

Earsham Parish Council
Minutes
of a meeting of Earsham Parish Council held at the
Village Hall, on Wednesday 27th November 2019 at 7.30pm

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

Also present: District Councillor Brendon Bernard, 4 members of the public, Lynda Ling (Clerk)

1. **Welcome** – Cllr. Wood welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. **To receive and accept apologies from members unable to attend** – County Cllr Margaret Stone and District Cllr. Brown
3. **To receive any declarations of interest, in particular matters to be raised at this meeting** – None
4. **Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th September 2019** - Agreement was proposed by Councillor Reeve and seconded by Councillor Leech **ALL AGREED**

The meeting adjourned at 7.34pm and reconvened at 7.39pm

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the amount of traffic on Church Road and School Road and suggested making School Road a one-way road as a way of cutting down on speeding. Cllr. Gunton commented that there is a traffic order already in place on Church Road.

5. Reports

Police - None

District Councillor Report –Cllr. Bernard's report –

- Social prescribing - 78% in referrals
- Members Ward Grants – has £1000.00 to spend – has contributed £250 to Earsham Scouts for kayak equipment
- Applications for up to £15,000.00 can be made to the Community Fund, any proposals need to be submitted by 10th January 2019
- Hempnall Roundabout is completed and open
- SNC and Broadland have agreed to join websites
- London Borough Council has proposed that some speeding fines are decriminalised

County Councillor Report – Cllr. Wood highlighted Cllr. Stone's report in her absence the following:-

- Children's and family service - Ofsted report – Huge improvements have been made and inspectors described it as 'transformed'.
- Hempnall Roundabout is open
- Potential cycle routes using disused railway track
- Budget consultation – the NCC budget will be set on 17th February 2020 and views will be asked for the proposed council tax level for 2020/21, including proposals for the adult social car precept.
- Fire consultation
- A copy of NCC's Environmental Policy has been sent to parishes after being ratified on 25th November

Chairman and Parish Councillors reports – The chairman reported the following:-

- It was understood that the defibrillator had been used recently although none of the parish councillors had any further information.

- Flytipping – More in the layby towards Bungay, glass bottles and a door had already been collected. Also rubbish left on the grass verge going out of the village towards Harleston.

Cllr. Meade – Had received a comment from Mr. Revell regarding the increased traffic using the road which passes Earsham Hall.

Clerk's Report – The clerk had informed members of the parish council two weeks prior to the meeting, that their previous clerk, Jane Pearce has passed away and the members were asked whether they wanted a floral tribute to be purchased, or a donation, depending on family wishes. It was agreed to spend no more than £40 on either dependent upon the what the family wanted. Agreement proposed by Cllr. Bennett and seconded by Cllr. Gunton. The clerk will keep the parish council informed as to the date of the funeral.

ALL AGREED

6. Village Items

- **Update on the collapsed footbridge** – No update however still on track to start in Spring.
- **Update on the sign on Milestone Lane and School Road** – Cllr. Meade reported that two of the fingerposts had been completed, the third was still in progress. Cllr. Bone is to paint. The search is on for a metal post for School Road. The clerk commented that she would contact the Highways Inspector to ask if he knew of one.
- **Update on footpath outside the village hall** – Still too wet to do but will be completed during better weather.
- **Update on the WW1 Commemorative Plaque** – At the last meeting it was agreed to purchase a £340 plaque and Cllr. Meade confirmed that he had sent instructions to the stonemason on the wording. The farmer of the proposed site and Highways will need to be contacted, the thought was it could be sited on the grass verge on Pheasants Walk/A143 junction. The brickwork design has been discussed with Cllr. Gunton which will have to be done in better weather.
- **Litter Picking equipment update** – The clerk informed members that she had collected the litter picking equipment up from the SNC's Ketteringham depot and asked where the items will be stored. It was agreed to store them in the Village Hall cupboard with the contact being the Chairman, Cllr. Wood. The date of the next litter pick was discussed, and it was agreed to arrange one for Sunday 8th December at 10am.
- **Planters for the village, costs and location** – District Cllr. Bernard made members aware that he had some funding available and if the plan was to have a planter near the village hall, then Cllr. Leech would be the best person to apply. This was agreed with a view to having a planter installed next year.
- **Millennium unedited film – discussion requested by Cllr. Meade** – Cllr. Meade informed members that in the year 2000, a film was made on video tape to celebrate the millennium which was kept at his father's home. He had been talking to two members of the public present, Brian and Denny, and all agreed it should be made in a more accessible format for people to see. Companies have been spoken to who can edit and put into a digital format with the total cost being £500 (incl. editing) One company has quoted £17 per DVD. Cllr. Meade is proposing that if he can have a budget of upto £100 he can start the process. Cllr. Bennett raised the concern that a professional company may edit out potentially important clips, Cllr. Meade responded that the committee will control that by making the decision on what can be edited out. Agreement proposed by Cllr. Bennett and seconded by Cllr. Bone

ALL AGREED

7. Planning Applications –

- **2019/21607** - Proposal: Conversion of existing building, including internal and external alteration for use as café –
Location: Building Adj To Earsham Mill Church Road Earsham Norfolk
Applicant: Mr David Crudgington
Application Type: Full Planning Permission

Members had no comment to make except the possibility of increased traffic in the village

8. Streetlighting

- **Discussion on the streetlighting assets of the council and LED lighting** – The clerk reported that the new LED's had been fitted and an email of thanks from a resident had been received. In light of the parish receiving CIL money, it was suggested that the rest of the village could now be changed to LED and the clerk suggested asking if a discount would be possible from the electrical contractors if the parish council decided to use the money in this way. Cllr. Bennett commented that he had not been given the old lanterns which had been taken down despite a request to the contractors that they be taken to his property for safe keeping. The clerk said she would contact TT Jones and ask the question.

9. Finance

- **Approval of items of expenditure invoiced since the September 2019 meeting and note balances** – Payments already made – Parish Council - £326.82 – Playing Field - £396.00.

Cheques for signature at this meeting PC - £4,260.40 – Playing Field - £599.16

Balances as at 27th November 2019 are:-

Parish Council	£50,856.76
Playing Field	£ 5,211.90
Allotments	£ 1,267.82

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

ALL AGREED

- **Discussion on the recent CIL payment of £12,720.00 and consider if there are any projects that could be financed using these monies** – Various thoughts were put forward including the conversion of all remaining streetlights to LED, village planters, bus stops, heating in the village hall, the commemorative plaque, metal fingerpost and resurfacing of the footpath outside the village hall. Further discussion is needed over the next few meetings on the best use of monies, the parish council has 5 years in which to use it otherwise it is returned to the developers. The clerk will check with SNC if any (or all) of the above are acceptable use of CIL monies.
- **Discussion on the 2020/21 budget** – Discussion and approval will be on the next meeting's agenda.
- **Discussion on current reserves, relevance of headings and if changes need to be made** – The council discussed this briefly and it was agreed to look at this again and discuss at the next meeting as it was agreed to leave this item and the following one until the end of the budget and precept process.
- **Discussion on a Reserves Policy (originally discussed at the November 2018 meeting)** – Deferred.

10. Playing Field/Play equipment

- **Play equipment** – Following on from a report by a resident last meeting, that two trees were either dead or dying on the playing field, Cllr. Meade reported that he had gone to inspect one of them and confirmed that the tree is still alive, his recommendation is to leave it for the coming summer to see if it recovers. He will look at the second tree in due course.

11. Allotments

- **Purchase of a gate post** – Cllr. Gunton has got a quote for £120 for a suitable post and this was agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Wood and seconded by Cllr. Gunton

ALL AGREED

12. Significant correspondence –

- **Invitation to consider applying for Parish Partnerships 50/50 initiative 2019/20 –** A discussion was held on investigating whether an illuminated sign at the junction of the A143 would be possible as it is a very dark junction – Norfolk County Council Highways would have to be consulted on the feasibility of this. The clerk to investigate. **ACTION – CLERK**

13. Business for next meeting

- Reserves policy, reserve allocation, budget, village planters, streetlighting
Tree availability from South Norfolk Council

The meeting was adjourned at 21.10pm and reconvened at 21.14pm for public comment

Mr. Hall commented that Footpath One on the map has a locked gate across it with a bull and cows roaming on the land. There are no signs warning walkers of this. Members agreed that Norfolk County Council should be contacted to make them aware, as this is a public footpath.

Complaints have been made about banks/verges being cut up and a letter should be written to the landowner.

15. Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 8th January 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Earsham for a one item agenda to agree the precept. The next meeting after that will be on Wednesday 29th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Earsham.

The meeting ended at 21.16pm

Signed

Date