

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 3rd March 2022

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chairman)
 Mrs Paula Brown
 Mr Keith Hudson
 Ms Hazel Lambert
 Mr Alan Spackman
 Vacancy

Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman),
 Mr Nick Tindall
 Mr Jeff Nicholls
 Mr Allan Till
 Mrs Louise Reay

DC Mr Jon Neish
 Public 0

Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 208 Apologies for absence – CC Mr Steve Criswell

Open Meeting

Item 209 Open Forum – No members of the public present

Item 210 Ecops Report – No report

Item 211 County Council and District Council Reports

County Councillor Mr Steve Criswell – No report

District Councillor Mr Jon Neish reported that Huntingdonshire District Council's 2022/2023 budget was presented at a meeting of the Full Council on Wednesday 23 February and approved for the forthcoming budget year. Pandemic recovery work continues to move on at a pace and HDC have plans to enhance all Market towns.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 212 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – None.

Item 213 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 214 Clerk reminder to Councillors regarding elections on 5th May – Nomination packs have been provided for all Councillors. The notice of election will be posted on 28th March and the deadline for hand delivery of nomination papers is 4pm on the 5th of April 2022. HDC have requested that appointments are scheduled for delivery of papers so that the forms can be checked.

Item 215 To agree minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 3rd February 2022.
 Miss Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the minutes are agreed.
 Resolved - All in favour by those who attended the meeting

Item 216 Planning - Application - 18/01690/FUL - Apple Tree Surgery Chapel Road - Demolition of existing building & erection of one new four bed dwelling
 The Council discussed the amended application and although they recommended approval of the 2018 application, they did make some comments which still stand but have not been accommodated in the amended proposal. With this in mind the Council agreed to recommend rejection of the amendment as the development is still too large for the site and landownership is still in question. The development would impinge on footpath no.18 and would encompass the streetlight that is currently in place. This would result in obstruction of the footpath and would cause harm to users as they will not be able to traverse the footpath adequately. The design is not in keeping with the site and the Village is losing a vital amenity now that the surgery has closed. Parking is also not adequate for the site and access will still be needed to the garage to the left of the site as this does not belong to the applicant.
 Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the Council recommend refusal of this application.
 Resolved - All in favour

Item 217 Parish Council Representatives Report –

Road Safety – Mr Jeff Nicholls reported that there will be a meeting soon

HCV Group – Mr Nick Tindall reported that there is nothing new to report and the next meeting will be held in April

Recreation Field and Play Equipment – H&S visits need to be made

Health and Safety – H&S visits need to be made

Hanson update – No report

Speedwatch – No report

Saywell Charity – No report

Rights of Way – No report

Village Pond – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that the fish that feed on Duckweed have been introduced into the pond and Villagers are encouraged **to not** feed them as they need to eat the weed in the pond and if they are fed other things then they will not eat the weed. This will be monitored, and signs installed if needed.

Allotments – The Clerk has received a request for a shed to be erected on plot no.8a. The Council agreed that the tenant can put up a shed. There is only one ¼ plot remaining.

Skeeles update – Miss Ann Brennan reported that a meeting was held to discuss the grants that have been awarded and to welcome a new Trustee. They are looking to review the criteria and will arrange an amended application form to be put into the Echo.

Village Car Parks – No report

Ouse Valley Way – No report

- Item 218 Earith Town Estate – To confirm annual lease amount and if legal fees are to be paid by the PC**
Following the recent Trustees meeting it was agreed that a lease for £1000 per annum is to be drafted by the Charity Secretary in conjunction with Solicitors and the Trustees have requested that the Parish Council pay the legal fees needed for them to do this.
Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mr Allan Till seconded that the lease amount of £1000 is agreed.
Resolved - All in favour
Mr Alan Spackman proposed, and Mr Allan Till seconded that the Parish Council should pay the legal fees associated with a lease for the footprint land needed to build a new Village Hall and car park.
Resolved - All in favour
- Item 219 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made – Mr Alan Spackman**
reported that a tree had fallen near the sluice gates at the Green and he would clear this as a volunteer. He will let the Chairman have the relevant risk assessment and will ask for a two-week window of dates so that he can get this work completed. The tree had fallen due to storm damage that has also caused damage to the fence at the Recreation Field and at High Bridge. The Clerk has arranged for the fences to be repaired.
- Item 220 Drains, Roads and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – The Clerk reported that she, and the Chairman attended a meeting with the Highways Officer, and he confirmed that the damage to the centre of the road going from Earith to Bluntisham is on the schedule for repairs as is white lining in some areas of the Village. The Clerk asked him to try and get the lines replaced at the corner of Cooks Drove and Meadow Lane. There is some surface water flooding at the Shop following heavy rainfall and this will be investigated by the Highways Team. The hedge along the Earith to Bluntisham cycle path is on the list for maintenance in the new budget year along with the trees on either side of the A1123 as you leave the Village going towards the Bridge.
- Item 221 Plastic Free Communities** – The Clerk reported that the steering group are looking into events that can be held to highlight the initiative and they are looking to approach Businesses and Community Groups to act as Allies. The Clerk will put an article in the Echo, and it is hoped that more people will come forward to offer help as this is a Community Initiative and is not being run by the Council.
- Item 222 Land Registry update** – No update yet but the Clerk has asked for some information regarding the status of the applications so far. She has also found some further documents that may be needed.
- Item 223 Queens Platinum Jubilee Councillor Responsibilities to be finalised** – Ms Hazel Lambert will be the lead Councillor for this event and will look to find some further volunteers if needed. The Chairman will open and close the Pavilion. The informal “bring your own picnic” is to be organised for Friday the 3rd of June between 2pm and 5pm on the recreation field and some sports events will be organised for both adults and children. Medals will be provided for those who attend, and Miss Ann Brennan will organise this. Residents are encouraged to organise their own parties on Sunday the 5th of June in line with the rest of the UK. The Clerk is to contact the Secretary for Earith Town Estate to request the use of the field and pavilion.
- Item 224 Village Hall update** – Ms Hazel Lambert reported that a basic design is being worked on and will be displayed at an Open Forum for the Village on Thursday April 28th in the afternoon before the Annual Parish Meeting in the evening. The building is being designed as a sustainable development using sustainable materials and a pre planning application is being drawn up by the Architects.
- Item 225 CAPALC renewal to be agreed** – The Clerk asked the Council to consider the CAPALC renewal for a further year at a cost of £488.92.
Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the Clerk could organise the renewal.
Resolved – All in favour

- Item 226 Finance** – a) Payments to sign off
 b) Online Salary payments for March to be made as standard
 c) Chairman to sign bank statement.
- a) Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mrs Louise Reay seconded that the payments should be signed off.
 Resolved – All in favour
- b) Online salary payments for March – The Clerk informed the Council that the sector national pay rise has been agreed at 1.75% and is to be back dated to the 1st of April 2021.
 Mrs Louise Reay proposed, and Mr Jeff Nicholls seconded that the payments should be made.
 Resolved – All in favour
- c) Bank statement signed by Chairman

Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 75hrs @ £18.58	1393.50			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	1281.72	online	
Mrs C Shook	Cleaner 5.5 hrs @ 10.44	57.42			LGA 1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ 10.44	26.10			LGHA1989,s.7
		total less tax	83.52	online	
Mrs J Law	Caretaker February		100.00	online	LGA 1972,s.133
Inland Revenue	PAYE February 2022		242.83	online	LGA 1972,s.112-119
Mrs K M Pink	Extra work ETE		92.90	online	LGHA 1989, s.7
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
Flynn Lakes Koi	Pond Maintenance		163.50	online	PHA 1936, s.260
SLCC & ALCC	Membership Renewal		320.00	online	LGA 1972, s.143
Sisco Architect	Stage 2 fee V Hall		3300.00	online	LGA 1972, s.133
Parish Council Website	Website Hosting charge		144.00	Debit Card	LGHA1972,s.266
Survey Solutions	Topographical Survey V Hall		834.00	online	LGA 1972, s.133
Mitchel and Mayle	Car Park drainage works V Hall		180.00	online	LGA 1972, s.133
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
Positive Energy	Village Hall Gas		225.86	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
SSE	Village Hall Electricity		86.84	DD	LGHA1972,s.133
	Total spend for February 2022		7,235.40		

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

email: earithparishclerk@outlook.com
 Meeting closed at 8.47pm

Meeting Dates 2022
 7th Apr

Due to the Elections 12th May
 Due to the Bank Holiday 9th June

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 12th March 2022