



ERISWELL PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES

of the ERISWELL PARISH COUNCIL meeting held on JUNE 15th 2021

Present:

Cllr L Hall

Cllr A Bibbey

Cllr J Seaney

Cllr B Foster

In attendance: Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary, Garth Tolmie (Footpath Warden), N Glading (Parish clerk) and one member of the public

2021/ 23	RECORDING OF MEETING	
	None	
2021/ 24	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
a.	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr R Hall and Cllr P Seaney	
b.	Council consented to accept apologies received.	
2021/ 25	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	None	
2021/ 26	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	<p>The clerk has received following verbally from an Eriswell resident:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Hedges at Little London and the cottage opposite the old post office need cutting back, they are a hazard. Could the clerk write to Elveden estates . (ii) Shed at Eriswell village is falling down- could the PC take action, please? Clerk to write to occupant. (iii) Email (excerpt) dated 4th June 2021 from Eriswell village resident: “ I have very little faith in the parish council, there appears to be no effort in promoting a neighbourly spirit or active interest in the parish council meetings. I would argue that very little is being done in the village by way of speeding vehicles, poor speed signage, kerb maintenance, footpath clearing. The only interest taken is that of the maintenance of the area surrounding the war memorial or entrance to the houses within that area. If I were a member of the parish council committee I would take the time to get to know your neighbours in the village and find out what other opinions are in being a part of the village of Eriswell” <p>Councillors felt that the complaints were unjustified. The resident has, in the past, been offered various roles, e.g. strimming, assistance with painting war memorial but he has declined. Clerk to write back with invitation to join the Parish Council so that the resident may take an active role in the community. , Some of the complaints e.g. kerb maintenance, are not within the remit of the Parish.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk Appendix A</p>

2021/27	UPDATES FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	
a.	<p><u>Update from new RAF Lakenheath representative Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary</u> Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary took up his post one week ago. He had been in the RAF for 30 years previously. The Station continues to prepare for the arrival of F-35A aircraft later this year. Councillors explained the primary issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parking of deliveries on Earlsfield Road : Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary had discussed this with Jamie, and the agreed solution negotiated by Jamie to use the land across the entrance road. 2. Radcliff Road lighting (9 units were switched off during the transfer of the estate) Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary will look into. 	
b.	<u>Update from C/Cllr Colin Noble: Not present</u>	
c.	<p><u>Update from West Suffolk D/Cllr S Frost</u> WSDC meets for the first time next week, the only room with enough capacity is at the racecourse. Clearly the pandemic has had a serious effect on the District Council: £1.3 million cost. D/Cllr S Frost has had a Mildenhall hub tour, it looks fantastic. The School at the Hub opened yesterday. Other facilities e.g., Doctor's surgery, etc will open soon He attended a meeting about a similar facility in Bury St Edmunds: once the new hospital comes (end of this decade). The land is at the back of the existing hospital. The current hospital will not be sold for development. Some units are fairly new so will be retained; the rest is falling down. D/Cllr Frost will find out what will happen to the old school.</p> <p>D/Cllr Frost agrees that the grass cutting situation at Earlsfield is a mess. He has confronted the cabinet member responsible and is concentrating on this. The open spaces are privately owned, and the owner does not respond. Clerk to supply email address that she has for Mr Al Qand, the responsible owner.</p> <p>Councillors commented that some of the Earlsfield footpaths are impassable D/Cllr Frost will get clearing these into the WSDC clearance diary. Whilst they were selling the houses, everything looked nice and tidy Property has changed hands many times; now about 6 owners on.</p> <p>The Councillors want to know why West Suffolk Council did nothing about arrangements for the open spaces at the time of handover. The Parish Council would be willing to look at purchasing open space. Councillors suggest that West Suffolk instigate a Compulsory Purchase Order so that there can be some play areas/ proper designated community space. D/Cllr Frost will speak to Ian Gillam about this.</p> <p>The verge on the A1065 is really badly overgrown so driver's visibility is reduced, this is a fast, busy road.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/</p>

	Councillors to consider bringing the issues to the attention of the press (next meeting. Power of the press is not to be underestimated. Clerk to draft letter. Councillors to take photographic evidence	All Councillors
2021/ 28	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS held on 6th May 2021	
a.	The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 6 th May 2021 were AGREED as an accurate record and the Chair authorised to sign the same	
b.	The minutes of the meeting held on 6 th May 2021 were AGREED as an accurate record and authorise the Chair authorised to sign the same.	
c.	Business remaining from previous meeting, not on this agenda; None	
2021/ 29	CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR	
a.	WSC have confirmed, in their email received 2 nd June 2021, that no request from 10 local government electors for the holding of an election to fill the vacancy on Eriswell Parish Council has been received. There were no candidates present at the meeting. As a result, the Council is eligible to fill the vacancy by co-option. 1. The National Association of Local Councils has produced a briefing note relating to co-option (LTN8) to be read in conjunction with NALC's Legal Briefing L03-20. These are available from your local Association of Local Councils (Suffolk Association of Local Councils) 2. It is essential that any person co-opted is (i) qualified to be a member of a Parish/Town Council; and (ii) is not disqualified. The qualifications and disqualifications are explained in Part 1 of Guidance produced by the Electoral Commission, available at Electoral Commission Candidates and agents at Parish and community council elections in England . Although not a statutory requirement, EPC may wish to ask the co-optee to confirm in writing that he/she is qualified and not disqualified	
b.	There were no candidates for co-option.	
2021/30	FINANCE/ AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ DONATIONS	
a.	The May/ June 2021 itemised expenditure/ invoices for payment were unanimously AGREED and signatories authorised to sign the cheques	Appendix B
b.	It was unanimously AGREED to transfer the EPC Santander account balance to EPC Lloyds bank account (for clarity). Signatories are Cllr L. Hall and Cllr A. Bibbey.	Clerk
2021/ 31	AGAR 2020 to 2021	
a.	Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 The Councillors considered the following: (i) Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2020/21 Part 2 Unanimously APPROVED (ii) Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 Unanimously APPROVED (iii) Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21 Unanimously APPROVED	
2021/32	MATTERS RELATING TO PLANNING FOR ERISWELL	
a.	Application no: DC/21/1094/VAR Consultation Expiry: 25 June 2021 Proposal Planning application: variation of condition 2 of DC/20/0122/FUL to allow amended plans with change in external appearance and materials for one office (class B1) with associated servicing space Location: Shopping Centre Earls Field Raf Lakenheath IP27 9RX	Sent to planning officer Luckhurst 25.06.21021

	SUPPORT with comment EPC believe that there has been a change of materials- we would also ask that the building is in keeping with the others so that the frontage is uniform.	
2021/33	CLERKS REPORT	
a.	Update on Earlsfield street lighting units: 1. Handed over to SCC, specifically Radcliff Road. Wg. Cdr. Stu Geary is looking into. 2. SCC quotation for repair of post at Eriswell village and relocation of dog waste bin. Clerk to check that the unit does not belong to UKPN before proceeding.	clerk
b.	Noticeboard at the shops- inscription "Eriswell Parish Council" and map on back: Clerk to ask again about this	clerk
c.	Template for Emergency Plan and Draft Emergency Plan: Deferred	
d.	Update on SID posts and consider purchase & funding of SID Cllr Bibbey will get a price for `clamp on` 30 mph speed restriction signs	Cllr Bibbey
e.	SWT are not interested in the small wooded area. Potential signs are suggested, "Enter at own risk" or "dangerous trees" "Private Property" House owners are cutting gates are being cut in the back hedges/fences of adjoining properties to allow access to the woodland and the woods are used as a dumping site. Clerk inform Elveden Estates	
f.	Date and time of litter pick in conjunction with USAF volunteers: Eriswell village: Cllrs Bibbey, Foster and Mrs P Brunning will assist with the area from the village through past Sparkes farm. Clerk to supply pick up sticks, bags, rubbish hoops and hi viz vests Earlsfield: All Councillors to send convenient dates to the Chairman using the WhatsApp group.	clerk Cllr L. Hall
g.	30 mph repeater signs and black and white roadside posts which EPC seem be losing, with no replacement from SCC Highways: SCC will not re-install unless there is evidenced danger. The SID should supply this.	
2021/34	GOVERNANCE	
a.	Cllr Foster completed and signed the 2020-2021 EPC Control Statement and Report	
2021/35	UPDATE ON NEW EPC NOTICE BOARDS (Cllr Bibbey) Minute 2021/ 232 f.	
a.	Update on 3 new noticeboards: delivery is pending	
2021/36	BUS SHELTER at EARLSFIELD	
a.	To consider the permissions required, purchase and installation of new bus shelter at Earlsfield, opposite the existing. Clerk to seek SCC permission Clerk to ask Bob Shimmon which bus company installed the exiting shelter	clerk
2021/37	BIN AT EARLSFIELD SHOPS	
2021/38	Purchase of a larger bin for Earlsfield shops: there have been a number of complaints that the bin outside Londis needs to be larger. Clerk to ask if the fast food shop will make a contribution, specifically, write to Kim Bolgogi (Wok and Roc at Lakenheath) The Councillors AGREED not to purchase a bigger bin until EPC have exhausted our efforts to get the take outs to contribute.	clerk
2021/ 39	CHAIRS ITINERARY and REPORTS (on the night)	
	(i) Chairmans report: none	

	<p>(ii) Councillors reports, to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on Eriswell Reading Room: getting on with the project 2. Update from Eriswell Playing Field Committee: waiting on extended Lease renewal (The Elveden Estates Property Management Team meet on 21st July, a decision will be made then) 3. Inspection of alleyways etc for litter (Cllr P Seaney) Deferred 4. Other reports from councillors <p>(iii) Report from Footpath Warden, G Tolmie</p> <p>Finger posts gone up . Bridleway 4 is not in correct position. The PROW Team know about this. Didn't do footpath 3. Sam is going to try and walk footpath. Sam has given Mr Tolmie some roundels.</p> <p>Warden to put the footpath map onto website.</p> <p>PROW are modernising the official maps</p>	
2021/40	<p>EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION exchange of any relevant information at the discretion of the Chairman</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr J Seaney announced her resignation from the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Cllr Seaney for her excellent work whilst a member of the PC. 2. Cllr Bibbey confirmed that if a property is declared uninhabitable, no Council Tax is payable. EPC are being denied much revenue by the practice. 	

Meeting closed at 9.12 pm

Appendix A

Reply to resident at item 2021 /26 (iii)

Dear

Your email was read out to the parish councillors at the recent meeting.

The Councillors were sorry to hear that you I have very little faith in the parish council, and that you think there is little effort in some areas. You have raised a number of points which I will deal with in turn:

1. promoting a neighbourly spirit. EPC have a website, and a Facebook page. There are five noticeboards in the village, and I put up notices regularly. We have offered voluntary work; I believe strimming and war memorial repairs but unfortunately you emailed to say you were unable to assist at the time.
2. active interest in the parish council meetings. Residents are encouraged to attend parish council meetings, the agenda specifically promotes inclusion, and we would very much welcome proactive, positive public participation. We have recently invested in 4 new noticeboards.
3. very little is being done in the village by way of speeding vehicles, poor speed signage.

EPC went through the exhaustive process of obtaining site placement for speed posts to support speed indicator devices just prior to the COVID outbreak. The verges belong to Suffolk County Council and only they can give permission to instal the posts. Permission was achieved but the post installation (which has to be done by Suffolk Council) was delayed considerable because of lockdown and staff shortages/ people sick or isolating at SCC. The post have now been installed and the parish councillors will decide at their next meeting which type of speed indicator to purchase. Two parish councillors have volunteered to move the device, set it up and download the recorded information.

Now that the lockdown is eased, training in the use of speed guns can be given by the Police and this project is being taken forward. You may wish to volunteer as a Speedwatch operative, please let me know if this is of interest?

4. kerb maintenance. This is not within the EPC remit. The Highways department at Suffolk Council maintain kerbs. Please see:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/>

or email the County Councillor on a specific matter:

colin.noble@suffolk.gov.uk

5. footpath clearing. This is not within the EPC remit, maintenance of footpaths should be carried out by the landowner or the SCC Public Rights of Way team, see:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/>

EPC do have a very active footpath warden; his reports are in the minutes on the website.

The councillors have recently authorised expenditure on improvements recommended, I attach his report from March 2021 and the expenditure details.

6. EPC have a vacancy for a parish councillor, and, as you mentioned wanting to join us, I am supplying more details as below.

1. The National Association of Local Councils has produced a briefing note relating to co-option (LTN8) to be read in conjunction with NALC's Legal Briefing L03-20. These are available from the local Association of Local Councils [Suffolk Association of Local Councils](#)
2. It is essential that any person co-opted is:

- (i) qualified to be a member of a Parish/Town Council; and
- (ii) is not disqualified.

The qualifications and disqualifications are explained in Part 1 of Guidance produced by the Electoral Commission, available at Electoral Commission [Electoral Commission | Candidates and agents at Parish and community council elections in England](#)

Although not a statutory requirement, EPC may wish to ask the co-optee to confirm in writing that he/she is qualified and not disqualified, the role of a parish councillor and what is expected of him/ her. The next meeting is on 27th August 2021 and assuming that you qualify, and the Chairman agrees, I will include your co-option as an agenda item.

Kind regards

N Glading

Parish clerk

Appendix B

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MAY & JUNE 2021				
ERISWELL PC				
Payee	Item		Amount	VAT
N Glading	Salary May 2021		£391.56	
N Glading	Salary June 2021		£391.56	
N Glading	Office expenses April May June		£78.00	
N Glading	Re-imburse- share of ink jet cartridges & delivery charge		£22.50	
CAS	Website fee		£60.00	£10.00
RH Landscapes	Grass cutting Earlsfield 6th May 2021		£210.00	£35.00
ICO	(After Agenda)		£40.00	