

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 2nd December 2021

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chairman)
Mrs Paula Brown
Mr Keith Hudson
Mr Nick Tindall

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman),
Ms Hazel Lambert
Mr Jeff Nicholls
Mr Alan Spackman

DC Mr Jon Neish

One member of the public arrived at 8.05pm

Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 150 Apologies for absence – Mr Allan Till, Mrs Marilyn Russell, Mrs Louise Reay, CC Mr Steve Criswell

Open Meeting

Item 151 Open Forum – No members of the public present until later in the meeting

Item 152 Ecops Report – No report

Item 153 County Council and District Council Reports

County Councillor Mr Steve Criswell – emailed report noted by Council

District Councillor Mr Jon Neish reported HDC have now recruited more staff members in the enforcement department. Growth grants are being provided for Businesses in the region.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 154 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – None.

Item 155 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 156 To agree minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 11th November 2021.

Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the minutes are agreed.

Resolved - All in favour

Item 157 To agree all decisions made at the virtual meeting held on 11th November 2021 –

Mr Nick Tindall proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the decisions made are agreed.

Resolved - All in favour

Item 158 Planning - Application - 21/02368/HHFUL - 121 Greenfields - Two storey side and single storey rear extension.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Miss Ann Brennan seconded that the application is approved with no objections. Resolved - All in favour

Application - 21/02520/HHFUL - 55 Greenfields - Garage conversion to include roof raise and internal alterations.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the application is approved with no objections. Resolved - All in favour

Item 159 Parish Council Representatives Report –

Road Safety – Mr Jeff Nicholls had emailed the Minutes – noted by Council – Next meeting to be held in January 2022.

HCV – Mr Nick Tindall reported that the Minutes are not yet available for circulation.

Recreation Field and Play Equipment – No report

Health and Safety – No report – see Item 164

Hanson update – No report

Speedwatch – No report

Saywell Charity – The Chairman reported that the current tenant of the Land held by the Charity has passed away and the land is now up for re-let and has been advertised. There will be a meeting on the 14th of January 2022 to decide on a new tenant. The Charity need to sort out the income, bank accounts and land and the Chairman will work with the Clerk to help with these matters. See item 166

Rights of Way – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that work is still ongoing at Colne Fen Quarry. The northern route has been stabilised, but more work is needed on the southern end. Work to the Middle Level Barrier is all finished for this year and will begin again in year 6 but this work should not impact the Village of Earith.

Village Pond – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the ducks are back on the Pond.

Allotments – No report

Skeeles update – Miss Ann Brennan reported that a new Trustee is needed following the retirement of Mrs Mary Broughton. The Clerk will ask the Chairman of Skeeles if he would like a notice to be put in the next Earith Echo.

Village Car Parks – No report - see Item 164

Ouse Valley Way – No report

- Item 160 Earith Town Estate** – The Clerk reported that she had not received any feedback from the Village regarding putting on events in the Pavilion. She will place another article in the Echo and see what happens in the New Year. The Clerk is keen to try several ideas and will provide information so that the Village are aware.
- Item 161 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made** – No new reports – The Clerk informed the Council that work will be carried out to the overhanging trees and hedges at the Industrial Estate as the landowner has confirmed that they are looking into this. Work to the trees alongside and to the back of no 1A Hereward is ongoing but the changes made already are particularly good.
- Item 162 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – No report
- Item 163 Village Hall site location** – Following the Village consultation via a leaflet drop to every house (apart from 4 on Colne Road who will now be added to the distribution list) and an open meeting on the 27th Nov and also following the two open public meetings held to determine the need for a new Hall Oct 2019 and also in Feb 2020 to consult on funding requirements the Council have now been asked to determine the best site to move forward. All three sites that have been considered have pros and cons such as access and parking requirements and flood, drainage, and transport queries. A series of surveys will now be commenced to determine the suitability of the site that has been chosen by the Village. The site adjacent to the current recreation field was the one most favoured.
Site 1 – The site of the existing Hall was voted for by 1% of the Village
Site 2 – The Recreation Field site was voted for by 89% of the Village
Site 3 – The field known as the ECA Field was voted for by 10% of the Village
These figures were obtained by the number of people who responded via email and attendees at the meeting on the 27th of November who had not previously registered a response.
 The Council thanked the Village Hall team for their time and effort to move this project forward and Ms Hazel Lambert will inform the Architects that surveys can be commissioned for this site. An article will be placed in the Echo and a statement will be posted on the website and Facebook.
- Item 164 Refurbishment work needed to fire & disabled toilet doors in the Hall and drainage in the Car Park**
 The Clerk reported that the two doors to the disabled toilet need to be repaired along with the side fire door as the framework on this door was damaged and the locking mechanism was not working correctly. The large door at the back of the Hall is to be boarded over as it cannot open fully due to the brick wall outside and this poses a danger to the Hall users if they need to be evacuated quickly. The Clerk is to put a notice on this door informing Hall users of the fire policy and evacuation procedure. The five drains in the car park also need to be cleaned out and a possible collapsed drain needs to be investigated. The Clerk would like to sort this out but does not have firm quotations at present and will need to pass the final costings by the Finance Group so that the work can be carried out quickly.
 Mr Steve Edwards proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Clerk could action these repairs as soon as possible. Resolved - All in favour
- Item 165 Plastic Free Communities** – The Clerk has registered the Village with the Plastic Free Communities Initiative but has not yet received any feedback from the Village regarding moving this forward. This does need to be a community initiative. A further article will be added to the Earith Echo asking for volunteers to help in the steering group. The Clerk will continue to work in the background to contact Village Businesses and Village Allies such as the WI, Primary School, Village Charities, Second Saturday Café and the Earith Pre School and Toddlers' Group to help to raise support.
- Item 166 Land Registry update to include land under PC control and two Village Charities** – The Clerk has appointed Leeds Day Solicitors in Huntingdon to carry out the Land Registrations and would also like to include the land owned by the Earith Town Estate Charity and the Saywell Charity to help them out. It is hoped that costings for a large complete Land Registry would be lower for the Council rather than if the Charities applied by themselves. Costs can then be invoiced out.
 Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the Clerk should include the two charities in the applications to be made. Resolved - All in favour
- Item 167 Annual budget to be agreed and precept to be decided** – The Clerk had tabled the draft budget in November to give the Council a chance to consider it fully. A £3000 increase was agreed for the precept

which took the amount to be applied for from the District Council to £63,000. This is a 5% rise. The estimated budget for 2022/23 was agreed at £68,635.

Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the precept rise, and budget are agreed. Resolved – All in favour

- Item 168 Finance** –
- a) Payments to sign off
 - b) Online Salary payments for December to be made as standard
 - c) Chairman to sign bank statement.
- a) Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Ms Hazel Lambert seconded that the payments should be signed off. Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for December (including back dated pay to 1st Oct) – Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the payments should be made. Resolved – All in favour
- c) Bank statement signed by Chairman

<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	1254.94	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 November		100.00	online	LGA 1972,s.133		
Inland Revenue	PAYE November 2021		224.37	online	LGA 1972,s.112-119		
Mrs K M Pink	Extra work APM and Land Registry		92.90	online	LGHA 1989, s.7		
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4		
MSP Services	Grass Cutting		330.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10		
MSP Services	Maintenance to bus shelter Cooks Drove		85.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10		
Viking	Toner for B&W printer		44.39	online	LGA 1972, s.133		
SLCC	Practitioners Conference		90.00	online	LGHA1989,s.7		
CPRE	Membership Renewal		36.00	online	LGA 1972, s.143		
Morelock Signs	Battery for Speed Sign		82.80	online	Highways Act 1980, s274A		
Plantscape	Provision of Christmas Lights		2472.00	online	LGA 1972, S.137		
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		
CNG	Village Hall Gas		14.01	DD	LGHA1972,s.133		
SSE	Village Hall Electricity		72.84	DD	LGHA1972,s.133		
	Total spend for November 2021		5,160.76				

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

email: earithparishclerk@outlook.com
Meeting closed at 8.37pm

Meeting Dates 2022
6th Jan
3rd Feb
3rd Mar

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 11th December 2021