Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of meeting of Ellington Parish Council
on **Monday 11th September 2023, 7.30 pm** at the Village Hall, Ellington.

Present:

Councillors:	Cllrs Lumbers (Chairman), Chapman, Norton, Brown and Hinchliffe
Clerk	Lisa Hazel
County / Disc	Cllr Stephen Cawley
Public:	No members of the public were present.

Open Forum
No public present.

1670 Apologies for Absence
County Cllr Ian Gardener sent his apologies.

1671 Co-option of Councillors onto Parish Council - update
It was agreed to take the following item next:

1682 Policies for Adoption - Co-Option Policy
On a proposition it was agreed to unanimously adopt this policy.

The Clerk confirmed a resident has expressed interest in joining the Council and the new policy will be actioned. **Action:Clerk.**

1672 Declarations of interest in any agenda item.
None.

1673 County and District Councillors Reports
Cllr Ian Gardener's report is attached (appendix:A)
Cllr Stephen Cawley reported on the following:

- Cabinet Members Approve New Garden Waste Subscription Service. At a meeting of the council's Cabinet Members, it was agreed that a new garden waste subscription service will be introduced in April 2024.
- Compost Bin Offer
  https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/additional-garden-waste-bin-and-composting/
- Take the Pledge to Cut Food Waste

Are you interested in making changes to the amount of food waste you generate in your household?
Whether you want to save food, save the environment, or save money, take the pledge to reduce your food waste today!
Reducing food waste is one of the easy habits which will not only reducing your carbon footprint but will also save you money too. HDC is seeking residents who want to make this positive change to sign the pledge and commit to reducing their food waste in 2023.
https://www.recap.co.uk/pledge-to-fight-food-waste

- Food Recycling Bin Offer
  https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/additional-garden-waste-bin-and-composting/
- Investment in Hinchingbrooke Country Park

The investment plans for Hinchingbrooke Country Park are now available for you to view and comment on. Check out the plans in person at the Countryside Centre on the following dates: September: 8th, 9th, and 10th. The plans are also available via the Council's planning portal using; Ref no: 23/01377/FUL
https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RY5JL3IKGGB00
Read more about the investment via the HDC Website
https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/news/investment-in-hinchingbrooke-country-park-plans-published/

- Licensing
  It is not a requirement by statute unlike Planning to notify and we need to be careful with any formal notification as there needs to remain a clear distinction between HDC and the licensing authority and any such formal notification may compromise their position and potentially may expose HDC to Legal challenge.
  Following feedback, the Licensing Team notify all ward councillors for all applications and in addition to this, the plan is to send communications to all Town and Parish Councils to encourage them to check the Licensing Portal of live applications on a regular basis and to share this on their websites and any newsletters circulating in their area.
  2023 Parliamentary Boundary Review
- The Boundary Commission for England has submitted the final report to the Speaker of the House of Commons and the report has been laid in Parliament. The recommendations are published on their website here.
- The new constituency of St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire includes the four District wards covering St Neots and the two District wards of Great Paxton and Fenstanton, all currently located within the Huntingdon constituency.
  The existing Huntingdon constituency has been amended to include the transfer of the remaining areas of the district ward of Alconbury, Great Staughton (including Ellington), Holywell-cum-Needingworth, remaining areas of Kimbolton, Sawtry, Somersham and Warboys from the existing North West Cambridgeshire constituency.
  This leaves the three District wards of Ramsey, Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley and Yaxley remaining in the final North West Cambridgeshire constituency. Conservatives in process of selecting candidate by end September.

1674 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2023
Proposed Cllr Norton, seconded Cllr Brown the minutes of 10th July 2023 were approved as true record and signed by the Chairman.

1675 Matters arising from previous minutes not on the agenda

- **Note representative from new Enterprise Centre - to attend November meeting**

Noted. Clerk is to publicise this on the Website and Facebook page. **Action:Clerk**

- **LHI Bid - update**

Cambridge County Council have confirmed the bid has been successful. The Parish Council will hear from the contractors in due course when works are due to start.

- **Note resurfacing works High Street + A14 flyover now completed.**

Noted.

1676 Huntingdon District Council Green Bin Charges - Update
This item was taken earlier under item: 1673 County and District Councillors report.

1677 Trees

- **Walnut Trees, St Peters Way Update - Note arboriculturist report**

Noted report as follows:

- Further to our chat the other day, I took a look at the walnuts near the church for you. One is still so small (the one where you took the shelter off) and so cannot cause any damage whatsoever. The other, larger one pictured below, and I suspect the one of complaint, is fine. Whilst no work was prescribed on it, some crown thinning was carried out, which will have reduced the overall structural integrity as it has let wind in and not reduced wind loading. That said, this tree does still not cause any real cause for concern and is unlikely to fail, if it did, the fence would still not be significantly damaged. No work required here.

The Clerk is to convey this to the resident. **Action:Clerk**

- **Consider replacing dead tree Grafham Road by exit to village**

It was agreed to establish the tree is dead. This is to be an agenda item for November.

- **Note update A14 tree planting**

The Clerk provide a brief update. It was noted replanting is expected to begin in October with the first batch of 162,000 trees already on order from a local nursery. In addition, all replanting work will be subject to a 5-year establishment period.

1678 MVAS Units

- **Consider purchasing new batteries / replace with solar units**

Cllr Hinchcliffe provided an update highlighting new batteries are required. The Parish Council authorised Cllr Hinchcliffe to look into and order replacement batteries as required. Solar panels were suggested for the unit, Grafham Road.

1679 Update Members Areas of Responsibilities

The Clerk is to update this. **Action:Clerk**

1680 Planning Applications

- Note application 23/00228/FUL withdrawn from DMC

Noted.

1681 Annual reviews

- **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Parish Council reviewed and approved the annual report for the Neighbourhood Plan as an accurate record. The report is to be published on the website.

- **Community Action Plan**

The Parish Council reviewed and approved the updated Community Action Plan as an accurate record. The updated plan is to be published on the website.

It was noted BT Full Fibre is now complete in the village. The Parish Council expressed their thanks to Chris Stening for all his hard-work.

1682 Policies for Adoption

- **Risk Register and associated Risk Management Policy.**

Proposed Cllr Lumbers, Seconded Cllr Brown and adopted with immediate effect.

- **Co-option Policy**

This item was taken earlier.

1683 Finance

- **To receive financial situation of Council and to note Bank Reconciliation.**

Noted.

- **Consider future budget items**

The Clerk asked members to consider items to be included in the budget for next year which will be set in November.

- **Training**
  - **Note Cllr Norton's training session booked**
    - Noted Allotment training.
  - **New Councillor training - Note dates**
    - Cllr Brown confirmed he can attend the November training session with CAPALC.

1684 Payments made since last meeting and payments to be authorised

The following payments were noted: BEAM (grass cutting) x 4 £960.00, Clerk Salary x 2 £697.50, Function 28 (email fees) x 2 £48.00.

1685 Correspondence

- **Residents communication - overgrown hedging St Peters Way.**

This item was taken earlier.

- **HDC Electric Vehicle Pilot - Consider application**

This was consider but no suitable site was identified.

- **Anglian Water Outdoor Event License Application - Note outcome**

Noted Anglian Water have been granted an outdoor event license.

- **CCC cyclic weedkilling policy update - Consider response.**

Noted CCC are no longer carrying out weed killing.

1686 Other Matters to consider/updates

a) Newsletter

It was agreed to produce a Winter / Christmas newsletter. **Action:Clerk**

b) Village Hall update

Cllr Lumbers provided an update. The grant form Mick George has been confirmed and it is hoped work will start soon.

c) Update Newsletter Distribution List

This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

1687 Dates of meetings: 13th November.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21.25