

**Earith Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

Present – Councillors

Mr John Fulcher (Chairman)  
 Mr Jeff Nicholls  
 Mr Allan Till  
 Mrs Louise Reay  
 Mr Terry Rogers

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)  
 Mr Keith Hudson  
 Mr Alan Spackman  
 Mr Steve Edwards

2 members of the public

DC Mr Jon Neish, CC Mr Steve Criswell arrived at 8.30pm, Mr Bryan Woodruff, Environment Agency and Ms Martha Taylor, Mott MacDonald  
 Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 142 Apologies for absence** – Mrs Paula Brown, Mrs Marilyn Russell  
**Absent without apologies** - DC Mr Lewis Besley

**Open Meeting**

**Item 143 Open Forum-** A brief presentation was given regarding agenda item 158. The Parish Council have asked for further information to be given at the next meeting.

A resident commented that the Cycleway was a very positive improvement for the village although some negative comments have been reported. The area still requires grass seeding.

**Item 144 Ecops Report** – The Clerk reported that several incidents of vandalism/damage to vehicles have occurred in various areas of the village namely the High Street and Chapel Road. Cllr Hudson reported that there had been a road traffic accident at Bridge End.

**Item 145 County Council and District Council Reports** – DC Mr Jon Neish reported that the new Local Plan hearings have all been completed and an opinion is expected early next year. A planning application by Aldi has been submitted for an area opposite the Silvaco building at Compass Point roundabout and there may be a toucan crossing at the MacDonalds entrance. A resident asked DC Neish why HDC do not carry out environmental testing for air and noise pollution. He will investigate this.  
 CC Mr Steve Criswell gave an update on the Willow Farm irrigation application. The planning committee meeting will probably be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December.

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

**Item 146 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted** – none received.

**Item 147 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 148 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018**  
 Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that the minutes should be signed.  
 Resolved - All in favour.

**Item 149 Matters arising** – None

**Item 150 Planning** – Cambridge and Peterborough County Council – Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan submitted sites – No comments to be raised.

**Item 151 Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the Councillor training session was well attended by six Councillors and the Clerk and Earith PC would like to thank Houghton and Wyton PC for organising it. Environmental testing tubes have been deployed in two area of the village and NO<sub>2</sub> (Nitrogen Dioxide) levels of 24.16 ug/m<sup>3</sup> have been recorded at George Corner and 25.67-29.99 ug/m<sup>3</sup> have been recorded at Woodlands. The national average is 40ug/m<sup>3</sup>.  
 The Chairman thanked Cllr Reay for attending the DMC meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> Sept even though our agenda item had been cancelled due to more information being requested.

**Item 152 Parish Council Representatives Report -**

**Road Safety and HCV** – Cllrs Nicholls and Reay attended the Road Safety meeting and the Wheatsheaf junction was the main item discussed and reduced speed limits were suggested. Speedwatch was also discussed and as it is difficult to get teams together this is not really working well at present. The National Road Accident statistics are not yet available for comment.

Cllr Reay attended the HCV meeting and the Willow Farm responses from the developer were discussed which mainly relied on the 2018 National Planning Policy framework which is currently being challenged by Friends of the Earth. The Wheatsheaf junction was discussed, and clarity of costs are needed to ensure the correct funding can be sourced.

Four members of the group are testing advanced NO2 monitors which will be discussed at their next meeting.

**Recreation Field and Play Equipment** – No report

**Health and Safety** – No report

**Hanson update** – Cllr Rogers attended the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September and had a tour of the site and reported that production and sales budgets have already been exceeded. The RSPB also gave a presentation which stated that wildlife is flourishing with Bitterns, Marsh Harriers, Bearded Tits and Cetti's Warbler in residence. A very rare female Little Crake has also been heard near to the Bridleway.

**PC Cluster Meetings** – No report

**Saywell Charity** – No report

**Ouse Valley Way update** – Cllr Till attended the launch of the Ouse Valley Way Trust which hopes to bring together all the different groups that are monitoring this area into one unit as this is a very under advertised resource.

**ERICA Update** – No report

**Rights of Way** – No report

**Village Pond** – No report

**Allotments** – No report

**Skeeles update** – The current application form is in the Echo

**Earith Town Estate** – No report

**Village Car Parks** – No report

**Item 153 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made** – A visit was made to 5 Bridge End and the Ivy has now been trimmed back. No new reports.

**Item 154 Drainage, Roads and pavements** – No comments made.

**Item 155 Grass cutting tender to be discussed** – The Clerk issued four tenders and two companies replied to say that they did not want to put forward a tender. Two tenders were therefore tabled to the Council for review.

Option 1 - £220 per cut for the Village Grass and £120 per cut for the play areas

Option 2 - £225 per cut for the Village Grass and £60 per cut for the play areas.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that Option 2 should be accepted.

Resolved – All in favour.

**Item 156 Flower planters to be provided and maintained by village resident to be discussed** – A village resident has very kindly offered to provide and maintain two flower planters to be placed under the 30mph signs at the Bluntisham end of the High Street.

Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that this was an excellent idea. The Parish Council thanked the resident for this kind floral donation to the Village.

Resolved – All in favour.

**Item 157 Street Lighting Maintenance Contract to be discussed** – The Clerk has not yet heard back regarding the cost of repairs and a maintenance contract. This will be moved to the November meeting.

**Item 158 Environment Agency request to carry out works over the existing boundary onto the Village Green** Further to the presentation during the Open Forum the Council have requested more information from the Environment Agency before they can decide.

**Item 159 Planning working group to be discussed** – Cllrs Edwards and Till suggested that a Planning Committee should be developed, and a power point presentation had been forwarded to Councillors for consideration. The Clerk pointed out that a Committee would need to be administered in the same way as the Council and all meetings would need to be open to the public and press and correctly minuted. A working group could be formed as an information gathering group to help provide the main Council with more detail to enable more accurate and detailed responses to be made to the planning authority. The Council agreed that this would be a valuable resource and that any members of the group should attend planning training. This is to be an agenda item next month for a more detailed discussion.

**Item 160 Parish Clerk and Caretaker salary review** – The Clerk informed the Council that a national pay rise had already been awarded in 2018 with a further rise agreed for April 2019. The Council discussed this and decided to award a further scale point rise of one to both the Clerk and the Caretaker which would move the Clerk to SCP 36 and the Caretaker to SCP 16. The Clerk thanked the Council on behalf of herself and the Caretaker.

Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that a Scale Point rise of one should be administered as of the 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Resolved - All in favour

**Item 161 Finance** – a) Payments to sign off  
b) Online Salary payments for October  
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
	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £9.341	23.35			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		73.73	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE September 2018		145.19	online	LGA1972, s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
MSP Services	Grass Cutting		60.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
Earith Echo	Echo issue 49		220.00	online	LGA 1972, s.133
Houghton & Wyton PC	Councillor Training		126.00	online	LGA 1972, s. 91
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		29.42	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
	<b>Total Spend for September 2018</b>		<b>£1,409.29</b>		

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

**Item 162 Correspondence** – All correspondence as per file

**Item 163 Items for future meetings** –Village Hall floor & chairs, Holiday Sport Provision from HDC, Neighbourhood Plan (six monthly review), Pub to be listed as a building of interest, Diary of Policy review dates, Electricity supply for pond pumps look for grants, parking at Chapel Road/Bridge End/Edwards Walk, Street lighting maintenance, Environment Agency presentation, Planning working group, Advanced NO2 monitors

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

email: mpinkearithpc@aol.com

Meeting Dates

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

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Date of Notice – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018