

MINUTES OF
THE ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Parish Church Wednesday 12th December 2012 at 6.15pm

Present: Councillors, Mr S Jonik (Chairman), Mr D Moore (Vice-Chairman) arrived at 6.45pm after the vote on the budget and precept had taken place, Mr A Pinnington, Mrs D Oram, Mr K Lewcock (left at 7.15pm), Mr J Durham and Mrs A Whittle (Clerk)

Open Forum: Mr G Phillips addressed the council as follows.

He thanked the clerk for the prompt issuing of the minutes from the last meeting. He said he was looking forward to hearing the response re the sale of the Garden Road. He said he was not in favour of allotments being installed on the grassed area of the Park Field between the car park and the B3098.

125/12 Apologies – No apologies were received.

126/12 Declaration of Interest

Declarations of interest were made by Cllrs Jonik, Oram, Pinnington, Durham and Lewcock regarding item 131/12 as all live in properties in the village. They all presented the clerk with Dispensation request forms which the clerk accepted and signed. Cllr Moore did not present a form as he was not present at the meeting until after 131/12 had been discussed and a resolution passed and therefore took no part in the item.

127/12 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 31st October 2012

The minutes were accepted as presented.

Proposed: **Cllr Pinnington** Seconded: **Cllr Oram** All in favour

128/12 Wiltshire Council Report - No report.

129/12 To discuss ideas regarding making it safer for the school children to cross the B3098 in order to catch or alight from the school bus.

It was resolved after discussion that the council would proceed as follows:

1. The clerk will obtain from Wiltshire Council signs stating children crossing which are to be erected on the village name sign posts at either end of the village on the B3098.
2. Cllr Pinnington will speak to the owners of the Lodge to ask their permission to erect a sign on their boundary wall stating Caution children crossing.
3. The clerk will advise Devizes community Area Transport Group of the villages issue with the safety of children crossing the road to catch the school bus and also of the parish councils request to highways for the road signs. She will also ask them to confirm that Erlestoke has been added to the list for the Speed Indicator Devizes to be erected on a rotating basis.
4. The clerk will keep this issue on the forthcoming agendas until the situation is resolved.

Proposed: **Cllr Lewcock** Seconded: **Cllr Jonik** All in favour

130/12 Prison update – No report from the prison

131/12 Budget and Precept 2013/14

The clerk presented the Councillors with a draft budget and precept forecast for 2013/14. The budget was accepted and the precept was set at £5400, a small rise of 1.8% to cover ever increasing costs. The council thanked the clerk for presenting a well balanced budget.

Proposed: Cllr Pinnington Seconded: Cllr Lewcock All in favour

132/12 Devizes Area Board

Cllr Jonik reported that the main issue of contention was the proposed building of 700 houses in Coate and that it seems the government are changing the planning laws on building on green belt land.

133/12 Highways issues including Parish Steward

Cllr Pinnington advised that he has asked the parish steward to dig away the soil at the back of the pavements in the High Street to ascertain where the pavement back edge is and where property boundary hedges should be in line with.

The clerk was asked to contact the Aster group (formally Sarsen Housing) regarding the overgrown hedge of 15 The Park and 47 The High Street and The owner of 51 The High Street regarding the overgrown hedge on the boundary with the pavement and loose gravel spilling onto the pavement from the driveway.

134/12 Secret Garden - Letter to the MOD re garden road – follow up

As of the date of this meeting neither the clerk nor the Chairman has received a response from the Anna Rogers from the MOD to the clerk’s letter sent on the 6th of November.

The clerk was asked to forward the email to Cllr Lewcock who will contact Ms Rogers by telephone and to forward the letter with a covering letter to Claire Perry MP and Richard Gamble (Wiltshire Council).

Dave Seaborne is installing the bollards at the garden this week and the clerk was asked to obtain quotes for a disclaimer sign for anyone using the garden for the next meeting.

135/12 How to utilise parish council land between the car park behind the church and the boundary with the B3098 – Cllr Oram

Cllr Oram brought to the council the suggestion of utilising the piece of land between the car park on the Park Field and the B3098 for allotments.

After discussion it was decided that the clerk should write to the PCC asking for their views on the suggestion as a neighbouring property owner before any further discussion took place.

136/12 Replacement of the old goal post on the Park Field – Cllr Pinnington

Cllr Pinnington had looked into the cost of replacing the older goal post on the park field with a new model. The main concern he was finding was the cost of any replacement. He will continue to look into further costs.

137/12 On-going matters

Moving of play area sign

The clerk will chase the moving of the sign as it hasn’t happened yet.

Moles in Park Field

Cllr Oram reported that Mr Goddard had visited the site but had not as yet returned. The clerk will contact him and find out the position.

Blocked sludge pit in the Park Area

As yet the clerk had not managed to obtain the three quotes. Cllr Oram lent the clerk a drawing of the sludge pit to aid in obtaining the quotes.

Grant applications

The clerk advised that she had sent in an application the area board for monies towards the projects at the Secret Garden

Letter to Wessex Water re houses in the Park

The clerk advised she had written as requested.

138/12 To confirm the Financial Statement for October and November & accounts for payment

The financial statement for October and November was accepted and the following approved for payment.

Mrs A Whittle – Hours & Exp - £498.94 HM Customs and Excise – PAYE month 10 & 11- £88.80
Proposed: **Cllr Moore** Seconded: **Cllr Oram** All in favour

139/12 To receive reports from Village Representatives

Cllr Pinnington advised the council that Mr Sandford from the Park would like to donate a wooden seat in good condition to the parish council and would like it installed adjacent to the car park road on the park field outside the church boundary. The clerk will place this on the agenda for January.

Cllr Oram was thanked for planting the Roger Hampton memorial tree and the clerk will place the design and purchase of a plaque to mark the tree on the agenda for January.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

The next meeting

Wednesday 23rd January 2013

Wednesday 6th March 2013

All meetings start at 7.15pm and are held in the village church.

Erlestoke Village website – www.erlestoke.org