

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 6th February 2020 at the Village Hall

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chairman)
 Mr Keith Hudson
 Mrs Marilyn Russell
 Mrs Louise Reay
 Mrs Paula Brown

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)
 Ms Hazel Lambert
 Mr Allan Till
 Mr Jeff Nicholls
 Mr Peter Jackson

CC Mr Steve Criswell
 0 member of the public

Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 193 Apologies for absence – Mr Alan Spackman, DC Mr Jon Neish

Open Meeting

Item 194 Open Forum – No comments

Item 195 Ecops Report – The Clerk reported that a car had been stolen in Greenfields, PCSO Phil Davis joined the Speedwatch team monitoring traffic on Colne Road and recorded a car travelling at 48mph in the 30mph zone, a Catalytic Converter was stolen from a car in Bridge End and a Honda four by four was seen speeding across fields in Holme Fen Drove. The vehicle was seized and towed away following reports of Hare coursing later in the day.

Item 196 County Council and District Council Reports

CC Mr Steve Criswell reported that the new County Archives office is open in Ely and the County Council are looking at a new build office on Alconbury Weald to be used as a new County Council headquarters. Designs for road improvements at Wheatsheaf Corner, and funding for this, should be ready by April as there have been more accidents at this junction. The County Council are also looking at ways to reduce the road closures due to flooding on the High Bridge Corner in Earith. The road closure at Christmas was not carried out to the correct protocols and the County Council gave apologies for this error. A concrete bollard has been installed near to the gates to stop untoward traversing of the grass verge when the road is closed. Cllr Hudson asked Cllr Criswell to investigate new white lining for the disabled bays at Edwards Walk. Cllr Brennan asked Cllr Criswell to investigate the broken manhole located outside the Crown as the latest repair has failed and the area is now becoming a danger to the public. No report from the District Council to note.

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

Item 197 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – None

Item 198 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

Item 199 To sign minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 9th January 2020

Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the minutes should be signed.
 Resolved - All in favour.

Item 200 Matters arising - None

Item 201 Planning – APP/H0520/W/19/3242296 – Sunfun Luxury Travel Appeal – Noted
Planning – Application – 19/02430/OUT – 125 High Street – Construction of one residential dwelling - Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the application should be approved.
 Resolved - All in favour

Item 202 Greater Cambridge Local Plan Consultation to be discussed – This item was noted.

Item 203 Chairman's Report – The Chairman reported that the Clerk had received a message from Kathy Wormald regarding Frog Life, and she is looking into funding for this project again. The Clerk has also received an invoice for website hosting and would like to pay this now. It will be added to the payments list for next month.
 Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that the payment could be made.
 Resolved - All in favour.
 The Chairman also reported that the causeway cycle path had been cleaned.

Item 204 Parish Council Representatives Report -

Road Safety and HCV – Cllr Nicholls reported that the main item discussed at the Road Safety meeting was the Wheatsheaf Junction. Road markings in the area, particularly at the crossings in Earith, need to be looked at and an extended time frame should be investigated at the St Ivo School crossing to allow the children enough time to safely cross the road. There is to be an HCV meeting soon which Cllr Reay will attend if she is able to do so.

Recreation Field and Play Equipment – No report

Health and Safety – No report

Hanson update – No report

Speedwatch – No report

Saywell Charity – No report

Ouse Valley Way update – No report

Rights of Way – Cllr Jackson reported that the pathway in Adelaide Walk needs to be cleaned and the Clerk will report this.

Village Pond – No report

Allotments – The Clerk has received a request for a green house to be erected at plot 7.

Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the green house should be put up. Resolved - All in favour.

Skeeles update – No report

Earith Town Estate – No report

Village Car Parks – No report

Item 205 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made – No new reports

Item 206 Drainage, Roads and pavements including advisory notes re car parking – No new reports

Item 207 Village Hall working group update – Cllr Lambert reported that there were approximately 25 attendees who were in favour of a new build at the second meeting held on Tuesday the 4th February. Parking remains the biggest concern. An alternative site is preferred. The info boards are to be left up so that the attendees of the Second Saturday Café can respond if needed. The need to initiate a precept rise was noted by the public. The working group will collate all findings and report back to the Council in March for a formal decision to be made which will then enable the group to make positive investigations into cost, design, funding etc.

Item 208 Trees at the back of the Pond inside the duck feeding area – maintenance to be discussed – The Clerk has received two quotations for work to be carried out to the silver birch trees and laurel located at the back of the duck feeding area at the pond.

Quote 1 - £1,950.00 – to reduce height by 5-6m

Quote 2 - £750.00 – to reduce height by 3-4m only to keep shape

The Clerk asked a further company to quote but they did not return her call or attend site.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that Quote 2 should be accepted.

Resolved - All in favour.

Item 209 Environmental Monitoring increase in cost and length of continuance of support to be discussed –

The Clerk received an email to state that the cost of supporting the environmental testing has increased. The length of time for continued support for this initiative was queried and it was decided that the Council would continue support until December 2020. The Council will have supported this for over two years and the results will enable action to be taken if needed.

Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Allan Till seconded that the increase should be accepted, and that support should continue until December 2020.

Resolved – Eight for and One against for the above proposals.

Item 210 Aviva Community Fund – Application to be decided – Cllr Till would like to submit a proposal for new rubbish bins along the Earith to Bluntisham Cycle Path. Council agreed that the submission should be made. Cllr Till to organise this.

Item 211 Village Hall Caretaker to be appointed as a self-employed worker working to a service level agreement - based on 2.5 hours per week with any additional items to be paid upon completion of a time sheet. The Clerk will organise a start date once the locks on the Hall have been changed. Letters have been sent to users to alert them to the changes.

Item 212 75th Anniversary WWII Update – The Clerk gave a report to the Council on the suggestions made so far by the joint working group. Cllr Russell is to join the group.

Item 213 Annual General Meeting date to be set due to the election on the 7th May – The Clerk asked the Council to agree to move the date of the May AGM to Wednesday 6th May as the Hall will be in use on the Thursday for the Police and Crime Commissioner Election.
Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the date should move to the 6th May.
Resolved - All in favour.

Item 214 Annual Parish Meeting date to be set – The Clerk asked the Council to agree to set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting.
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the date should be the 23rd April.
Resolved - All in favour.

Item 215 The role of the Volunteer – This agenda item is to be moved to March as Cllr Spackman is not present.

Item 216 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 65 hrs. @ £17.57	1142.05			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		891.88	online	
Mrs C Shook	Caretaker hours 5.5 hrs @ £10.16	55.88			LGA1972, s.133
	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ £10.16	25.40			LGHA 1989, s.7
	Total Less Tax		80.68	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE January 2020		349.60	online	LGA1972, s.112-119
Mr M S Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953, s.4
MSP Services	Maintenance at the Rec and area opp Bus Shelter		665.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
JS Electrical	Call Out and investigation at Rec		42.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
Impressions Printers	Echo Issue 54 – Printing		545.00	online	LGA 1972, s.142
Mrs K M Pink	Echo Issue 54 – Editorial		200.00	online	LGA 1972, s.142
Earith Timber Products	Allotment gate repair		360.00	online	OSA 1906, ss.9 & 10
SLCC	Climate Change Training		72.00	online	LGHA 1989, s.7
SLCC & ALCC	Membership Renewal		242.00	online	LGA 1972, s.143
Hunts DC	Commercial Waste Collection Rec		20.15	DD	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6
Hunts DC	Commercial waste collection V Hall		10.08	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		95.88	DD	LGHA 1972, s.133
	Total Spend for January 2020		£3,730.26		

- a) Mr Peter Jackson proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay 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 217 Correspondence – All as per file

Item 218 Items for future meetings – River Island, 75th Anniversary event WW2, Role of the Volunteer, EPC Climate Change Action Plan, Pond Clearance.

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

email: mpinkearithpc@aol.com
Meeting closed at 8.30PM

Meeting Dates 2020
5th March
2nd April
Annual Parish Meeting 23rd April
6th May