

Earith Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on Thursday 8th January 2009

Present:

Mr Peter Brace - Chairman
Mr Alan Spackman (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs Hazel Scofield
Mr Derek Broughton
Mrs Jenny Lloyd
Mr Bob Harradine
Mr Ron Hodge
Mrs Ann Impey

Mrs Alison Brace – Clerk

CC Mr Steve Criswell,

Item 1 **Apology's for Absence** - Mrs Ann Corbin, Mr Keith Hudson & Mrs Julie Seamark

Item 2 **Police Report** – Reports had been circulated.
Police Constable Charles Hansford, PCSO's Hannah Shepherd, & Bob Carr were invited to the meeting and an informal discussion took place which the main points were as follows,

- The Chairman reported 2 acts of vandalism on a fence and garage and a stolen bike.
- Mr Bob Harradine reported the theft of 2 Motorbikes.
- The dumping of extreme amounts of rubbish along the farm road leading to Cross Fen, including a van in the dike.
- There are a number of incidents again at the industrial estate.
- Mr Ron Hodge reported a number of thefts at the allotments with machinery, livestock and produce all being taken also including a whole Hen House, which was later recovered.
- Mr Bob Harradine also said that a lot of the Firms and Public felt vulnerable against crime.

The Police Officers answered as many questions as they could explaining that they needed more evidence and the public being more pro-active in reporting incidents. They keep an eye on the industrial estate, and also they have an idea on the youngsters who are perpetrating the petty crimes. There has been an increase by 23.9% of crime in the village over the last 3 months

The speeding traffic was also discussed. The Chairman gave out the figures from the CC traffic survey conducted in the High Street last autumn, of 78k movements a week, 45% of HGV vehicles were speeding. The traffic through the High Street is going to get much greater when they start to build the Northstowe town development. The crossings in the High Street are very dangerous with many black skid marks on either side of the road. With the situation only going to get worse, the Parish Council would still like traffic lights to control the crossings. The Police offered one option of Speed Boards which flash, to slow the traffic down and also take numbers and write to them.

Policy and Shift patterns have changed within the Police Force and they would like more police to join the force. They also understand the frustration that they can't cover all the villages 24 hours. The Police have suggested more road safety measures to the County Council Highways i.e. pinch points at each side of village entrances', pelican crossings, raised tables and speed bumps and cameras.

The Chairman said that there is a 'Joint Action Group & HCV group' meeting at Cottenham Community Hall 22nd Jan 09. County Councillors have been invited to discuss lorry movements through villages.

Item 14 Parish Plan – no update

Item 15 Finance – Payments

| <u>Powers</u> | <u>Payee</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>£</u> | <u>Chq No.</u> |
|--|------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------|
| LGHA1989,s7 | Mrs AS Brace | Clerk wages 30hrs @ 9.46 | 283.80 | |
| LGHA1989,s7 | | Meetings 2hrs @ 9.46 | 18.48 | |
| LGHA1989,s7 | | Booking Clerk 5hrs @ 6.93 | 34.65 | |
| | | Total less tax | 320.08 | 1982 |
| LGA1972,s.133 | Mrs A Smith | Caretaker 17hrs @ 6.93 | No tax | 1983 |
| LGA1972,s.151 | Mr LA Tuckwood | Handyman 10hrs @6.39 | 63.90 | |
| LGA1972,s.4 | | Bus Shelter cleaning | 30.00 | |
| | | Total less tax | 84.51 | 1984 |
| LGA1972,s.112-119 | Inland Revenue | PAYE Dec 08 | 26.24 | 1985 |
| LGA1972,s.101 | ChapSmith Services | Un-blocking Gents toilet | 164.45 | 1986 |
| LGA1972,s.137 | EVA | Village Magazine | 220.00 | 1987 |
| | Canalbs Ltd | Internal auditor – old invoice not paid 4.9.08 | 50.30 | 1988 |
| LGA1972,s.101 | Earith Timber Products | Small fence outside the playing field for safety | 155.25 | 1989 |
| LGA1972,s.101 | Mr Ron Hodge | Pond Maintenance | 15.49 | 1990 |
| LGA1972,s.101 | DC Windows | Window cleaning Village Hall | 13.00 | 1991 |
| LGA1972,s.133 | Industrial Supplies | Toilet Rolls & Paper towels x 2 | 85.22 | 1992 |
| LGA1972,s.7 | Mrs AS Brace | Exps – virus repair on laptop telephone & ink | 46.57 | 1993 |
| | Moore & Stephens | External auditors – year end 2007\08 | 388.13 | 1994 |
| LGA1972,s.101 | e-on | Electricity for Village Hall- Dec payment | 85.00 | DD |
| <u>Total spend for Dec – 2008</u> | | | <u>£1772.05</u> | |

Item 16 Correspondence – Hunts DC – Food Business News letter
Contract for Natural High – for Youth Club High of Village Hall
Moore & Stephens – Annual Audit return 2007\2008 signed off.
Hunts DC – Taxis in Hunts, review of the number of hackney carriage Licences.
Communities in Local Government - code of recommended practice on local authority publicity.
COPE – newsletter January 2009.

Item 17 Items to report only – Environment Agency lease on Island 5 years last March
ECA Field renew lease
To re-new Grass Cutting Contract
Christmas decorations to be taken down and stored
5 Hereward has cut their hedge and thrown the cuttings over fence into ECA field.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 5th February 2009

Date 22.1.09

Mrs Alison Brace - Clerk

These minutes are un-adopted