

## **Earl Stonham Parish Council**

MINUTES of the Meeting held at the Village Hall,  
Earl Stonham at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017

### **Present:**

Cllr C Woods (Chairperson)  
Cllr D Turner (Vice-Chairperson)  
Cllr J Henderson-Hamilton  
Cllr S Challinor  
Cllr B Heard  
Cllr S Budd  
Cllr D Brenig-Jones  
Cllr H Stanford

### **In Attendance:**

Mrs J Blackburn (New Clerk)  
District Councillor S Morley  
County Councillor M Hicks

### **Apologies:**

Cllr K Wilkinson  
J Gould (Current Clerk)

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr K Wilkinson and the Clerk, Jill Gould.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Turner – Village Hall  
Cllr J Henderson-Hamilton - Footpaths  
Cllr S Budd – Village Hall/Footpaths  
Cllr H Sandford – Church/Cricket Club

## **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chair.

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr Hicks briefly went through his report and stated the following points:-

- Public Health – members of the public had not taken up the offer of a flu jab this winter. The National Health had offered it to vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, with other groups being able to receive the jab for a charge. Flu jabs were being promoted locally which included the Recorder.
- Education – Suffolk had been too far down the league tables but a change in direction had been recognised with 86% of Suffolk schools being given a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. That figure was hoped to increase but there remained a lot of work to do.

- Sizewell was on the horizon as EDF pushed it forward. Suffolk were next in line after Hinckley Point. Councillors would support it but needed to get as much out of it as possible. The structure would believe to be ten times the size of the Olympic Park.
- North Ipswich Bypass – an early draft had been produced following the 3,000 – 4,000 new homes being built in the area.

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Morley went through her report. She added that once the District Council had moved to Endeavour House there would be an office in Stowmarket where people could go in to see a member of planning staff in relation to any applications etc. Staff would also try to hold local meetings in village halls should the need arise.

Cllrs briefly discussed a large pile of waste, believed to be the remains of Cannabis plants and containers, on the edge of the village. They asked Cllr Morley if she could find out more information about fly tipping generally as to whether people were being fined or prosecuted as a result. Cllr Morley confirmed that she would.

### **POLICE MATTERS**

A representative of the Police was not present but a brief report was shared with Cllrs that reported the following:-

- A burglary had taken place at Creeting St Mary between 9.30pm on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January and 7.45am on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January.
- New CCTV appeal on Corrie McKeague enquiry of people that Suffolk Police would like to trace.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS / DECISIONS**

Planning application - Venns Farm – conversion of a barn into a dwelling. There were no objections.

### **CLERKS REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING**

Byelaws – A discussion took place between Cllrs in relation to cars parking on the Village Green. One option would be to create some hard standing for 2 cars. It was felt that the School Lane end of the Green was wide enough to let cars past if a car was parked in that area whereas the other side of the Green, was not appropriate for any parking to take place. It was noted that if parking was allowed at one side of the Green then it would not be appropriate for parking to be not allowed on the other side.

**It was AGREED:** That the Clerk liaise with Mid-Suffolk District Council as to whether there were any guidelines as to parking on Village Greens that were more recent than the Byelaws of 1972.

### **FINANCE - AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

The Chair reported the following payment be authorised:-

12.00      SALC              AGM Supper on 14.11.16

Payments totalling £12.00 were authorised. **Clerk to action.**

Cllr Turner informed Members that because of the Christmas Tree, Mr Baker from Creeting St Mary wished the Parish Council to donate £30 each year to the Church. Details of this were a little vague so Cllr Turner stated she would make some more enquiries.

**FOOTPATHS**

Following a brief discussion, the following points were made:-

- The ‘Gold’ footpath remained in a condition where the route was unclear with no apparent signs; and
- Stiles were in a dangerous condition near to Fen Lane.

**HIGHWAYS**

The Parish Council had received a request for a 30mph limit along Blacksmiths Lane as well as a ‘No HGV’ sign that had disappeared. The sign needed to be reinstalled.

**It was AGREED:** that the Clerk liaise with Highways as to the possibility of a 30mph speed limit along Blacksmiths Lane.

Cllr Stanford reported that an answer had yet to be received in relation to the lighting at Ichiban. The lights were causing a lot of light pollution.

**It was AGREED:** that the Clerk follow this up with the Environment Agency.

**TRANSPORT**

It was noted that the Tesco Bus would remain in operation until Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr Turner would find out more information about this and include it on the website.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Woods went through all received Correspondence including courses, Allotment Adverts and general information.

**It was AGREED:** that the new Clerk would, in future, email out all correspondence as and when she received it. That Cllr Turner would change all the necessary details for the Recorder and website including those of the new Clerk.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....