

MINUTES OF THE ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Parish Church Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs, Mr S Jonik (Chairman) (temp Clerk), Mr D Moore, Mrs N Barton, Cllr Gamble

Open Forum

Pot holes in the Park and up Pear Tree Hill were raised by Mike Barton. Cllr Gamble to take up with highways the Park. 01980 674706 to be called to report condition of Pear Tree Hill road.

100/16 Apologies were received from James Durham, Keith Lewcock, Justin Hunt-Davis

101/16 Declaration of Interest No interests were declared.

102/16 Clerk vacancy for Erlestoke Council

Vacancy has been advertised in the parish magazine, notice board and website. Cllr Gamble suggested other parish news letters/magazines to advertise more widely. Received notification from Cheverell Magna Parish Council that they have appointed and they have passed on details of the other candidate interviewed to Erlestoke Parish Council. Cllr Jonik will enquire to candidate wants to apply for Erlestoke position.

103/16 Erlestoke Woods Tree felling:

Contact details passed on for contractors and contractors had stated they were happy to talk through the works. Cllr Jonik suggested that the remaining wood could be distributed to the senior members of the village. Mr Barton offered to assist. Re-planting to start in January, broad leaf trees to be planted. Cllr Jonik to contact them to see if this is acceptable to the MoD and Contractor. Wood would be re-positioned in secret garden or delivered.

104/16

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th September 10th August 2016, 22nd June 2016 and the Annual Parish Meeting 27th April 2016.

Insufficient Cllrs who attended the meetings to allow this approval to happen. Deferred to next meeting.)

105/16 Planning

Decision Received

Applications for Comment

None Received

106/16 Wiltshire Council and Devizes Area Board Update

Cllr Gamble briefed accident at the cross roads at the end of Lower Road. Concern on the hedge cutting and visibility at that junction. Cllr Jonik stated that this had been raised previously as the signage had been removed including the cross road warning sign, and residents reported late braking previously. Cllr Gamble confirmed his report that the hedge had obscured the newly position warning sign. Cllr Gamble asked Erlestoke to report to Parish Steward and support action to be taken on the signage. Cllr Gamble to copy Claire Perry MP letter to Erlestoke PC.

Mr. Colenso at Manor Farm wishes to speak to the council on activity at Manor Farm. Cllr Gamble to pass on Council meeting dates.

21 November, Potterne Scout Hut next Devizes Area Board. Rural Issues to be discussed

Possible lower road closure, nothing official at this time. Cllr Gamble will monitor and report any news.

107/16 The Neighbourhood Plan

Nothing to report

108/16 Highways and Footpath issues

Footpath to Coulston on the other side of the golf course is impassable. Cllr Gamble confirmed this is a Highways by budget issues mean that if it can be dealt with local this would be helpful.

109/16 On-going matters

Safety of school children crossing the B3098, Speed Indicator Devices limited positions in Erlestoke. Some interest from other councils. Positions to be clarified and a test in the Park to be conducted. Bolts for mounting bracket obtained.

Erlestoke House Gates, no update.

Fracking, Reports in local press suggesting that there is no intention to frack in the local area

Broadband, BT Open Reach engineer seen reviewing village and developing costed plans for optic roll out. Nothing official. Cllr Barton reported significant issues this week. Cllr Jonik remains below 2 Mb. Council will monitor.

Play Equipment Inspection, No report seen. Cllr Jonik to check with previous clerks records passed to see if it has been passed.

Erlestoke Lakes Issues. Cllr Jonik thinks we should still follow up. Lakes remain heavily silted and no fish seen. Understood from press reports on tree felling that funding was being sought to undertake work on the lakes. Cllr Gamble believed that he had a copy of the article and suggested searching the gazette and herald website. Concern raised on volume of water flowing down towards the Park.

Safety of school children crossing the B3098, Erlestoke House Gates, Fracking, Broadband Play Equipment Inspection, Erlestoke Lakes Issues. **(NOT DISCUSSED)**

110/16 To confirm the Financial Statement and accounts for payment.

Cllr Jonik has reviewed the accounts back to April 2016 to present and briefed the council on his review. Expecting bills from auditor and for grass cutting but not received to date. Council has a deposit and current account. Discussed simplifying the accounting. Cllr Jonik suggested retaining the two accounts but simplifying the transaction between the two. No outgoings in September and October 2016. Accounts not approved as Cllr Barton new and only Cllr Jonik and Cllr Moore with previous knowledge. Deferred to next meeting.

Discussed setting precept in January 2017. Cllr Jonik has the previous spreadsheet and will develop initial budget and look to arrange a review and setting of precept around Christmas period. Look to discussing complete at next meeting on the 14 December 2016. Discussed potential grass cutting not being contracted out and possible options.

Pension situation discussed if the council employs a new clerk. By 01 Feb all employers need to have registered for government work placed pension scheme. Cllr Jonik to investigate the

pension scheme arrangements for Parish Councils. Even if not employing anyone the council will need to register.

111/16 To receive reports from Village Representatives

None received.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

**Next meetings are as follows:
14th December 2016,
11th January 2017,
1st March 2017,
5th April 2017,
from 7.15pm in the village church.**

The Annual General Meeting 26th April 2017 - 7.30pm in the village church

Erlestoke Village website – www.erlestoke.org