

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) held on Thursday 23rd April 2026

Present Councillors

Mr Steve Edwards (Chair)
Mr Nick Tindall
Mr Allan Till
Mrs Paula Brown
Mr Nev Clements

District Council – Mr Paul Hodgson-Jones

Public - 8 members of the public

Mrs Mandy Pink – Chief Executive and RFO

Apologies for Absence – CC Charlotte Lowe, DC Mr Jon Neish

The chair opened the meeting, and thanked those present for attending.

Item 1 – Earith Primary School Report – Headteacher Mr Tom Abbs was unable to attend the meeting but gave the Chief Executive an emailed report which will be printed in the Earith Echo. The Chief Executive provided the meeting with a brief update as follows.

There are currently 98 pupils enrolled at the school. Significant investment has been made in developing the learning environments. A new teaching and intervention space has been created. The staff room has been refurbished, and all classrooms now have interactive white boards or glass boards. Planned summer projects include a new design and technology pupil kitchen, new key stage 2 toilets and minor alterations to other school areas. The love of reading continues, and educational visits remain a key part of school life. There is to be a sponsored walk around the Village on 3rd July to celebrate Sid the Cygnet's 6th Birthday. Members of the Parish are encouraged to attend. There will also be the Annual School Fayre in July. To better understand the school please visit the website or read the newsletters.

Item 2- Chair Report - The Chair gave a brief report to state that the Parish Council have experienced a good year, there has been little in the way of planning within the Village. The Parish Council have had an uncontested election and currently have three vacancies. There will be an opportunity for co-option shortly. The children's sports days in August were again hugely supported and well organised. The Pond is looking good, and the Christmas lights provided a lovely display over the festive period. The Chair would like to thank all the outgoing Councillors for their hard work and dedication during their term of office and would like to thank those who have remained to carry on with the current Council projects. The Chair would also like to thank the Chief Executive for her continued support and also her team of buildings support and handyman employees who continue to provide an excellent level of service for the Village.

District Council Report – DC Mr Paul Hodgson-Jones reported that there will be an election on 7th May. He provided a brief overview of the current Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) progress and spoke about Council budgets, workload and transport infrastructure. He also spoke about the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) which is currently headed by Mayor Paul Bristow. DC Mr Jon Neish also provided a report which was read out by the Chief Executive which highlighted LGR, Planning, Food Waste, Flooding and Parking Enforcement.

Both Councillors will be standing for election on Thursday 7th May 2026.

Item 3 - Police Report – A Police representative was unable to attend the meeting, so the Chief Executive gave a very brief overview of the crime numbers for the St Ives and Ramsey area noted in February 2026. A total of 220 crimes were reported for the area (30 less than last year). Earith Village area had a total of 4 crimes reported.

Vehicle crime 2

Criminal damage and arson 1

Violence and sexual offences 1

More information can be obtained from the Police.UK website.

Item 4 - Reports from Parish Charities – Reports were given from:

Rectors Hall – A report was given from Catherine Berry stating the use of the Hall had changed since Covid. The Community Café, 3rd Thursday Club, Yoga on Fridays and now the Parish Council meetings are all held in the Hall. The Rectors Hall is a registered Charity which is linked to St Marys Church and a service is still held in the Hall. The Hall can be hired for events. The Charity is looking for new Trustees.

Samuel Saywell Church Causeway Charity – The Chair provided a brief report to state that little had happened during the year and that the Charity has a small income derived from land rent and some possible small donations could be made if needed.

Earith Town Estate Charity – The Chair provided a brief report to state that little has happened over the year apart from the Sports Days. A small ditch has been dug on the riverbank side of the Recreation field at the bottom of the bridle way owned by the County Council/Environment Agency. There is also some jetting and drainage works to be carried out. This work is being carried out because of riparian rights.

Skeeles Education Charity no 311817 – A report was given by Nick Tindall stating that the educational charity had provided grants to Earith Residents who are in Full Time Education to help support educational needs such as textbooks etc. The grants are small and typically £100 - £150 each year.

Item 5 - Reports from Parish Organizations -

The Third Thursday Club Earith – The Secretary of the Club provided an emailed report which the Chief Executive read out to the meeting. The club has gone from strength-to-strength. Highlights include V.E Day Celebrations, Summer BBQ, Walkeoke sessions, Winter Olympics, Bingo Night along with talks from celebrity auctioneer David Fletcher. A tenpin bowling night with dinner at Lakeside Lodge was also enjoyed by all. A Christmas visit to Woodlands Care Home and the laying of a wreath for Remembrance Sunday also featured during the year.

Item 6 - Questions from the Floor –

The residents present asked about possible road repairs in the area especially the B1050 Shelfords Road from Earith to Willingham. DC Mr Paul Hodgson-Jones addressed these issues but stressed that road repairs rested with the County Council Highways Department. The Chief Executive gave an update regarding the Village Hall project. The Chief Executive was thanked for her continued hard work on this matter. A Resident queried the litter clearing in the Village and was informed that litter was collected by the Village Handyman and also by other members of the Village who should all be thanked for their help with this matter. The regular maintenance to the Pond area was also mentioned and thanks were given for the hard work of the volunteer team who are headed by Cllr Brown. A resident also stated that they were trying to organise a village group to provide events in the Village such as fairs etc. Awareness was noted. The Chief Executive gave a brief overview concerning what was needed from a procedural point of view and suggested contacting other Villages in the area who have organised events to see what other things should be considered.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

These minutes are unadopted

Chief Executive & RFO – Mrs Mandy Pink – 8th May 2026