

MINUTES OF ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING **23rd October 2008**

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

Open Forum:

Mr R Hampton. Mr Hampton addressed the council regarding the recent discussions about spending money on the secret garden. He feels that the money would be better spent in other ways around the village specifically on the possible alterations to the church to make it into a community hall. The church council want to hold a meeting with the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council to discuss the best way to move forward to get a meeting place in the village.

PC Lamden – Community Beat Manager Devizes South Rural. PC Lamden spoke to the council on various issues. She explained who her team were, Nina Marsh, Fiona Marnow and Amanda Parkes. As there had recently been changes to the Police areas a leaflet was being printed which will be circulated giving contact details etc. Roger Hampton complemented the Police on their actions during a recent possible incident at a resident's home in the village. PC Lamden explained that to contact them please ring 0845 408 7000 ext 737818. Cllr Pinnington asked if the driver training course could be changed as the police cars travel along Lower Road very fast when on training and the road is not suitable for such speed. PC Lamden advised that she would speak to Inspector Andrew Noble who is in charge of the driver training.

127/08 Apologies. No apologies were received.

128/08 Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Gilbert declared an interest in application K/59436/LBC and took no part in the discussion and decision making process.

Cllr Oram declared an interest in item 131/08 due to being a neighbour to the property concerned.

129/08 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd of September 2008 and

the extra-ordinary council meeting on the 2nd October 2008

The minutes for the 3rd of September were accepted without amendment.

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

The Minutes for the extra ordinary meeting of the 2nd of October were accepted following the amendment to item 125/08 as follows:

Proposed Cllr Loraine-Smith **Seconded** Cllr Pinnington All
in favour

125/08 Decide on the use of the Secret Garden

After discussion and before any further decisions are made on the use of the ground it was resolved to get quotes for fencing off (with access gates) all the Secret Garden as per the original agreement when purchased.

Proposed Cllr Jonik **Seconded** Cllr Morgan-Frise

Four in favour two against.

A second resolution was also passed stating that the Secret Garden will be used for Recreational purposes for the village and will be maintained as required.

Proposed Cllr Morgan-Frise **Seconded** Cllr Oram All
in favour

130/08 Planning

Decisions received from Kennet District Council

K/59299/TR2 – Mr Lewcock The Limes 31 High Street – Felling of 2 conifer trees – **Permission**

K/59260/TR2 – A Pinnington Pound House Lower Road – Works to trees – **Permission**

Applications for comment

K/59436/LBC – Mr M Gilbert – 24 High Street Erlestoke – Rebuild existing outbuilding to form granny annexe, with a glazed link to the existing host building, including all other associated works. **No Objection**
Proposed Cllr Jonik **Seconded** Cllr Pinnington All
in favour

131/08 Building without planning permission

A complaint had been received about building going on without planning permission. The clerk was asked to place a notice in the News as follows: The Parish Council reminds residents of Erlestoke that they are to adhere to all up to date planning and building regulations and should seek advice from the planning office at Kennet District Council on 724911 before commencing any building.

132/08 Ongoing items – update reports

1. **Rebound Wall.** The rebound wall has now been fitted and is being used on a regular basis by the children and parents of the village.
2. **Seat outside church.** The request for a seat over 7ft outside the church can only be met by purchasing two seats and having them fitted side by side. The council resolved to have the 5ft seat already purchased installed and should another seat be required in the future they would purchase as needed.

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

The clerk will notify the supplier and get the seat installed.

3. **Seat around hornbeam tree.** This is due to be fitted during November.
4. **Car Park in The park area.** Cllr Jonik explained that he had spoken to Cllr Grundy about this who had advised a letter be sent to Kennet asking for help with funding. As yet no reply had been received.
5. **SSEB Sub Station.** Nothing to report at present.

133/08 Footpaths and Highways - including damage to the road through The Park

Cllr Jonik had spoken to Clarence at Wiltshire County Council advising them of the damage to the road through the Park. This is now in highways hands to take forward.

134/08 Recycling Skips

Cllr Jonik explained that there had obviously been confusion this year about booking the skips etc but the village is definitely on the list for next year. The council asked that either a letter or email be sent in January 2009 asking when the skips would be on site. It has been suggested that we could coordinate with Great Cheverell so that we get the skips the same day as they do. The clerk will diarise this for January.

135/08 Possible appointment of Village handyman

It was decided by the council to review this after April 2009 when the new unitary council comes into effect.

136/08 Community Hall – meeting of the Village Hall Committee, Parochial

Church Council and the Parish Council to discuss the possibility of the Church becoming a community hall and the funding of such a project. The council resolved to work alongside the two organisations regarding a possible community hall.

Proposed Cllr Pinnington
in favour

Seconded Cllr Gilbert

All

The council agreed to put forward the dates of the 6th or 13th of November for the first meeting.

137/08 Future uses of the Secret Garden

Cllr Pinnington agreed to obtain a quote for fencing around the secret garden as a reference point for the council to decide whether they could afford to fence all or part or none.

138/08 To consider items of Correspondence needing a reply

Devizes Town Council – Asking if Erlestoke would be interested in taking ownership of various items of redundant skate park equipment.

The clerk was asked to write thanking the council for its offer but Erlestoke are not in a position to take up the offer.

139/08 To confirm the Financial Statement for September & accounts for payment

The financial statement for September was accepted and the accounts approved for payment.

Mrs. A Whittle – Hours and Exp October - £308.63 **Inland Revenue**
– month 7 - £61.80

D L Stevens – Mole Man – 5 visits to control Moles on the playing field –
£146.88

Playsafety Ltd – Play equipment inspection - £77.55 **Viking Direct** –
Stationary - £24.89

140/08 To receive reports from Village Representatives

Cllr Oram. Cllr Oram reported that highways had cleared the weeds away from the red brick wall in Lower Road. She had spoken to the footpath officer about cutting back the footpath to Coulston. The clerk was asked to email Esther Daly about this path.

Cllr Loraine-Smith. Could the clerk email Rod Gibbs Replacement, as he has retired, to advise him of the promised work to the footpaths.

Cllr Jonik. The drain opposite Beech house is blocked. Cllrs Loraine-Smith and Oram will deal with this through the Parish Steward.

141/08 Co-option of a new Councillor – Close advert and arrange interview date

Cllr Jonik explained that three applications had been received for the vacant post. He had been advised after the previous cooption that an interview process should take place as there is more than 1 applicant. The clerk agreed to write to the three candidates asking them to attend a short interview at the Church on 2nd of December 2008. A decision will then be taken at the next Parish Council meeting on the 4th of December 2008.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

**The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday 4th December 2008
7.15pm in the upstairs room of The George and Dragon public
house.**