

# Earsham Parish Council

## Minutes

Of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Earsham Village Hall on  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018

1. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Keith Reeve was present and welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was attended by sixteen members of the public including councillors.

2. The Chairman signed the minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting as a true and correct record. Agreement was proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Meade.

3. Annual reports and accounts:-

**a) Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council –** The Chairman firstly asked Margaret Stone, County Councillor if the cat's eyes will be replaced as discussed earlier in the year. The County Councillor confirmed these would be replaced. The chairman then read out his report which highlighted events and proposals of the last 12 months. These included:-

- The village hall refurbishment and Milestone signs are still being discussed and some progress has been made.
- The cutting of the playing field has been taken over by the football club, and the council does not pay Norse to cut the field any longer.
- The bowls club asked for an extra strip of land in order to be able to walk around the bowls green, this was agreed by the parish council.
- Problems still occur with the lane to the village hall and the playing field lane.
- New 'no dog' signs were put on the playing field and this seems to have helped get the message across that dogs are not allowed.
- The new play equipment was installed last year just in time for the summer school holidays and appears to be very well used.
- The old Otter Trust building has now been taken over by the Wetland Centre which opened in the summer.
- The defibrillator has been installed at the end of the building, and training has been given immediately prior to this meeting.
- The parish boundaries have changed this year, after consultation by South Norfolk Council with local parishes. Earsham has lost a few properties as a result, and they now become part of Denton.
- Improvements were made to the car parking area at the football pavilion.
- The War Memorial has been listed as a Grade 2 Monument of Special Interest.
- The parish council increased the grant to the parish magazine by 10% in November to help with their increased costs.
- In the Greater Norwich Development Plan two sites have been earmarked for development in Earsham, one is the field near the bypass and the other behind the school

- The precept was increased by 3.6% (£1.80 per annum) which will give the parish council an extra £345 per year. This will help to cover increased costs for electricity streetlighting and insurance.
- The Christmas Lights Display this year was won by Keith Penn, and the parish council appreciate all the efforts made by everyone in the village.
- The parish council will be looking at updating the bye-laws for the playing field in the near future.
- The parish council was looking forward to seeing the replacement of the footbridge, however, they have recently been informed by Norfolk County Council that the project will not go ahead at present and it has been put on hold.

Margaret Stone commented that she and the clerk had worked hard to try and get this done, however, it was decided that there was no money available for this project as NCC had other priorities to consider. The senior officer at NCC is willing to meet with the chairman of the parish council to discuss this and has also been in contact with the Ramblers Association and agreed to reroute the Angles Way walk.

A brief overview was given by Cllr. Wood of the unaudited parish accounts which saw the balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 stand at – Parish Council £27,742.57, Playing Field £6,019.45 and the Allotments £1,798.65 (**report 3a**)

**b) Report from County Councillor Margaret Somerville** – Cllr. Stone read out her report (report 3b)

**c) Report from District Councillor Murray Gray** – Cllr. Gray read out his report (report 3c)

**d) Report from the Police** – There was no representative from the police nor a report

**e) Report from Earsham Football Club** – A report had been received from the chairman, Peter Goodfellow who was unfortunately unable to attend. The Chairman of the parish council read out his report (report 3e)

**f) Report from Earsham Bowls Club** – There was no representative from the Bowls Club however the chairman read out their report (report 3f)

**g) Report from Mettingham Football Club** – Keith Penn read out the report on behalf of the club and gave a verbal Treasurers report of their accounts (report 3g)

**h) Report from Earsham Trust** – There was no representative from the Trust and the chairman read out the report (report 3h)

**i) Report from the Village Hall Management Committee** – Cllr. Anthony Leech read out a report from the VHMC (report 3i)

**j) Report from the Wetlands Centre** – Ben Potterton gave a verbal report on how the Wetlands Centre started (report 3j)

**k) Report from 1<sup>st</sup> Earsham Scout Group** – Matthew Jordan and Claire Maynard were present on behalf of the Scout Group and a report was given (report 3k)

**l) Report from Earsham Village Magazine** – There was no representative from the Parish Magazine nor a report

**m) Report from the Parochial Church Council** – There was no representative from the Church Council however the Vice-Chairman read out a report (report 3m)

**n) Report from Earsham Primary School** – Apologies have been received from the Primary School for no representative, however, the chairman read out their report (report 3n)

**o) Report from Earsham Festival Committee** – There was no representative nor a report

**p) Report from Earsham Playground Committee** – Cllr. Karl Gunton read out a report on behalf of the Playground Committee (report 3p)

**4. Parishioner's Forum** – Various questions had been asked and answered during the course of the meeting which included:-

- Questions to the Scout Group regarding who had been approached for funding
- Questions to County Councillor Margaret Stone

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.10pm

**\*\* All reports are available for viewing by request to the clerk**

Signed .....

Date .....