

Earsham Parish Council
Minutes
of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at the
Village Hall, on Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: Keith Reeve (Chair), Jim Bennett, Karl Gunton, Scott Bone, Tony Leech and Nick Meade

Also present: Lynda Ling (Clerk), Andrew Hutcheson (NCC), Peter Goodfellow (EFC) and 9 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 Councillor Wood.
- 3. To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting** – Cllr. Bennett declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7 and Cllr. Meade declared an interest in Item 9
- 4. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th July 2018** - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Leech **ALL AGREED**

The meeting was adjourned at 7.35pm and reconvened at 7.37pm for members of the public to comment on the following:-

Member of Public 1 – Indicated they were in attendance regarding the footbridge

Member of Public 2 – Indicated they were in attendance regarding the Minerals and Waste Review

Member of Public 3 – Spoke of the speed limit for Station Road, should it be 10mph or 20mph

It was agreed to allow public participation during the individual agenda item numbers and to suspend standing orders for these items.

5. Reports

- Police - The clerk read out the crime figures for August and September which covers Harleston, Earsham and Beck Vale.
- County Councillors Report - The chairman indicated that County Councillor Stone's report was available for reading, however he wished to press on as there was a lot to get through during the meeting.
- Councillor Reports –

Cllr. Reeve - The chairman expressed his regret at the closure of New Atlantic Superstore in Earsham and that we must wait and see what the building will be used for next.

Cllr. Gunton –

1. Informed the meeting that when exiting Station Road, parked cars on The Street obscured vision and you had to drive onto the other side of the road to get past which was dangerous.
2. The hedges near the chicane towards Harleston are becoming overgrown, however these are in private gardens.
3. The new sleeve was fitted on the zip wire, still awaiting some action on the slides which seem to have a design fault. They are fenced off at the moment and information is awaited from Sovereign who designed and fitted the play equipment last year.
4. The new allotment gate is being stored at Cllr. Gunton's house, the post looks as though it needs replacing too.
5. The clerk mentioned the leaking tap which a resident (who was present) had tried to repair, however it may need a new washer – Cllr. Gunton to have a look at it.

Cllr. Meade – Appealed for some help with the door to door Poppy Appeal for the week ending 27th/28th October.

Cllr. Leech – Informed members that a van had been broken into and tools stolen in the village.

• **Clerks Report** – The clerks report highlighted the following:-

1. Still sourcing warning signs for grass cutting on the playing field – the signs that were agreed at the previous meeting were too small, and the clerk has had difficulties with the company when it came to returning the litter bins which had been ordered which were too small. Some metal frames have been donated and the clerk is sourcing the inserts with the correct wording.
2. Allotment invoices are ready to go out within the village, the ones outside of the village have already been posted.
3. Communication is ongoing with Sovereign Play Ltd with respect to the slides on the Captain Mannering equipment. The slides look to have a design fault and the plastic has cracked making it a H & S issue for users of the play equipment.
4. Highway Rangers are due back in the village soon, so if there are any issues that they can take care of, please let the clerk know.

6. Presentation – Presentation from Dr. Andrew Hutcheson, Environment Manager (Green Infrastructure, Strategy and Advice) Norfolk County Council regarding the replacement footbridge, and information including options for diversions - Dr. Hutcheson informed those present of the options available and that the reason why the project for a new footbridge had been scrubbed was due to unsustainable costs. A long debate followed between Dr. Hutcheson and one or two members of the public (details of which are attached in a separate report), however it was agreed to still try and find an answer to the problem which was acceptable to all.

7. Local Plan Reviews, Consultations and Schemes

- Update on the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review – No update at this time
- Parish Partnership Scheme 2019-20 – No suggestions so far, will defer to November meeting

8. Village Items

- Update on the signs for Milestone and School Lanes – Cllr. Meade reported that NCC have insisted on the extraction of the Milestone Lane post, whilst he is still sourcing timber for the fingerposts and the letters need to be ordered. NCC will extract and re-position the post without charge.
The School Lane post is fairly sound but will need replacing with oak whilst another form of hardwood can be used for the fingerposts. Bungay needs to be put on the signage instead of Beccles/Yarmouth
- Update on the footpath outside the village hall – Deferred
- Update on the village hall refurbishment – Deferred
- Discussion on the WW1 Commemorative Plaque, consider the required works for installation and if required, agree an unveiling – Members thought that a suitable place for the plaque could be on the opposite of the road to Park Farm, however this would need further discussion. Cllr. Meade took the information on the siting of the old airfield from the clerk, and said he would investigate it. Further discussion ensued on who could do the unveiling once in situ.

9. Planning Applications

- 2018/1317 – Land to the West of School Road, Earsham – no update
- 2018/2028 – Scout and Guide Hut, Church Road, Earsham – Replace the existing dilapidated Scout Hut with a new single storey Scout Hut – Members approved this application
- 2018/2053 – Earsham Church of England V A First School, School Road, Earsham – Single storey staff room extension – Members approved this application
- Tree Preservation Order – SNC – Oak Tree on the frontage of land to west of School Road, Earsham – Members approved this order

Other applications made prior to this meeting –

South Norfolk Council –

Application No: 2018/1444 - Station Road Earsham NR35 2TS

Proposal: Division of dwelling to form two properties.

Application Type: Full – **DECISION PENDING**

Application No: 2018/1684

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Nigel And Kim Catchpole

Location: The Holt, The Street Earsham NR35 2TB

Proposal: Erection of upper floor side extension - **APPROVED**

Broads Authority – BA/2018/0260/HOUSEH - Ms Rose Titchener, 20 Ditchingham Dam, Ditchingham NR35 2JQ - Erection of single storey side extension - Approved Subject to Conditions 04.09.201

10. Subscriptions

- Discussion on renewal of CPRE annual subscription at a cost of £36.00 – Agreement proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Reeve. **ALL AGREED**

11. Streetlighting

- Streetlighting assets and a way forward for replacement of obsolete lanterns columns – The clerk commented that a traffic light system of replacement lanterns and columns may be the best way to go with the worst ones being replaced as they fail. The clerk also suggested asking TT Jones Electrical (parish council contractors) if they would be able to provide and fit a LED lantern to get councillors comments on their suitability for the village. LED's can be in a variety of colours ranging from bright white to soft white, or there are some with a cream shade to them. The clerk was asked to contact TT Jones to find out about the items raised. **ACTION - Clerk**

12. Accounting and Audit

- Auditor report and Certificate for 2017/18 and agreement to pay auditor fee of £480.00 – The clerk informed members that the external auditors report had come back along with the Certificate for last year's accounts, there were no abnormalities to be found. Agreement to pay the auditor fee was proposed by Cllr. Reeve and seconded by Cllr. Bone **ALL AGREED**
- Approve items of expenditure since last meeting and note balances – Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Reeve and seconded by Cllr. Gunton **ALL AGREED**

Balances in bank accounts as at 25th September 2018 were: -

Parish Council Current Account	£ 1,145.89
Savings Account	£ 31,585.95
Playing Field Current Account	£ 413.48
Savings Account	£ 4,599.48
Allotment Current Account	£ 509.45
Savings Account	£ 626.85

13. Playing Field/Play equipment and Earsham Football Club

- Consideration of a request from EFC to investigate having a borehole on the playing field – The chairman of EFC spoke of the long dry summer this year and has looked to see if any funding is available to having a borehole dug. Up to 12000 litres per day can be drawn without the need for planning permission or a permit. The level of the water table would need to be ascertained but Peter wanted the parish council's view before looking into it further. All members agreed they were happy for this to be investigated.

14. Significant correspondence – None

15. Business for next meeting

- Signs and fingerposts, next year's budget, village hall refurbishment, streetlights, village hall path

The meeting was adjourned at 9.08pm and reconvened at 9.28pm for members of the public to comment on the following:-

- A member of the public asked if the parish council would back residents on the proposed footpath link from the new development to the village centre. Cllr. Meade responded that SNC had suggested the link to help with good community involvement e.g. towards the village hall, however as the member of the public owned the land, it was suggested he contact District Cllr. Murray Gray by email to discuss
- Mr. Hall informed members that due to high winds, a branch had fallen off near the speed limit signs and had informed Highways so they could remove it. Mr. Hall also asked about the safety of the bridge to which Cllr. Reeve suggested writing to the appropriate authority in that regard.
- Mr. Denham asked if the parish council was supporting further investigations with regard to the collapsed bridge and the subsequent negotiations, to which the answer was yes. It was suggested that the parish council should write further to County Councillor Margaret Stone and also to Martin Wilby, Chairman of Norfolk County Councils Environment, Development and Transport Committee
- It was suggested asking the electrical contractors about photo-reactive streetlighting, the clerk said she would investigate.

16. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 28th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting ended at 21.03pm

Signed

Date