

## **MINUTES OF THE ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** **Held in the Parish Church Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 7.15**

**Present:** Cllrs, Mr S Jonik (Chairman), Mr D Moore (Vice Chairman), Mrs N Barton, Mr K Lewcock, Mr J Durham, Mr J Hunt-Davies, Ms V Neal (Locum Clerk),

### **Open Forum:**

Mrs Southorn asked when the agenda for the meeting was put up on the notice board.

PC response; Agenda was put on the noticeboard on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Mrs Southorn objected to the minutes of the APM April 24th 2016

PC response - The clerk is no longer available. Any issue with the minutes must be raised at the next Annual Parish Meeting in 2017.

Mrs Southorn asked where the Village Hall funds were.

PC response: The Village Hall Committee to be asked to present the Parish Council with an update on the finances.

Rafe Colenso, Manor Farm - introduction and apologies for the issues with lorries. Barns to be renovated for community as 'units', for storage etc. A planning application will be forthcoming. Assurance to residents that he wants to live in the village and help to improve the community, no increase in traffic through the village proposed.

Allan Pinnington said shareholders in the Erlestoke Hub would be able to make a profit by getting interest on their investment and suggested that anyone on the Parish Council with an interest should not vote on issue 117/16 if they could benefit financially.

PC response: Cllr Lewcock replied that the government deemed interest on Benefit Society shares to be an operating cost of the business. A Community Benefit Society is a 'not for profit' organisation.

School sign – Cllr Lewcock said that he would look into the replacement of the school crossing sign removed as the result of a complaint.

SID location queried.

PC response - SID placed there as a test. The plan is for it to be deployed in different locations around the village. Batteries not functioning. Road humps requested. Restrictions as to where the SID can be located for safety reasons.

Drain outside the pub blocked. Issue raised a number of times.

PC response - A vehicle will be brought to the village to unblock the drains

Disabled bay – PC response: Cllr Barton explained that the bay had been requested by Mr & Mrs Beardshaw. It is however available for use by any Blue Badge. Information about road ownership should be collated by the next PC meeting.

### **Followed by Agenda**

Cllr Jonik opened the meeting with the following statement; “We have before us today a planning application for a change the use of the Bed & Breakfast rooms for long term rental in respect of the land and building at the George and Dragon site. The Parish Council did nominate this land as an asset of Community Value which was determined by Wiltshire Council. The matter before this Council today is a matter where different considerations and criteria may apply and therefore members are reminded to keep an open mind and determine todays application on the facts before us based on planning considerations.”

**112/16 Apologies** – Cllr Mrs F Morgan-Fries, Cllr R Gamble

**113/16 Declarations of Interest** – **Item 117/16**

Cllr S Jonik, Cllr K Lewcock and Cllr N Barton all declared an interest in Item 117/16

The Council has a quorum so the meeting can continue.

**114/16 Clerk vacancy for Erlestoke Council**

Someone has expressed an interest but has yet to contact the Chairman. Katie Fielding (WALC) compiling a list of experienced Clerks, they will let the PC know who is available. A formal interview will be set up outside the normal PC meeting. Further investigation needed into the rates of pay for Clerks, additional advertising may be necessary.

### **115/16 Erlestoke Woods**

Parish Council have emailed Landmarc to see if access for a vehicle would be allowed. Wood could then be collected to be given to senior members of the village. No reply from Landmarc. Anna Rogers to be contacted.

### **116/16 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on the 10th August, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2nd November**

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 – **Proposed** Cllr D Moore **Seconded** Cllr Barton as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman

10<sup>th</sup> August 2016 – cannot be signed due to councillor absence.

21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 – Cllr Lewcock, query about defibrillator leaflet – Cllr Barton to rearrange a training evening with Bratton. Item to go in Village News for 2017

**Proposed:** Cllr Lewcock **Seconded:** Cllr Barton and duly signed as a true record

Cllr Jonik stood down as Chairman at this point. Cllr Moore (Vice Chairman) took the Chair.

### **117/16 Planning Decision Received (None)**

**Applications for Comment (16/10612/VAR- Removal of - To convert outbuildings to provide bedrooms and a tea room in association with public house. To detailed statement).**

Following comments from the floor, it was suggested that Cllr Hunt-Davies should declare an interest his wife is a member of the Earlstoke Hub, the interest was registered in the book.

As a result there was no longer a quorum. Cllr Hunt-Davies requested a dispensation then completed and signed a dispensation form.

Application 16/10612/VAR was discussed using all supporting documents provided by Wiltshire Council.

**Recommendation: Objection – insufficient detail in application. Parish Council detailed observations and comments to be submitted. (supporting documents [www.erlestoke.org](http://www.erlestoke.org))**

**Proposed:** Cllr Moore **Seconded:** Cllr Durham

**Vote: All Cllrs able to vote voted in favour**

Cllr Jonik resumed the Chair at this point

### **118/16 Wiltshire Council and Devizes Area Board Update 21/11/16**

Cllr Moore attended. My Wiltshire App promoted. Devizes Food Bank gave a presentation. Health issues in area. Trowbridge MIU open only during restricted hours during the day. Minor injuries Chippenham open during the night. Cllr Barton suggested communities should get together to prevent closures. Devizes Urgent Care Centre is likely to happen. Next Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 Devizes Sports Club

### **119/16 Erlestoke Boundary Changes Proposals**

Proposal to become part of Warminster/Shafesbury Area. Formal consultation to take place in the near future. Would report to a different Area Board. The MP would change. Bratton and Edington already part of the new area. Cllrs pointed out that Erlestoke looks naturally towards Devizes.

### **120/16 Parking and traffic issues in The Park**

Lack of space and who owns turning area. 2 parking spaces owned by Aster.

Cllr Barton suggested the community took on the grass cutting. No parking restrictions in The Park. Confirmation to be sought from Highways Authority.

**121/16 Speed Indicating Devices (SIDs)**

SD card not recognized. Batteries not working. Cllr Moore to test and return to Wiltshire Council if not functioning before purchasing new batteries.

**122/16 The Neighbourhood Plan** – No update. Cllr Jonik to follow up.

**123/16 Pay Phone in Erlestoke**

Erlestoke not on the list, point this out to BT. All Cllrs agreed to make representation to keep it as an emergency phone mobile signal poor. Cllr Hunt-Davies to respond

**124/16 \*HELP Counselling Services\* REGISTERED CHARITY No 297034**

A request for funding for the charity. Clients are asked for donations if they are able to pay, no one is turned away. Cllr Lewcock suggested a contribution of £50.00 and pay for an item in the newsletter to publicise the service (cheque to be signed at January meeting).

**Proposed:** Cllr Lewcock **Seconded:** Cllr Moore

**Vote:** All Cllrs in agreement

**125/16 Highways and Footpath issues**- to include prioritising tasks for the Parish Steward  
Parish Steward is clearing drains. The Vactor will be brought in to clear major drains.  
Lower Road – highway safety issue at crossroads. Cllr Gamble will take up the issue of road signage and markings. Hedge cutting has been carried out.

**126/16 On-going matters**

**Safety of school children crossing the B3098** – SID to be relocated as a deterrent by Cllr Moore. Signposts for speed limit in wrong place. To be raised by Cllr Moore at next Area Board Meeting. Cllr Gamble to be contacted.

**Erlestoke House Gates** – no update **Fracking** – no update, **Broadband** – internet speed very slow. No date for superfast Broadband.**Play Equipment Inspection** – RoSPA have inspected – no immediate action. Cllr Durham has arranged for welding repair to football goal **Erlestoke Lakes Issues** – Anna Rogers to be contacted by Cllr Jonik for an update.

**127/16 To confirm the Current Financial Statement and accounts for payment.**

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Jonik for the extra work generated in the absence of a Clerk. Cllr Jonik confirmed that all correspondence and account information handed over by the Clerk are in good order. An internal auditor will be needed to sign off finances for 2016/17. No expenditure to approve at this meeting.

**128/16 To decide on the Precept for 2017/2018**

There will be no precept grant from Wiltshire Council next year. Cllr Jonik provided budgeting information for councillors to take away to decide on the level of precept required for 2017/18. A decision on the level of precept will be taken at the meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> 2017.

**129/16 To receive reports from Village Representatives**

Defibrillator – press release to be sent out after Christmas

**Meeting Closed 21.30**

**The next meetings are as follows:** 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017, all from 7.15pm in the village church. The Annual General Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017 - 7.30pm in the village church.  
Erlestoke Village website – [www.erlestoke.org](http://www.erlestoke.org)

