

Earsham Parish Council

Minutes

of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at The Village Hall
on Wednesday 27th July 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Keith Reeve (Chair), Jim Bennett, Scott Bone, Lynda Hamps, and Stephen Wood

Also present: District Councillor Murray Gray, 2 members of the public and Lynda Ling (Clerk)

1. **Welcome** – The chairman welcomed those present at the meeting
2. **To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend** – Councillors Meade and Gunton sent their apologies which were received and accepted.
3. **To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting**
To note any declarations of members pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary/other interests pertaining to items on the following agenda - None
4. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th May 2016** - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Hamps and seconded by Councillor Bennett. **ALL AGREED**
5. **Reports from District and County Councillors** – District Councillor Gray reported the following:-
 - With regards to the planning application for Lodge Field, there are ongoing discussions on this including the provision of a footpath
 - Devolution – The consultation on devolution runs until August with the final decision being announced at the end of October/early November.
 - The SNC fun day was a success with over 6,000 people attending in total.

There was no County Councillor report.

6. **Update on plans for the village hall refurbishment and agree any action** – Councillor Hamps informed members that she was waiting for a response from Nick Woods regarding the updating of plans and is hoping to see him within the next week or two.
7. **Update on the works for the lane leading to the playing field and agree any action** – Councillor Bennett said that the works to the lane was still outstanding due to various pressures of work and resources, however, it is hoped that it will be completed by September. The chairman said the speed signs need to be put up when the road was done, however, Councillor Bone commented that the signs that had been purchased were too big and smaller ones were needed. The clerk was asked to purchase some signs no larger than 150cm x 150cm
ACTION – Clerk
8. **Discussion on whether the clerk has permission to make payments by BACS and agree any action** – It was agreed that payments being made this way are quicker and safer and would also save the parish council money in stamps. A discussion took place on how the clerk would do the payments online and the Chairman's involvement with this. Councillor Reeve proposed agreement which was seconded by Councillor Hamps. **ALL AGREED**

9. Consideration of Norfolk County Council's partnership scheme with parish and town councils on a 50/50 basis and agree any action – It was suggested that the information should be put in the parish magazine with a link to NCC and find out if residents had any ideas on this.

ACTION – CLERK

Standing Orders were suspended at 8.22pm and reconvened at 8.24pm so District Councillor Gray could comment on the next item.

10. Discussion on the Electoral Review of South Norfolk and agree any action – District Councillor Gray informed members that there were no proposals at the moment, the review was asking for comments only. It was agreed that this would be discussed in the future when proposals were put forward.

11. Discussion as to whether there are any areas of the village that would benefit from hedging or tree planting this year and agree any action – The only place that was suggested was the playing field, despite hedging being put in a couple of years ago. It was agreed that Councillor Wood investigate to see if any need replacing and let the clerk know.

ACTION - CLERK

12. Play area inspection report and any agreed action – Councillor Bone commented that the equipment is out of date, but the report is no different than other years, it just highlighted the same areas of concern. A discussion took place on the Timberline Multiplay piece of equipment, which although was the most expensive item on the play area, has been the least cost effective and subject to a lot of vandalism. Councillors Bennett and Bone agreed to carry out the work. Proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Bone.

ALL AGREED

13. Discussion on the defect list produced by the electrical contractor for the lighting assets and any agreed action – The chairman went through the list which comprised of 6 streetlights across the village, two of which included foliage cut back. It was suggested that Sam Dossett be asked to undertake this aspect of the work which would save the council money. The other works included replacement bowls and straightening and re-concreting columns at a total cost of £358.16 excluding VAT. The clerk to look at the street light asset list before making the order for the repairs to check ownership. The obsolete lanterns were noted and will be replaced as and when they fail.

ALL AGREED

14. Update on the allotments and agree any action – Deferred.

15. To be informed of any Planning Applications and Report of Decisions received since the last meeting:-

SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL –

2016/1249 – Mr & Mrs. Stephen & Celia Wood – 10 The Street, Earsham – Proposal – 2 storey side extension, single storey front extension and increase the width of existing driveway – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS – Delegated decision

2016/0977 – Mr. Alistair & Mrs Ella Black – Land West of Kingsbridge, Church Road, Earsham – Proposal – Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of two one and half storey dwellings and garaging and relocated highway access (revised application) – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS (Development Management Committee)

2016/0979 – Mr. Alistair & Mrs. Ella Black – Land East of Kingsbridge, Church Road, Earsham – Proposal – Erection of bungalow with detached double garage and new highway access (revised application) – APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS (Development Management Committee)

BROADS AUTHORITY – None

16. Chairman's report –

- The chairman reported that he had been informed by two residents that the village hall had been dirty when the referendum polling had taken place. Councillor Hamps said that the Village Hall Management Committee were aware of the situation, and were looking into it, however, it could possibly be attributed to the pre-school.
- A resident of Elms Close has asked if the lilac tree which is on the playing field, could be cut back as it is overhanging into her garden and is overgrown. It was agreed to ask Sam Dossett to cut this back on behalf of the council.

17. To receive reports from parish councillors (for information only)

Councillor Hamps –

- As reported at the last meeting, the pre-school had requested the siting of a shed outside the hall. Members discussed the best place it should go, in their opinion, however it will be up to the Village Hall Management Committee to make the decision.

Councillor Bennett –

- Mentioned that JCB's were levelling Marston Moor road, Councillor Hamps informed members that residents had discussed paying for the road to be done themselves some time ago.

Councillor Bone –

- Confirmed the bin lid had been fitted in the Jubilee seating area.

Councillor Wood –

- The foliage on the footpath leaving the village towards Bungay is so overgrown, people are having to step out into the road to pass, the clerk was asked to report to Highways

18. To receive clerk's report (for information only) – The clerk reported the following:-

- **Community Payback** – Despite numerous attempts both by telephone and email, I have not heard from the Norfolk & Suffolk Rehabilitation Company regarding more information on the work they undertake, and conditions the council would need to abide by. I will persevere with the emails and calls. Zurich Insurance has been contacted to ensure that the parish council are covered and they have stated that any claim made where the council are found negligent are covered under the Public liability section.
- **Abandoned Car on Village Hall Car Park** – I have been contacted by South Norfolk Council to say an abandoned car has been reported on the car park at the village hall and asked to confirm that this is the case. ***Councillors confirmed that the car had not been abandoned and the owner is aware of the situation and will move it as soon as he is able.***
- **Recycling Bank** – The recycling banks were absolutely overflowing last week when I came to the village. I reported this straight away to SNC who said they would get someone out to sort it out.
- **Collapsed Bridge** – I have been waiting for an update on this, and at the time of writing, have not received one as yet. I will let you all know when I hear something.
- **Rights of way** – On Tuesday I received an email from a lady called Helen Chester regarding rights of way in parishes across the county. The email is a general one sent out to parishes which basically offers her services to help claim back lost and under-recorded public rights of way. ***Members asked the clerk to find out more about this service***

19. To approve items of expenditure invoiced since the May 2016 meeting and note balances – Payments for June and July 2016 were agreed. Parish council payments already made since the last meeting £132.87 (PC) and £591.66 (PF) – cheques for signature £709.56 (PC) £142.80 (PF). BACS payments to be made £952.42.

Agreement was proposed by Councillor Reeve and seconded by Councillor Hamps. **ALL AGREED**

Balances in accounts as at 24th May 2016 were:-

Parish Council Current Account	£1,900.01
Savings Account	£29,000.00
Playing Field Current Account	£1239.25
Savings Account	£2619.32
Allotment Current Account	£191.03
Savings Account	£1,228.04

20. To be informed of significant correspondence and agree any action (list as circulated) -
None

21. To discuss business for the July 2016 meeting - Village Hall, lane leading to playing field, allotments and rights of way service

The meeting will be adjourned at 21.33pm and reconvened at 21.34pm for public comments

A member of the public raised the following:-

- There are still no signs on the playing field saying that dogs are not allowed – ***although signs were purchased last year, they appear to be missing, however this will be checked. The clerk was given delegated authority to purchase more should this be the case.***
- Princess Way – the boundary needs to have some wire replaced to clarify where the access point is to the field and it was suggested that ‘no dog’ signs on either side of the entry point - ***Councillor Bone offered to get the wire and repair***
- An article could be put in the parish magazine to say no dogs on playing field – ***Clerk will include in next article for the magazine***

22. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 28th September 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Earsham

The meeting ended at 9.21pm

Signed

Date