

**Earith Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Present – Councillors

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)

Mr Jeff Nicholls

Mr Allan Till

Mr Terry Rogers

Mrs Paula Brown

1 vacant seat

Mr Keith Hudson

Mrs Marilyn Russell

Mr Alan Spackman

Mrs Louise Reay

CC Mr Steve Criswell

Mrs Louise Reay

1 member of the public

Mandy Pink – Clerk

**Item 72 Apologies for absence** – Mr John Fulcher (Chairman) DC Mr Jon Neish, Mr Lewis Besley

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, Miss Ann Brennan took the Chair and opened the meeting.

**Open Meeting**

**Item 73 Open Forum** – A resident raised an observation concerning the new cycleway from Earith to Bluntisham. The resident stated that he had been the subject of a near miss accident on the cycleway whereby a cycle was travelling too fast and too close. CC Mr Steve Criswell stated that the path is a dual use cycleway and as such does not have marked areas for cycles and pedestrians. It is hoped that the cycleway users will show some respect for each other.

**Item 74 Ecops Report** – The Clerk reported that she had not received any new reports concerning Earith.

**Item 75 County Council and District Council Reports** – CC Mr Steve Criswell stated that the cycleway was now almost finished but there are still some holdups in Bluntisham which are being addressed. LHI bids should be submitted before the 31<sup>st</sup> July. Some grids and drains in the High Street belong to Anglian Water who will add these to their schedule for repair. Cllrs Russell and Till both raised concerns over other grids/drains in the High Street as the promised County Council repairs had still not been carried out. This will be followed up. Cllr Brennan stated that the wooden fence at White Bridge Corner on the Needingworth Road has already been damaged and poses a health and safety problem. CC Mr Steve Criswell will take a look and report the damage.

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

**Item 76 Councillor Vacancy – Co-option of new Councillor** – Mrs Louise Reay applied for one of the vacant seats and gave a brief overview of her interest in the vacancy. She was asked to leave the room while the Council deliberated.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Terry Rogers seconded that Mrs Reay should be co-opted onto the Council.

Resolved – All in favour

Mrs Reay 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. The Code of Conduct paperwork will be provided as soon as possible by the Clerk.

**Item 77 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted** – none received.

**Item 78 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). – Cllr Reay declared that she is a member of the Liberal Democrat Political Party.

**Item 79 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

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

Resolved - All in favour.

**To sign minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Meeting held on – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Mrs Paula Brown proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the minutes be signed.

Resolved – All in favour

- Item 80 Matters arising – None**
- Item 81 Planning –** Application Reference E/03001/18/CM – Ancillary clay extraction Bridge Farm, Earith - The Council stated that this application should be accepted so that the movement of HCV lorries is reduced in the Village of Earith.  
Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the application is approved.  
Resolved - All in favour.  
**Planning –** Application Reference 18/0111/FUL – erection of single dwelling following demolition of existing agricultural building prior approval 18/00378/PMBPA – Mill Lane Bluntisham.  
The Council voted to reject this application as it is completely outside of the built-up area for Earith Village and does not fit in with the building line and every side of the proposed dwelling is in open countryside. The proposed dwelling is also not on the original footprint of the agricultural building that has been demolished and is 6.9m outside of the original footprint.  
As this dwelling is positioned in Earith the rubbish disposal trucks would need to drive by all the houses currently on Mill Lane, in Bluntisham, just to collect rubbish from this one dwelling in Earith.  
The proposed dwelling does not sit in the village of Earith even though it may well be in the Parish of Earith.  
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Allan Till seconded that the application is rejected.  
Resolved – All in favour
- Item 82 Chairman’s Report –** The Vice Chairman reported that the payment amount for PAYE in June has been wrongly stated on the agenda as £139.80 but should be £159.92. The Clerk will remedy this in the reporting of the minutes and the correct payment will be made.  
The river slipway has now been completed and the Clerk has organised the install of the CCTV at the Hall and the Rec. Once all the invoices have been received the Clerk will request the grant funding of £22,500 that has been allocated against this project.  
The Clerk, Cllr Brown and myself have been watering and maintaining the new grassed area at the Hall and this ongoing maintenance will be added to the grass cutting contract when it is renewed along with the grassed area at the corner of Colne Road.  
Cllrs Till and Spackman have been monitoring the new speed sign and are working with the Clerk in moving the sign around the village. The Clerk will prepare speed reports when the data has been analysed.  
I would also like to welcome our new Councillor Mrs Louise Reay. There is still a vacant seat so if you do know of anyone else who is interested in joining the Council then please ask them to contact the Clerk.  
The height restriction bar at Bridge End has been taken down twice in the last week. Firstly, a green coloured vehicle drove into the bar and damaged it, but the bar was straightened and replaced.  
Secondly, reed collectors had gained access under permission from the Environment Agency to collect reeds from the river. The bar cannot be welded down due to health and safety reasons for both the farmer and the emergency services, so the Council should look into finding a combination lock of suitable strength to combat further unauthorised access being made.
- Item 83 Parish Council Representatives Report -**  
**Road Safety and HCV –** Cllr Nicholls reported that there was an HCV meeting on the 2nd May and pollution monitoring was the main topic. He was unable to attend and was quoting from the minutes. He attended the Road Safety meeting where Wheatsheaf Junction was discussed, and the Road Safety group bid farewell to Sgt Andy Street.  
**Recreation Field and Play Equipment –** Inspection booked. The Clerk asked for volunteers to paint both sets of swings (Rec and Pond) and the horse. Cllrs Till, Brown, Russell and Reay expressed an interest.  
**Health and Safety –** No report  
**Hanson update –** No report  
**PC Cluster Meetings –** No report  
**Ouse Valley Way update –** No report  
**Rights of Way –** No report  
**Village Pond –** Another Duckweed clearance has taken place  
**Allotments –** Side hedge needs trimming  
**Skeeles update –** No report  
**Village Car Parks –** No report
- Saywell Charity –** No report  
**ERICA Update –** No report
- Earith Town Estate –** No report
- Item 84 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made –** All reported works have been completed following visits made by the Vice Chairman and Cllr Nicholls.  
The trees at the junction to School Road and Greenfields need attention. Cllr Spackman is to cut back the trees at School Road. The Clerk has reported the HDC owned trees to the District but has not yet had any reply. She will chase this up.

- Item 85 Drainage, Roads and pavements** – No new reports.
- Item 86 Neighbourhood Planning** – Cllr Nicholls attended the Neighbourhood Planning meeting and stated that it was very interesting and that nine new plans have been submitted and 3 have been passed so far in the area. The process is very long winded and needs a solid core of people to work on it and would take several years to complete. The Plan would also need to fit in and complement the current HDC Local Plan so if this changes then the Neighbourhood Plan would also need to change. Cllr Rogers stated that the only advantage would be the increase to the proportion of CIL money that the Parish would receive through development. The slides from the meeting will be distributed and this will be an agenda item in August.
- Item 87 Odd job allocation procedure to be discussed** – Cllr Spackman has requested that the Council approve one contractor to carry out odd jobs within the village. The contractor would need to provide public liability insurance that was for a minimum of £5,000,000. Financial Regulations 10.4 state that one Councillor cannot allocate spend on behalf of the Council so any jobs that need carrying out must be tabled before the Council with corresponding quotations to see who the Council wish to appoint for the job.
- Item 88 Holiday sport provision from HDC** - The Clerk reported that the District Council run holiday sports clubs within the area and at present the cost is approximately £21.33 per hour per coach with two coaches recommended at each session and a session would last two hours and would be for children aged 5-13. The Clerk is to place an article in the Echo to gauge local interest and possible sessions could be booked for next year if the demand for this need is noted.
- Item 89 Clearance of drainage dyke near the Pond** – A resident asked the Clerk to arrange for the clearance of the drainage dyke near to the pond that travels along Colne Road around Whybrows Lane and then enters the farmers field. The Clerk has contacted the Flood Risk and Biodiversity Team at Cambridge County Council who have told her that the dyke is covered by landowner riparian rights and as such should be maintained by the home owners who have trees on their side of the dyke. She has been given letters to distribute to those homes that have trees that are overhanging.
- Item 90 Pond filters to be discussed** – The volunteer team of pond clearers have carried out another duckweed clearance session. The water really needs to be aerated to help to alleviate the growth of duckweed, so the Clerk will investigate the potential supply of electricity to the Pond so that an electrical pump can be provided as solar pumps are very expensive for a pond of 210,000 litres.
- Item 91 Local Highways Initiative (LHI) bid to be discussed deadline for application is 31<sup>st</sup> July** – The Council discussed ideas for submission and Cllr Rogers requested that a further SID device should be investigated. A contribution from the Parish of £1000 was decided. The Clerk is to make the submission. Mr Terry Rogers proposed, and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that the submission is made.  
Resolved – All in favour
- Item 92 GDPR statutory amendment to Standing Orders to be adopted** – The current model standing orders have been amended to include a section on GDPR. The Clerk tabled the new sections for the Council to adopt.  
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that the sections are adopted.  
Resolved – All in favour
- Item 93 Code of Conduct acceptance forms to be returned** – All forms have been returned apart from new Cllr Mrs Reay who will return the form once it has been provided.
- Item 94 Finance** –
- a) Payments to sign off
  - b) Online Salary payments for July
  - c) Chairman to sign bank statement
  - d) Finance meeting report to be noted

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
	Back Dated pay rise	26.88			LGHA 1989, s.7
	Mobile Phone monthly rental not taxable	12.00			LGHA1989,s.7
	Total Less Tax		597.72	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 6hrs @ £9.341	56.05			LGA1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £9.341	23.35			LGHA 1989,s.7
	Back Dated pay rise	7.96			LGA 1972,s.133
	Total Less Tax		83.95	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE June 2018		159.92	online	LGA1972, s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
MSP Services	Grass Cutting x 3		415.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
Earith Town Estate	Rental of play area at Recreation Field		750.00	online	OSA 1906,s.10
Viking	Stationery		31.16	online	LGA 1972,s.226
N I Arnauto	Final payment for river slipway		7000.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
Argos and Amazon	Hose pipe and reel		53.93	Dcard	OSA 1906,s.10
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		40.11	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
Axis	Village Hall Electricity		28.33	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
	<b>Total Spend for June 2018</b>		<b>£9,335.61</b>		

- a) Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the payments should be signed off.  
Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for July –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 June as above  
Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded. Resolved – All in favour
- d) Finance meeting report to be noted – Cllr Brennan reported that all payments, receipts, and VAT have been checked along with the bank statements and budgets and all items are to be reported as correct.

**Item 95 Correspondence – none**

**Item 96 Items for future meetings** –Village Hall floor & chairs, Holiday Sport Provision from HDC, Neighbourhood Plan, Cycleway litter bins, Pub to be listed as a building of interest, Diary of Policy review dates, Pond pumps

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

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**Meeting Dates**  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August  
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](http://www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk)

Date of Notice – 14th July 2018