

MINUTES OF ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Parish Church 23rd March 2011 at 7.15pm

Present: Councillors, Mr. S. Jonik (Chairman), Mr. A. Pinnington (Vice Chairman), Mr. M. Gilbert, Mrs. D. Oram, Mr. D. Moore, Mr. R. Loraine-Smith and Mrs A Whittle (Clerk).

Open Forum:

Mrs Oram relayed a message from Mr David Sandford as follows: Should warning signs be erected by Sarcen Housing or any other company to advise of the spraying of weeds. Sarcen Housing have recently sprayed the weeds around the Park roads etc but did not put out any signs advising dog owners to keep their dogs away from the sprayed areas. The clerk will look into this.

Mr Pinnington addressed the council regarding his planning application FLA/018/400/10-11. He advised that the project would take place over 5 years and that for every tree taken down 3 will be planted. Some of the trees in question are over 150ft tall in his garden and are a danger to the safety of his property should they fall.

The clerk advised that the quarterly plastic and cardboard skips will be in the Park area on the 7th of April and 8th of July from 9am to 11.30am.

26/11 Apologies – Apologies were received from Cllr Lewcock and PC Gemma Rutter

27/11 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Pinnington declared an interest in planning application FLA/018/400/10-11

28/11 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th February 2011

The minutes were accepted after minor spelling amendments.

Proposed Cllr Loraine Smith **Seconded** Cllr Moore All in favour

29/11 Planning

FLA/018/400/10-11 Felling License Application – Pound House

After lengthy discussion Cllr Jonik's letter as Chairman of the council, in response to this application and after discussion with Councillors and villagers prior to this meeting, was accepted as the council's view on this application. The letter reads as follows:

1) As the tree felling is central to the village and visible to anybody who walks along the high street we feel the application should have gone through Wiltshire Council so the neighbours and villagers could comment on the change. 2) We don't have an issue if the trees are being felled due to safety or disease or crop growing and thinning, but complete removal is overkill and would detract from the visual look in this particular area. 3) Complete removal should only be undertaken on the advice of experts and discussion with the relevant councils. 4) If Parish Councillors have similar views then perhaps preservation orders should be undertaken soon. 5) We are in a conservation area. 6) These comments are endorsed and why did this application go straight to the forestry commission and not through Wiltshire Council. 7) This is a preservation area which the whole of Erlestoke is in, so I hope these have been informed. 8) Should the Parish Council seek advice from the Preservation Area Board? 9) Have the two neighbours been notified. 10) This is an old historic wood along Lower Road and appears to still be in good condition. This work would drive a clearway through the wood and make it unbalanced and odd to look at.

Proposed Cllr Gilbert **Seconded** Cllr Moore 5 in favour (1 declaration of interest)

Cllr Jonik advised that a site meeting was being organized for either the 5th or 7th of April to which all Councillors are welcome. Unfortunately he is not available for either date but will advise the Councillors of the date and time once the details have been confirmed to him.

E/11/0288/TCA – Pollards 53 High Street – Works to trees at the property to consist of the felling of one sycamore and three ash trees and the felling of one cedar tree whilst retaining the main stem for habitat purposes.

No comment

Proposed Cllr Moore **Seconded** Cllr Gilbert All in favour

30/11 Wiltshire Council update – Cllr Gamble

Cllr Gamble advised of the trimming of bus services. The X88 service to Bath will be cut in September and there are changes to the 87 as Faresaver will now be running the service. The parking charges in Devizes will change as of the 1st of April. There will only be half an hour free parking in the Market Place and then 55p per hour. On street parking has not changed and the 1 hour and 2 hour spaces will remain. He also advised that Inspector Andy Noble from Wiltshire Police is moving on and Ron Peach is taking over. He spoke briefly about the meeting that took

place regarding the B3098 in early March which was attended by representatives from all the Parish Councils along the B3098 from Westbury to Littleton Panell and was organised by Westbury Area Board. He said that the main issues were speed and the size of vehicles using the road not just the weight of them. He has taken up some of the issues with Dave Bullock, the Wiltshire Council Officer who was at the meeting.

31/11 Devizes Area Board

Area Board Meeting - 21st March 2011 Lavington School

Cllr Jonik gave a short report on the following subjects.

Community Services Contract. Lyn Hill-Tout, Chief Executive, provided information about the Great Western Hospital contract to run the community services currently run by the Primary Care Trust. The presentation covered the main subjects below: • Background to the changing landscape of the NHS • The composition of the Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust • The services currently provided • The record of providing good patient care • Key facts about the new services that the Trust would be responsible for – providing healthcare in over 30 locations from Malmesbury in the north down to Salisbury in the south and across towards Bath and beyond into Somerset • Why the Trust bid for these services – a unique opportunity to improve care for patients across the region • What this meant for local people. **Primary Care Trust Update.** Tony Barron and Jeff James provided an update on the Primary Care Trust. Having a single campus for three GPs and the services provided by the community clinic and the hospital would not be possible in the short term because developer input was not forthcoming. Services provided in the community would continue while services would be moved from the community clinic to the hospital site. £330,000 would be spent on improving the hospital site and making the clinic site good for future use once vacated. The site at Green Lane would remain designated for health care use. The Primary Care Trust was due to be abolished in 2013, with a transfer to GP commissioning consortia. There would be three commissioning consortia in Wiltshire, commencing 1 April 2011. The presentation was followed by a short question and answer session, which included the following main points: • Little money had been spent on investigating the option of a single campus. The costs involved in looking into the Quakers Walk site had been met by the developer on speculation. • A wide sweep of potential funding organisations, including charities, had been made with the help of GPs to find another development partner. This had proven to be unsuccessful. • The hospital site had room for expansion in order to address additional pressures on health care in the longer term. • Careful consideration would be needed for community use of the clinic site once vacant. • The costs associated with patients getting to and from services would be taken into account in future planning

Big Society, Localism and what it means for the Devizes Area - 7th April Corn Exchange. Cllr Moore agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council and report back at the next meeting.

32/11 Highways and Footpath issues and tasks for the Parish Steward

The issue of manhole covers being unsafe was raised and Cllr Gilbert agreed to walk the village and note the specific locations which the clerk will then advise to highways. There is new legislation regarding disabled access which could affect the Play Area in the Park and the Secret garden. The clerk will look into this.

33/11 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 13th April 2011 – 7.30pm in the village church

The clerk was asked to invite Mr Dave Bullock from Wiltshire Highways to give a short presentation at the APM regarding local highways issues.

34/11 Correspondence

To be circulated, Clerks and Councils Direct, Thank you letter from the church, Wiltshire Council letter re recycling, Wiltshire Council list of tasks completed by parish steward, WALC newsletter, Wiltshire Council changes to bus service 87, Wiltshire Council Parish Newsletter March 2011, Devizes Community Area Partnership minutes from meeting 7th March.

To discuss, Wiltshire Council –changes to bus services, Best Kept Village Competition – the council decided not to enter this year.

35/11 To confirm the Financial Statement for February & accounts for payment

The accounts for February were accepted and the following approved for payment:

Mrs A Whittle – Hours and Exp – March - £209.49 HM Customs & Excise – PAYE month 12 - £44.40

Mrs A Whittle – Hours and Exp – April - £202.64 HM Customs & Excise – PAYE month 1 - £44.40

Proposed Cllr Pinnington **Seconded** Cllr Gilbert All in favour

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

The next meeting, Wednesday 4th May 2011 at 7.15pm in the Village Church.