Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 3rd July 2025

Present – Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chair)	Miss Ann Brennan (Vice Chair)
Mr Jeff Nicholls	Mr Nev Clements
Mr Keith Hudson	Mr Nick Tindall
Mr Alan Spackman	Mr Michael Barbour

CC Charlotte Lowe
DC Mr Jon Neish, DC Mr Paul Hodgson Jones

Public 0 — Mandy Pink – Chief Executive

Item 56 **Apologies for absence –** Mrs Paula Brown, Mr Allan Till, Ms Hazel Lambert

Item 57 **Open Forum –** No Residents present.

Item 58 **Ecops Report –** Cybercrime awareness notification received.

Item 59 **County Council and District Council Reports**
County Council – CC Charlotte Lowe informed the Council about the Committees and Services that she is involved with. Her report focused on Highway Maintenance and Resources. Postal voters will need to re-apply to have the ability to use this service. There will be road closures in Somersham, Parkhall Road in August along with repairs to Colne Road.
District Council – DC Mr Paul Hodgson Jones stated that the new combined authority Mayor was willing to work with existing authorities to move forward the Local Government Reorganisation. He is keen to improve transport links and bus franchising. The Chair and Cllr Tindall wanted clarification on who would have the final say on the new Unitary Authorities. Central Government is urging the existing Authorities to come to agreement so that all Authorities in the UK could work in the same way to provide services.
DC Mr Jon Neish reported that the Darford Car Park could possibly be cleared in July.

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

Item 60 **Code of Conduct – Dispensation received, and decisions granted –** None.

Item 61 **Councillors declaration of interest –** The Chair 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 62 **To agree minutes of Parish Council meeting held on – 5th June 2025.**
Mr Michael Barbour proposed, and Mr Keith Hudson seconded that the minutes are agreed.
Resolved - All in favour by those that attended the meeting.

Item 63 **Planning -** Application 25/01063/S73 - 117 High Street - Variation of Condition 2 (Plans) and 3 (Materials) of 22/02530/HHFUL
Mr Nev Clements proposed, and Mr Nick Tindall seconded that the application is accepted. Comments to include lack of information concerning the change to the Plans (condition 2) and any materials used must be in sympathy with the Conservation Area. **Resolved** – All in favour.

Item 64 **Parish Council Representatives Report –**
Road Safety – The Minutes from the last meeting have been distributed and a new meeting is scheduled for 8th July.
Allotments – Cllr Spackman reported that he has not marked up the new kitchen plots, but some plots have been cleared. Plots 3, 16a and 16c need to be maintained and the Chief Executive will contact the plot holders. Council to look again at the need for a pump for water at the site. This will be an Agenda item for future meetings.
Rights of Way – No report. **Recreation Field and Play Equipment –** No report.
Village Pond – No report. **Health and Safety –** No report.
Brice Aggregates update – Contact has been renewed and there is to be a meeting at the quarry site at Needingworth on the 17th September. The Chair will attend.
Skeeles update – No report. **Village Car Parks** – No report.

Item 65 **Trees and hedges to report for action to be taken and updates on visits already made –** New reports and visits to be made to 70 Greenfields and 12 Orchard Crescent. Cllr Hudson will contact the resident at 1 Darford to check if the property is still owned by the Housing Association who should be maintaining the hedge.

Item 66 **Drains, Roads, and Pavements – including advisory notes re car parking – reports for action to be taken** – The Chief Executive asked CC Lowe to investigate the weed spraying and drain clearing schedules for the Village. She will report back to Council.

Item 67 **Local Government Reorganisation options to be considered –** The Chief Executive urged all members of the Council to complete the survey regarding Local Government Reorganisation as residents. The Council views are as follows: -
5 Councillors in favour of Proposal C
2 Councillors in favour of Proposal A
1 Councillor in favour of Proposal B
The Council discussed all Proposals at length and agreed that there was a general lack of any factual information to enable a balanced decision. The Council would welcome more information to be shared so that the Residents can be engaged in the final decision.
Mr Steve Edwards proposed, and Mr Nick Tindall seconded that the Chief Executive should complete the survey on behalf of the Council and should make the comments noted above.
Resolved – All in favour.

Item 68 **HDC Travel Hierarchy Village Public Rights of Way (PROW's) to be discussed –** The Chief Executive emailed all the information to the Council prior to the meeting so that decisions could be made concerning the priority of the Village PROW's. Due to the complexity of the information needed and time constraints the Council agreed that a working group could provide the Chief Executive with views to be made prior to the deadline of 31st July. The Chief Executive asked the working group to complete all information by the 24th July so that the spreadsheets can be completed in time for the consultation deadline.
Working Group members – Cllrs Clements, Brennan, Lambert and Nicholls.

Item 69 **Finance** – a) Payments to sign off.
b) Online Salary payments for July to be made as standard.
c) Chair to sign bank statement.

a) Ms Ann Brennan proposed, and Mr Nev Clements seconded that the payments should be signed off.
Resolved – All in favour.
b) Online salary payments for July 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 Chair.

Payee	Description		£	Chq	Powers
Mrs K M Pink	Salaries	1614.00			LGHA1989,s.7
	Expenses	25.00			LGA 1963, s.5
		total less tax	1473.52	online	
Mrs C Shook	PC Staff Member buildings & maintenance	106.08			LGA 1972,s.133
		total less tax	91.48	online	
Inland Revenue	PAYE June 2025		363.38	online	LGA 1972,s.112-119
Giff Gaff	PC mobile monthly sim		10.00	dcard	LGA 1972, s.133
Garden Tamer	Parish Handyman		280.00	online	LGA1953,s.4
Garden Tamer	General H&S Village Maintenance		70.00	online	LGA 1972,s.133
Impressions Printers	Echo issue 76 - Printing		620.00	online	LGA 1972, s.142
Mrs K M Pink	Echo issue 76 - Editorial		200.00	online	LGA 1972, s.142
Earith Town Estate	Rental of play area at Recreation Field		750.00	online	OSA 1906, 3.10
Earith Town Estate	Rental of Meeting Room		22.00	online	LGHA 1972,s.133
Advanced Security	New CCTV Camera Pavilion		750.00	online	Local Govt & rating Act 1997, S.3
Advanced Security	Maintenance Visit Rec		254.40	online	Local Govt & rating Act 1997, S.3
Hunts DC	Commercial Waste Collection Rec		21.67	DD	Litter Act 1983,ss.5,6
Hunts DC	Commercial Waste Collection V Hall		10.83	DD	Litter Act 1983,ss.5,6
EDF	Electricity General Estate		58.39	DD	PHA 1936, s.260
Dropbox Professional	Annual charge		199.00	DD	LGA 1972, Schd 12
	Total spend for June 2025		5,174.67		

Mrs Mandy Pink – Chief Executive 07724 666 703 **email: clerk@earith-pc.gov.uk** **Meeting Dates 2025**
These minutes are adopted **Meeting closed at 9.30pm** **7th August**
4th September

www.earith-pc.gov.uk **Date of Notice – 2nd August 2025**