

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council E-Meeting Held on Thursday 1st April 2021 by Zoom

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chairman)
 Ms Hazel Lambert
 Mrs Marilyn Russell
 Mrs Paula Brown
 Mrs Louise Reay

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman)
 Mr Jeff Nicholls
 Mr Allan Till
 Mr Nick Tindall

DC Mr Jon Neish

2 members of the public

Mandy Pink – Clerk

Due to the Covid19 Government Lockdown measures the Earith Parish Council meeting was held via a video conferencing link, the Agenda was published on the Parish Council Website and emailed to the 71-member Newsletter Subscriber List. This means that at least 83 Households were notified of the Parish Council E-Meeting. Approximately 12% of the Village of Earith.

Item 1 Apologies for absence – Mr Keith Hudson, Mr Alan Spackman, CC Mr Steve Criswell

Open Meeting

Item 2 Open Forum – Emailed comments from Earith Resident regarding car parking in Vermuyden to be an agenda item in May. Presentation given by Earith Resident regarding changing post codes in the village. This will be an agenda item in May. The Clerk has contacted Royal Mail and is waiting for a response.

Item 3 Ecops Report – None. Comments were made by an Earith Resident concerning the lack of masks being worn in the Local Shop. The Chairman advised that a report should be made to the Police regarding this issue via 101. Cllr Brennan advised the Council of a road traffic incident whereby a car was damaged by a large yellow digger and various cars were also damaged on the High Street by youths breaking windscreens etc.

Item 4 County Council and District Council Reports
 District Council emailed report noted. Cllr Till asked DC Jon Neish what the next stage will be regarding the Transport Study and he said that it will primarily be focused on the joining of the A141 bypass and the impact that this will have on St Ives. Cllr Lambert thanked the District Council for providing CIL money to help fund the Wheatsheaf crossroads improvement scheme.
 County Council emailed report noted.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 5 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – None.

Item 6 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 7 To agree minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 4th March 2021
 Ms Hazel Lambert proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the minutes are agreed and should be signed when Full Council resumes. Resolved - All in favour

Item 8 Planning – None

Item 9 Emergency Plan to be discussed – The Clerk had emailed a template and toolkit prior to the meeting to enable the Council to discuss an updated Emergency Plan. The existing plan was agreed in 1988 and is out of date. The Council agreed that a new Emergency Plan should be worked on by the Clerk and Cllrs Lambert, Nicholls and Russell agreed to help with it if needed. DC Jon Neish informed the Clerk that the Huntingdon District Council Officer who devised the HDC Emergency Plan would probably be a good starting point for information gathering.

Item 10 Traffic Calming measures in the High Street update – The Clerk organised an informal meeting with the Council and County Councillor Steve Criswell so that more accurate information can be provided to the Village regarding what can be achieved on the High Street. The decision regarding the reclassification of the road is to be made via the County Council following the election on the 6th of May.

No information can be given until after this date due to purdah restrictions. Cllr Nicholls pointed out to the Council that the information given by CC Mr Steve Criswell in his email regarding the HCV exposure trials in 2011 was miss leading and inaccurate. The Clerk informed the Council that she, together with the Chairman had instigated regular quarterly meetings with the new Local Highways Officer for Earith and this would be a great opportunity for the Residents to find out what can and cannot be achieved regarding the roads, pathways and overhanging hedges etc. Highway queries should be reported online using the online reporting tool and if the Clerk is informed of the problem then this can be followed up with the Highways Officer so that a response can be made to the Resident directly. An article in the next edition of the Echo will inform the Village of this new initiative for providing accurate, up to date information regarding the Highways.

- Item 11 Corporate Governance Statement to be noted** – The Chairman had completed the Statement needed by the Internal Auditor in readiness for the End of Year AGAR returns. The Clerk had emailed this Statement to the Council for noting. Corporate Governance Statement noted by Council.
- Item 12 Resident request to refurbish the telephone kiosk to use as a library** – The Council discussed this request in detail and agreed that the idea was a good one, but the siting of the telephone kiosk does not lend itself to this project. Concerns were raised regarding safety of road users and a possible increase in anti-social behaviour in the area. The Clerk highlighted the regular mobile library service that attends the Village once a month and the possibility of having a pop-up book and toy library in the Pavilion.
- Item 13 Removal of bins at High Bridge and reinstatement at the Pond** – The Clerk highlighted the problems with fly tipping at High Bridge. The area is out of the village and cars can be driven to the site and rubbish is being dumped regularly now that restrictions are being put on the types of rubbish being taken at the recycle centre. Car tyres, batteries, tins of paint, bulky household items, large open bags of dog waste and discarded clothing are all being dumped. Ms Hazel Lambert proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the bins can be removed at High Bridge and one is to be sited at the Pond and the other is to be kept as a spare. Resolved - All in favour
- Item 14 Play Area Health and Safety Reports to be discussed** – The Clerk had emailed the reports to the Council for information. The cradle swing seat at the Pond needs to be changed. Cllr Lambert asked the Clerk to also arrange for the old bench to be removed and disposed of. Some cracks at the Skatepark have been noted and are to be monitored. The Clerk is to get quotes for resurfacing the skate surface for the Council to consider.

District Councillor Neish left the meeting at 8.34pm

- Item 15 Long Term Insurance Renewal to be discussed** – The Clerk informed the Council that the current Long-Term agreement for the Insurance is due for renewal. All options were considered by the Council and it was agreed that the five-year option should be accepted. Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the Clerk should renew the Insurance for a further five-year period. Resolved - All in favour
- Item 16 Skatepark talent day – Email request received to host a tuition and talent day at the Skatepark** – The Clerk informed the Council of the email request to host a talent day which consists of tuition, demonstrations, competitions etc at a cost of between £800 – 980. The Council discussed this request and thought that the cost of this day dedicated to one sport could be better used by the Council in providing multi-sport at the Recreation field over the course of a few days in the Summer holiday as was previously provided before the Covid restrictions came into place. Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that the Skatepark talent day should be refused. Resolved - All in favour
Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mrs Marilyn Russell seconded that the multi-sport days should be organised by the Clerk. Four days of multi-sport activity are to be requested from HDC as previously provided for the Village. Resolved - All in favour
- Item 17 Finance** –
- a) Payments to sign off
 - b) Online Salary payments for April to be made as standard
 - c) Chairman to note bank statement. To be signed when Full Council resumes
- a) Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the payments should be signed off. Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for April – Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that the payments should be made. Resolved – All in favour
- c) Bank statement noted and to be signed when Full Council resumes

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>Chq</u>	<u>Powers</u>
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 75hrs @ £18.05	1353.75			LGHA1989,s.7
	Clerks Expenses	25.00			LGA 1963, s.5
	Mobile phone monthly rental not taxab	12.00			LGA 1972, s.133
		total less tax	1253.14	online	
Mrs C Shook	Cleaner 5.5 hrs @ 10.16	55.88			LGA 1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ 10.16	25.40			LGHA1989,s.7
		total less tax	81.28	online	
Mrs J Law	Caretaker March		100.00	online	LGA 1972,s.133
Inland Revenue	PAYE March 2021		226.86	online	LGA 1972,s.112-119
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
Mrs K M Pink	Extra work Meeting, computer problems		108.30	online	LGHA 1989, s.7
MSP Services	Grass Cutting		450.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
MSP Services	Village Maintenance		475.00	online	PHA 1936, s.260
Viking	Stationery		53.98	online	LGA 1972, s.226
CAPALC	Membership Renewal		482.38	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 annual cost		59.99	DD	LGHA 1972, s.266
Zoom	Zoom meetings monthly cost		14.39	DD	LGA 1972, Schd 12
CNG	Village Hall Gas		80.06	DD	LGA1972,s.133
	Total spend for March 2021		3,565.61		

Mrs Mandy Pink – Clerk 07717 207 533

email: earithparishclerk@outlook.com
Meeting closed at 8.49PM

Meeting Dates 2021
6th May by Zoom

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 14th April 2021