
| Zurich Municipal             | Additional cost for slipway and CCTV    |        | 144.00          | online | LGA 1972, s.111         |
| N I Arnauto                  | Additional payment for river slipway    |        | 2700.00         | online | OSA 1906, s.10          |
| Mr B's                       | Key Cutting Pavilion                    |        | 6.00            | Dcard  | LGHA 1972, s.133        |
| Isofast                      | Glue for signs slipway, rec and V Hall  |        | 12.48           | Dcard  | LGHA 1972, s.133        |
| Information Commissionaire   | Renewal of data protection registration |        | 40.00           | Dcard  | LGA 1972, s.288         |
| Party Packs                  | WW1 Centenary decoration V Hall         |        | 58.74           | Dcard  | LGHA 1972, s.133        |
| Hunts DC                     | Commercial waste collection             |        | 19.50           | DD     | Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 |
| Microsoft                    | Office 365 monthly cost                 |        | 5.99            | DD     | LGHA 1972, s.266        |
| CNG                          | Village Hall Gas monthly charge         |        | 31.19           | DD     | LGHA 1972, s.133        |
| Axis                         | Village Hall Electricity                |        | 18.95           | DD     | LGHA1972,s.133          |
|                              | <b>Total Spend for July 2018</b>        |        | <b>£8795.79</b> |        |                         |

- a) Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the payments should be signed off. Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for August –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 July as above Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. Resolved – All in favour

**Item 120 Correspondence** – The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence concerning an EU initiative to provide free Wi-Fi to local authority buildings, so she has noted her email address for updates. Grants will be provided on a first come first served basis. Correspondence was also received from a resident asking for funding for environmental testing equipment. This will be an agenda item in September.

**Item 121 Items for future meetings** –Village Hall floor & chairs, Holiday Sport Provision from HDC, Neighbourhood Plan (six monthly review), Cycleway litter bins, Pub to be listed as a building of interest, Diary of Policy review dates, Electricity supply for pond pumps look for grants, Environmental testing equipment, Aviva grant fund,

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

email: mpinkearithpc@aol.com

Meeting Dates

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 23rd August 2018