

**Earsham Parish Council**  
**Minutes**  
**of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at the Village Hall,**  
**on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Keith Reeve (Chair), Stephen Wood (Vice-Chair), Jim Bennett, and Tony Leech

**Also present:** Lynda Ling (Clerk), District Councillor Murray Gray and 7 members of the public

- 1. Welcome** – The chairman welcomed those present at the meeting
- 2. To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Meade and Gunton
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting** – Cllr. Bennett declared a pecuniary interest in Item 6
- 4. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018** - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Leech and seconded by Councillor Wood **ALL AGREED**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7.34pm and reconvened at 7.40pm for members of the public to comment on the following:-**

Member of Public 1 – Item 11 – Asked if the council knew who had cut The Sidings overgrown grass and commented on the road outside the village hall being tidier

Member of Public 2 – Item 6 – Norfolk Minerals and Waste Consultation

Member of Public 3 – Item 17 – Speeding in the village

It was agreed to allow public participation during the individual agenda item numbers.

**5. Reports from Police, District and County Councillors –**

The Chairman read out the crime figures for June and July which covers Harleston, Earsham and Beck Vale.

District Councillor Murray Gray reported the following: -

- Agreement has been reached between SNC and Broadland DC to share staff, although the councils will retain their independence. It is envisaged that a saving of up to £8m will be made over the next five years. It is thought there won't be a need for any compulsory redundancies.
- The planning application for Lodge Field is now out for consultation.
- Homersfield Picnic Site – Alburgh PC have been successful in raising the required funds to purchase the Homersfield Picnic Site with £4380 coming from SNC's Community Action Fund.

The chairman read out County Councillor Stone's report which covered the following items:-

- Leadership changes – reporting the death of Cliff Jordan just two weeks after he was diagnosed with cancer.
- A leadership election has been held and Andrew Proctor has been appointed.
- Other items covered included Children's Services, Adult Social Services, Environment, Development and Transport, Launch of Norfolk Day and Chairman's Role update

- 6. Discussion on the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review Initial Consultation & Statement of Community Involvement Consultation** – The chairman asked if Cllr. Bennett would remain in the room to answer any questions put forward by members of the public, Cllr. Bennett agreed. The chairman informed the meeting that Cllr. Bennett, owner of Earsham Gravels

had submitted an application to dig more gravel as the present sites are nearly depleted and certain policies from various organisations, including the Broads Authority, need to be adhered to.

### **Standing Orders were suspended at 7.39pm and reconvened at 7.59pm**

Questions raised by a member of the public included the following, responses from Cllr. Bennett are in italics

- *Cllr. Bennett informed the meeting that the policies of Norfolk County Council must be met as policy dictates that no extractions can take place in a Broads Authority area, which has necessitated the need to move the operation of the business.*
- A member of the public stated that the maps that were being used by NCC did not accurately reflect the houses in the vicinity to the proposed site and felt that it would be too near the village and asked if the site could be moved further down the A143 towards Harleston. *Cllr Bennett responded that the maps were location maps only and were produced for NCC and consultees.*
- The same member of the public raised concerns that the review was called the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review and asked if there were any plans in the future to include waste. *Cllr. Bennett responded that there was no intention of doing waste.*
- District Cllr. Gray suggested that the member of the public should comment on the review whilst in the consultation stage.

### **7. Update on the sign on Milestone Lane and School Lane, costs and agreed action – Deferred**

**8. Update regarding the replacement footbridge and any agreed action** – An email with attachments had been received within the last few days from County Councillor Margaret Stone, and Dr. Andrew Hutcheson, Environment Manager (Green Infrastructure, Strategy and Advice) had intended to be present at the meeting. However, this turned out to not be possible, so the item will be discussed at the September meeting. The email (which was circulated to councillors) included the following:-

- 5 Options for diversion of the Angles Way at Bungay
- Cost breakdown Replacement of Earsham Footbridges
- Scheme of delegated powers to Officers
- 2 maps

A member of the public expressed concern and disappointment at the lack of representation from NCC.

**9. Consideration of planning application 2018/2017 – Land to the West of School Road, Earsham and any agreed action** – The chairman spoke of the improved design and layout of the site especially now that the backs of properties would not be backing onto School Road. The council will respond to the application in due course stating this.

**10. Update on the condition of the footpath outside the village hall and agree any action** – The chairman commented on an earlier response during the public session about the lane being tidier. Cllr. Leech informed the members that Cllr. Gunton was looking into this and in his absence no update was available.

**11. Update on The Siding overgrown area and any agreed action** – Spoken of during public session.

**12. Discussion and agreement on the design and wording of the grass cutting signs for the playing field** – The clerk spoke of some designs she had found, along with prices. After a short discussion, it was agreed to purchase 2 x swing signs with Caution – Maintenance in Progress at a cost of £36 each. The clerk to contact Peter Goodfellow to keep him in the loop. Agreement proposed by Cllr. Reeve and seconded by Cllr. Wood.

**ALL AGREED**

**13. Discussion on the recommendations put forward after the completion of the Clean & Visual Inspection 2018 Defect Streetlighting list** – The chairman spoke of the report from the electrical contractors and the only immediate defect found was for a column in Waveney Crescent where extensive foilage cut back was required at a cost of £110.99. Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Bennett and seconded by Cllr. Reeve.

It was also noted by the engineers in attendance that two assets (9008 and 9009) both show evidence of cracking at the neck of the column and it was recommended that both column and lantern be replaced at council's earliest opportunity. Members agreed this was a necessary expense and the clerk was asked to get a quote for the works. The report also highlighted that with the exception of assets 9006, 9033, 9034, 9025 and 9026 all the remaining assets were considered to be obsolete. It was also noted that several assets are noted as being 'Davis Delta 2000' type lantern. The Davis Lighting Company went into liquidation in the early 1990's.

After a brief discussion, the clerk was asked to get a price for the obsolete columns with LED's and to discuss a rolling replacement programme at the next meeting.

**14. Update on the WW1 Commemorative Plaque** – The granite plaque was expected at any time, it was hoped to have been delivered in time for the meeting, but unfortunately this had not happened.

**15. Consideration of a letter from NCC regarding the Parish Partnership 2019-20 for local highway improvements** – The deadline for applications is 9<sup>th</sup> December and members will discuss this at the next meeting. It was suggested to perhaps look at flashing signs around the School Road area, and/or another SAM2.

**16. Update on the village hall refurbishment** - Deferred

**17. Speeding in the village and a request for the placement of the SAM2 machine in a new location** – This was spoken of in the public participation session and under item 15.

**18. To be informed of any Planning Applications and Report of Decisions received since the last meeting:** - The following was noted: -

#### **SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL** –

**2018/1317 – Mr. M. Goldney – Land to the West of School Road, Earsham** – Proposal: 16 dwellings with associated access and parking

**2018/1481 – Mr. A. Debenham – River Farm, Old Harleston Road, Earsham** – Proposal: Changes to windows and doors NE elevation and internal alterations

**2018/1448 – Mr. A. Debenham – River Farm, Old Harleston Road, Earsham** – Proposal: Changes to windows and doors NE elevation and internal alterations

#### **BROADS AUTHORITY** – None

**19. Chairman's report** – None

**20. To receive reports from parish councillors (for information only)** – Cllr. Wood commented that the caravan which had previously been parked in a layby in the village looked as though it was back.

**21. To receive clerk's report (for information only)** –

- **Letter from an allotment holder** – Advising that himself and another tenant have repaired the gate post.
- **VAT** – I have not claimed back VAT yet from July 2017 to March 2018, as I have been advised that I cannot use the VAT 126 form anymore and have to claim it online. This is proving a little difficult to set up, but as soon as it is, I will get the claim for a refund done asap.

- **Litter Bins** – Advice please on the type of fixing kit to be purchased for the bins agreed at the last meeting – *it was agreed concrete fixings were required.*
- **Training** – I attended a SLCC Training Seminar two weeks ago which proved to be both informative and interesting with snippets of information relevant to both large and small parishes. A large part of the training was in regard to GDPR but there was an opportunity to meet exhibitors there and network with other clerks.

**22. To approve items of expenditure invoiced since the May 2018 meeting and note balances –** Payments for June and July 2018 were agreed. Parish council payments already made since the last meeting £484.00 (PC), £333.00 (PF) – cheques for signature £1124.08 (PC) £54.00 (PF). Agreement proposed by Cllr. Leech and seconded by Cllr. Wood. **ALL AGREED**

**Balances in accounts as at 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 were: -**

Parish Council Current Account	£ 1,628.91
Savings Account	£ 31,000.00
Playing Field Current Account	£ 1,127.43
Savings Account	£ 5,124.59
Allotment Current Account	£ 587.45
Savings Account	£ 826.46

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

**24. To discuss business for the September 2018 meeting –** Replacement streetlighting programme and costs for same, fingerpost signs, refurbishment of the village hall, path near the village hall, collapsed footbridge and discussion with Dr. Andrew Hutcheson

**Standing orders were suspended at 20.45pm and reconvened at 20.59pm for public participation**

The following items were raised by members of public:-

- A member of the public informed the parish council of an empty property next door to her which is unlocked and still has the previous occupant's belongings in there, however, despite repeated calls to Saffron Housing nothing has been done, there is also an issue with bad smells coming from the property.
- The council were asked if they would comment on the Mineral and Waste Consultation – confirmation came from the chairman that they would
- Mr. Hall commented that he is very disappointed by NCC's attitude and feels that he has been passed from pillar to post in his dealings with them.
- Fly tipping reported in a layby.

**25. Date of the next meeting –** Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, The Street, Earsham

The meeting ended at 21.03pm

Signed .....

Date .....