



EARL STONHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall, Earl Stonham on **Monday, 1st July 2019 at 7.30pm.**

Present:

Councillors: C Woods (Chair)
K Wilkinson
J Henderson-Hamilton
B Heard
S Budd
H Stanford

In Attendance J Blackburn - Clerk
C Hamilton – Website Host

ES38/19/20 – PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

ES39/19/20 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Turner, Cllr Brenig-Jones, Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Hicks.

ES40/19/20 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Stanford declared an interest in item 8 on the Agenda.

ES41/19/20 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

ES42/19/20 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 13th MAY and 11th JUNE 2019

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meetings held on 13th May and 11th June 2019 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

ES43/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT

The Police were not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

ES44/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR HICKS

Cllr Hicks was not present at the meeting. His report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

ES45/19/20 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR MORLEY

Cllr Morley was not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

ES46/19/20 – WEBSITE

Chris Hamilton reported that new legislation had been brought in, in 2018, which required all organisations to make their websites more accessible to disabled readers such as the visually impaired. The website should have sufficient contrast to enable the visually impaired to see different colours and various icons.

He explained that to achieve compliance the website needed to be amended and the Parish Council would be obliged to inform members of the public of their intentions. Once the works to the site had been completed then a notice needed to be published informing everyone of such.

He estimated that the site would be completed by Christmas.

It was AGREED: That a note be placed in the next Recorder asking the readers if they knew of anyone who was visually impaired that would like to be able to look at the website.

ES47/19/20 - TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

i) THE CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported that in relation to the War Memorial, she had contacted the contractor in order to receive an update on the requested refund. The contractor stated that they had liaised with the National Association of Stone Masons and had received a letter, which they would send to her. They were still looking into the situation and would get back with an update as soon as possible.

Following an earlier request to reinstate a Rota system for the weekly defibrillator checks, Cllr Heard confirmed that he would be able to carry on doing the checks and a Rota would not be needed.

v) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported on the Council's current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 24th June 2019 was £9,767.21.

vi) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

| | | |
|------------------|---|---------|
| Jennie Blackburn | Clerk's Salary (June) | £241.60 |
| Jennie Blackburn | Clerk's Office Allowance/Expenses (Jun) | £20.00 |
| L Stone | Refreshments for Annual Parish Mtg | £20.00 |
| L Stone | Refreshments for Footpath Walks | £15.00 |
| B Heard | Bench refurb. Expenses | £18.97 |
| D Turner | Recorder Printing Reimbursement | £174.00 |
| Jennie Blackburn | Clerk's Office Allowance/Expenses (Jul) | £34.31 |

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £523.88 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

The following receipts were also noted:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Stonham Parva PC | Recorder copies | £90.00 |
| Creting St Peter PC | Fifth payment for printer toners | £91.39 |
| HMRC | VAT Reclaim 2018/19 | £511.02 |
| Creting St Mary PC | Fifth payment for printer toners | 91.39 |
| Great Bricett PC | Fifth payment for printer toners | £91.39 |

ES48/19/20 – CODE OF CONDUCT

The Clerk explained that the Internal Auditor had picked up that an actual date had not been recorded in the past for the adoption of the Code of Conduct and therefore requested that the current Clerk take it to a future meeting of the Parish Council.

It was AGREED That the Code of Conduct be adopted.

ES49/19/20 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/19/02780 - Householder Planning Application- Erection of two storey side and rear extensions, single storey rear extension and front porch following demolition of existing garage, shower room and entrance porch - Long Acre, Debenham Road, Earl Stonham, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 5HG

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objection to the application. **Clerk to Action.**

ES50/19/20 - PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decisions were noted:

Ref: DC/19/01533 - Submission of details under Variation of Condition Application DC/18/05414 and Outline Planning Permission 0124/91/OL - Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and scale for conversion of barn and cart lodge to form one dwelling and garaging using existing vehicular access and with septic tank or private treatment plant drainage - Fen Barn, Fen Lane, Earl Stonham, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8QE – **GRANTED**

Ref: DC/19/00403 - Notification under Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 - Prior Approval Application under Part 3, Class Q (A) and (B) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 - Conversion of barn to 1no. dwelling - Barn At Yew Tree Farm, Broad Green Road, Earl Stonham, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 5HU

Ref: DC/19/02444 - Separation of 1no. dwelling into 2No separate dwellings - Fen Barn, Fen Lane, Earl Stonham, Ipswich Suffolk IP6 8QE - **GRANTED**

Ref: DC/19/02580 - Householder Planning Application - Erection of a single storey side extension - The Mardle, Forward Green, Earl Stonham, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 5EW - **GRANTED**

ES51/19/20 – FOOTPATHS

Cllr Woods reported that he had liaised with Debbie Rowe, Rights of Way Officer, about footpath 136 (Wicks Lane to Blacksmiths Lane) where she had stated that the issues surrounding this footpath were for the County Council to resolve, not the Parish Council. She confirmed that all landowners would have insurance in place so if any accidents should happen on the footpaths then the Parish Council would not be liable.

She stated that the options for the footpath would be to leave it as it was, or to pursue a diversion route, which would take the footpath through a paddock, which on occasions could house horses. All members felt the footpath was best left as it was.

ES52/19/20 - ALLOTMENTS

There was nothing to report other than a tenant had not yet been found for the remaining garden allotment at Broad Green.

ES53/19/20 – VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Woods reported that it had been confirmed that the Bowls Club would be stopped in October 2019 so consideration needed to be given to what to do with the courts as they would become overgrown. Asbestos was also present in the building.

The Trustees needed to raise some money in order for the site, where the bowls courts were, to apply for planning permission for a house or bungalow. Should the area be sold with planning permission, then the money could be used on areas such as the car park surface.

ES54/19/20 - PICNIC ON THE GREEN

Cllr Budd confirmed that she had booked the porta-loo for the event.

ES55/19/20 – DOG/HORSE FOULING

Recent complaints had been made in relation to horse and dog fouling along the footway between Wicks Lane and Blacksmiths Lane. A resident had cleaned up the mess and reported the incident to the Parish Clerk.

During a brief discussion, members felt it was not an easy problem to solve. Whilst riders should ride their horses on the road, not on the pathway, all riders did not obey this rule and it was difficult to enforce that.

It was felt that the only way to help this problem was to put an article into the next edition of the Recorder.

Also, the verges either side of the footway had become very overgrown. Cllr Henderson-Hamilton and her husband had strimmed and cut the verges in the first instance but it was felt that the Parish Council find a contractor to carry out the works for the future.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk seek a quote from Vertas for the cutting of the verges.

ES56/19/20 – GRASS CUTTING – PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Woods reported that whilst the Parish Council had been giving the Cricket Club a grant of £375 per year for cutting the grass around the play area and the mound, they had not been carrying out the work.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk send a polite reminder to the Cricket Club to cut the grass.
That Cllr Heard monitor the site and report to the Parish Council accordingly.

ES57/19/20 – A1120 / A140 JUNCTION (TAP JUNCTION)

The Clerk reported that she had not received any update on this. Members asked that she chase again with all those concerned stating that the Parish Council was very disappointed that this had not yet been resolved.

ES58/19/20 – CHURCH LANE JUNCTION

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting to hear from the County Councillor about this and once she had heard she would share with members.

ES59/19/20 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- Newly refurbished bench outside the village hall – needed to be covered during the winter and re-varnished once or twice a year. Cllr Heard happy to carry on maintaining it.
- Poor state of the road at the end of Blacksmiths Lane - needed resurfacing.
- War Memorial base – needed weeding but must not be sprayed as the Parish Council do not have a licence to spray chemicals such as weed killers.

ES60/19/20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday, 2nd September 2019 at 7.30pm

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.

Chairman: Dated: