

Earsham Parish Council
Minutes
of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at the
Village Hall, on Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 7.30pm

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

Also present: District Councillor Brendon Bernard, Iain Gwynn (Draganfly Motorcycles), two members of the public, Scott Bone and Lynda Ling (Clerk)

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- a) To elect a chairman** – Cllr. Woods indicated that he would be happy to become chairman. Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Reeve **ALL AGREED**
- b) The Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office** was signed and Cllr. Woods took his place as chairman.
- c) To elect a Vice-Chairman** – Cllr. Gunton was proposed as vice-chairman by Cllr. Leech which was seconded by Cllr. Bennett. **ALL AGREED**

2. To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend – None

3. To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting - None

4. Co-option of potential candidates

- Consideration to co-opt a candidate who have come forward in response to a casual vacancy on the council, and if appropriate, to appoint a councillor by co-option. If an appointment is made, the new councillor, should then sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Scott Bone was present at the meeting. Cllr. Leech proposed agreement to the co-option, and Cllr. Bennett seconded the proposal. Scott signed the required paperwork and took his seat. **ALL AGREED**

5. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27th March 2019 - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Leech and seconded by Councillor Meade providing an addition to Cllr. Bennetts report (Item 5) was made to include ' that the Minerals *and Waste Consultation* is now going to the June Committee' **ALL AGREED**

The meeting was adjourned at 19.39 for public participation and reconvened at 19.54

A member of the public asked if there were any plans to organise a litter pick, to which the chairman responded that it is usually organised by the parish council and is usually done annually. After further discussion it was agreed to organise one before the Earsham Fete on June 8th with June 2nd being the date decided on, meeting at the Queen's Head at 10am. The clerk was asked to organise the necessary equipment with South Norfolk Council. **ACTION - CLERK**

Iain Gwynn from Draganfly Motorcycles spoke next and introduced himself as the new owner of Earsham Mill. He informed members that the plan was to improve the showrooms and ask other companies if they were interested in renting space from him to raise revenue. The main business of Draganfly Motorcycles was mail order . It was envisaged that after clearing up the site, the business would move in around 18 months time. Cllr. Gunton went on to welcome Iain to the village and wished the business every success.

6. Reports

- Police** - The chairman read out the police report for May which covers Harleston, Earsham and Beck Vale – the figures quoted covered the whole area and did not itemise Earsham. The clerk mentioned that Inspector Salvarajah had been relocated to another post and Inspector Laura Symonds has been appointed as the local policing inspector for Diss, Harleston and Long Stratton.

- **District Councillor Report** – Cllr. Bernard gave a brief report:
 - a) Now the elections are over, there are 40% new councillors at South Norfolk Council with John Fuller still as its Leader. The Labour Party now have a representative and the Liberal Democrat numbers have increased.
 - b) There was a 37% turnout for voting in this ward.
 - c) Allocating jobs to the new councillors is now taking place.
- **Chairman and Parish Councillors reports –**

Chairman – Reported the following:

The chairman reported that two bins have been delivered outside the village hall which has been organised by a resident. The project is called Terracycle and the bins are there to deposit crisp packets, the scheme is there to encourage recycling and is in partnership with Walkers Crisps

Cllr. Meade – Reported flooding in The Street and passed round his mobile phone for members to see the photograph of it. After a brief discussion on the causes of it, the clerk is to report to Highways and ask to have the drains cleaned out. **ACTION - CLERK**

Cllr. Gunton – Reported flytipping in the layby towards Bungay, plastic bags and soil have been dumped, the clerk to report to SNC **ACTION – CLERK**

Cllr. Bennett – Reported that the lane to the playing field has now had the potholes filled

Clerks Report –

The clerk reported that after being informed of a car driving across The Green a number of times recently, SNC were informed and have been to visit the site. The officers are now discussing putting bollards around The Green to prevent this from happening in the future. It was mentioned that it was hoped the bollards did not go completely round the area as this may impede the car boot sales and fete. The clerk to check with SNC exactly what they are going to do. **ACTION – CLERK**
- 7. **Resolutions** - To resolve that from 15th May 2019, until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and S1 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence)(Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, to adopt the General Power of Competence – This was first adopted by the council in 2016 and after a brief discussion on what the extra power means to the council, agreement was proposed by Cllr. Leech and seconded by Cllr. Gunton **ALL AGREED**
- 8. **Village Items**
 - **Update on the collapsed footbridge** – This is ongoing but there are no updates at this time.
 - **Update on the signs for Milestone and School Lanes** – Cllr. Meade reported that the letters have been delivered and Nick Driscoll from Norfolk County Council will be assisting with the post.
 - **Update on the footpath outside the village hall** – None
 - **The Sidings** – Discussion on the strip of land as recently raised by Cllr. Meade – Cllr. Meade informed members that he had been contacted by a resident of The Siding's daughter asking for help with a rotavator so she can work the strip of land, sow grass seed then look after it, it is currently full of brambles. Cllr. Bone commented that it will become the parish council's responsibility if it was taken on.
 This has been discussed in previous years, however, the land does not belong to the parish council, nor Saffron Housing, so it was suggested that it should be a group responsibility for residents in The Sidings and perhaps a letter should be sent to those residents explaining that. The clerk to send a letter to the residents to explain the situation, and Cllr. Meade will contact the residents daughter to speak with her regarding this. **ACTION – CLERK**

- **Discussion on the WW1 Commemorative Plaque, consider the required works for installation and if required, agree an unveiling** – Cllr. Meade has written to the airfield trust but no update other than that.

9. Planning Applications – None

10. Streetlighting

- **Discussion on the streetlighting assets of the council and LED lighting** – It was decided to find out if TT Jones have fitted any of the LED light's they have suggested in a nearby location so that councillors could see them in situ. **ACTION - CLERK**

11. Finance

- **Approval of items of expenditure invoiced since the March 2019 meeting and note balances**
– Parish Council payments already made £236.82 – Playing Field payments already made £95.00. Cheques for signature at this meeting PC - £3,943.81 and PF - £559.25.
Balances as at 15th May are:-

Parish Council	£38,061.53
Playing Field	£ 6,216.86
Allotments	£ 1,327.70

Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Leech and seconded by Cllr. Bennett

ALL AGREED

- **Resolution to agree the 2018/19 Parish accounts** – Members had received a copy of the audited accounts in their supporting paperwork the week before, agreement to approve them was proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Bone **ALL AGREED**
- **Resolution to agree to sign off Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return for 2018/19** – The chairman read out Section 1 and 2 and all councillors agreed with the statements, the document was duly signed and dated. Agreement was proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Bennett. **ALL AGREED**
- **Resolution to agree the statements for the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2018/19 Part 2**
– This was read out by the chairman who explained that the parish council met the criteria for exemption for 2018/19 and asked if the council wished to be classed as an exempt authority. This was agreed. Agreement proposed by Cllr. Gunton and seconded by Cllr. Bennett. **ALL AGREED**
- **Resolution to agree the parish insurance of £1025.25** – Agreement proposed by Cllr. Bone and seconded by Cllr. Leech. **ALL AGREED**

12. Playing Field/Play equipment and Earsham Football Club - None

13. Significant correspondence – None

14. Business for next meeting

- streetlights, refurbishment of fingerposts on School Lane, The Sidings, Marston Lane footpath

15. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 31st July 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Earsham

The meeting ended at 21.01pm

Signed

Date

DRAFT