

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 7th September 2023

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chairman)

Mr Alan Spackman

Mrs Paula Brown

Mr Keith Hudson

Mr Jeff Nicholls

Mr Allan Till

Mr Nick Tindall

DC Mr Paul Hodgson Jones, DC Mr Jon Neish

Public 0

Mandy Pink – Clerk

Item 90 Apologies for absence – CC Mr Steve Criswell, Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chairman), Ms Hazel Lambert, Mrs Louise Reay, Mr Nev Clements

Open Meeting

Item 91 Open Forum – No members of the public present at the meeting

Item 92 Ecops Report – No report

Item 93 County Council and District Council Reports

County Council – Report received by email concerning weeds in the Villages noted by Council. Cllr Tindall asked if the Parish Council can reply concerning this matter and the Clerk informed Cllr Tindall that this would be an Agenda item for discussion in October and the Chairman will draft a letter.

District Council - DC Mr Jon Neish reported that the District Council previously used to spray the weeds in the Villages on behalf of the County Council, but this has now stopped, and the service is being subcontracted by the County Council. This is now becoming an issue for the road sweepers. The Chairman asked the District Councillors why the grass in the Village has not been cut for several weeks and it was thought that this service may have been caught up in the recent industrial action at the District Council. The Clerk informed the Councillors that the grass had not been cut for at least 5-6 weeks. Cllr Hudson asked the District Councillors if they could investigate why the Darford Car Park has not been maintained and cut back for some time. The District Councillors will look into this matter. Cllr Spackman reported that there is a dead tree on the corner of School Road and the Clerk will inform the County Council about this.

(Close open Meeting)

(Open closed section of Meeting)

Item 94 Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted – None.

Item 95 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 96 To agree minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 3rd August 2023.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the minutes are agreed.
Resolved - All in favour by those that attended the meeting. Minutes signed by the Chairman.

Item 97 Planning - Application Reference - 23/01460/HHFUL - 12 Vermuyden - Erection of a new single storey rear extension, Demolition of porch, alterations to facade including new windows and doors along with render and timber cladding, internal alterations, and associated works – The development was discussed by the Council, and it was agreed that there are no objections to this application.

Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Alan Spackman seconded that this application is approved with no objections to make. **Resolved – All in favour.**

Planning - Application Reference CCC/23/093/FUL - Envar Composting Ltd - Construction of a Waste Transfer Station and Biomass Building, 4 Fire Water Holding Tanks, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a new Surface Water Attenuation Lagoon – The Chairman reported that he had looked over the 72-page application and noted that the requirement for an incinerator had been removed from the application along with the suggestion for NHS waste recycling. Therefore, based on this understanding the Council agreed that they have no further comments to make regarding this application.

Mr Nick Tindall proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that there are no further comments to make if the Parish Council's understanding of the application is correct.

Resolved – All in favour.

Item 98 Parish Council Representatives Report –

Road Safety – Cllr Nicholls stated that there are no changes to those items reported last month. The Minutes will be emailed when they are received.

Allotments – See Agenda item 104.

Rights of Way – No report

Recreation Field and Play Equipment – No report.

Village Pond – See Agenda item 103.

Health and Safety – No report

Hanson update – The Chairman reported that the recent meeting had been cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for 20th September.

Skeeles update – The Clerk reported that the current application form will be published in the Earith Echo which will be distributed in October.

Village Car Parks – The District Council are to investigate the maintenance issues notified earlier in the meeting at Darford Car Park

- Item 99 New Village Hall update** – The Chairman informed the Council that the recent planning application for a New Village Hall in Earith has been refused by the District Council. The Village Hall Group will now contact the Architects to see what can be actioned to move this application forward. An appeal can be made if needed. District Councillor Neish will ask the planning department why it has taken so long to determine this application. The Chairman will provide him with bullet points for items to be noted.
- Item 100 Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made** – No new reports.
- Item 101 Drains, Roads, and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – Cllr Hudson asked the Clerk to organise for the passageway between Chapel Road and the High Street to be cut back as this is now becoming difficult to use.
- Item 102 Electric charging points at the High Street car park update** – The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had attended a meeting with Char.gy who informed her that they are now looking at installations for Parish Councils in a cluster if they only have one or two points to be installed so the Clerk asked Char.gy to contact the District Council and also the Society of Council Clerks to see if a cluster of villages could be arranged. She will also attend a meeting of the Society of Council Clerks and will bring this matter up for discussion in the future.
- Item 103 Pond maintenance treatment to be agreed** – The Chairman asked Cllr Brown to provide a summary of her ideas regarding the Pond. The Council discussed the proposed action regarding installing a pump with mechanical filters, UV filters, pipework, pump housing and associated works. Approximate costs of £1000 to be agreed.
Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mr Steve Edwards seconded that Cllr Brown could go ahead with the project. If costs escalate, then this will need to come back before the Council to confirm.
Resolved – All in favour – Cllr Brown did not vote.
- Item 104 Allotment update and alternative uses to be considered** – The Clerk gave an update on progress regarding all unused and vacant plots. Plot 4 has been relet and plots 14 and 14a have been reclaimed by the Council. Plots 22a and 23a will be reclaimed as of close of play on Friday 8th unless the tenant contacts the Clerk. Eviction proceedings will begin regarding plot 6c. Plots 16a and 16c have been maintained. All other plots nominated for eviction will now be contacted. It is hoped that a new tenant will be interested in plot 12. Alternative uses for the unused plots will be discussed in October as Cllr Lambert was looking into this matter and was unable to attend the meeting this evening.
- Item 105 1st Quarter Accounts to be noted (Apr, May, Jun)** – The Clerk had emailed the Accounts prior to the meeting - Noted by Council.
- Item 106 Finance** –
- a) Payments to sign off.
 - b) Online Salary payments for September to be made as standard
 - c) Chairman to sign bank statement.
- a) The Clerk informed the Council that a late invoice for £150 had been received and this would be scheduled to be paid now and then listed in the payments for October.
Mr Keith Hudson proposed, and Mrs Paula Brown seconded that the payments should be signed off.
Resolved – All in favour.
- b) Online salary payments for September to be made as standard.
Mr Jeff Nicholls proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the payments should be made.
Resolved – All in favour.
- c) Bank statement signed by the Chairman.

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>£</u>	<u>Chq</u>	<u>Powers</u>
Mrs K M Pink	Clerks Wages 75hrs @ £19.90	1492.50			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	1379.16	online	
Mrs C Shook	Cleaner 5.5 hrs @ 11.63	63.97			LGA 1972,s.133
xx	Booking Clerk 2.5hrs @ 11.63	29.08			LGHA1989,s.7
		total less tax	91.44	online	
Mrs J Law	Caretaker August		100.00	online	LGA 1972,s.133
Inland Revenue	PAYE August 2023		256.75	online	LGA 1972,s.112-119
Mr MS Pink	Parish Handyman		150.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
MSP Services	Grass Cutting inc Village maintenance		555.00	online	OSA 1906, s.10
Earith Town Estate	Rental of Meeting Room		22.00	online	LGHA 1972,s.133
HM Land Registry	Land Registration fees		150.00	DD	LGA 1972, s.226
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
	Total spend for August 2023		2,734.58		

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

email: earithparishclerk@outlook.com
Meeting closed at 8.44pm

Meeting Dates 2023
5th October
2nd November
7th December

www.earithparishcouncil.org.uk

Date of Notice – 30th Sept 2023