Ellington Parish Council

Minutes of meeting of Ellington Parish Council held
on **Monday 13th January 2025, 7.30 pm** at the Village Hall, Ellington.

Present: Councillors:	Cllrs Norton (Chairman), Hinchliffe (Vice-Chair), Chapman, Schmidt and Mackenzie
Clerk:	Lisa Hazel
County / Disc:	Cllr Ian Gardener and Cllr Stephen Cawley
Public:	4 members of the public was present.

Open Forum

A local business owner informed the Parish Council that discussions have been ongoing with the local MP regarding the installation of a footpath/cycleway connecting Ellington and Brampton. The business owner requested the support of the Parish Council for this initiative.

The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council is in full support of the proposal. However, Cambridgeshire County Council has indicated that it is not a viable option at present. It was suggested that Sustrans be approached to explore potential assistance. The Chairman also highlighted that when Brampton Cross representatives attended a previous Parish Council meeting, they implied that cycle routes too Brampton would form part of their designs.

Flooding - It was bought to the attention of the Parish Council that Alconbury are installing a Retention Pond at Swallows Farm.

Cllr Ian Gardener highlighted he had further information on this. It was agreed to take item: 1822 here

1822 County and District Councillors Reports.

Cllr Ian Gardener provided the following information:

- Alconbury are installing a remuneration pond to help store water and alleviate flooding
- Flood mitigation - Best practice is to set up a flood group. Meetings can then be arranged with the District & County Council and relevant parties to discuss concerns and possible solutions.
- Once a flood group has been established funding opportunities can then be explored to carry out projects. Cllr Ian Gardener confirmed he would assist with this where appropriate.
- Confirmed work is being carried out on Nuns bridge. Monies has been obtained from various bodies to allow the Alconbury Flood Group and the Environment Agency to work together to help remove the build up of silt.
- Cycle Path - Cllr Ian Gardener confirmed he will keep pushing to try and get a cycle path installed.

Cllr Stephen Cawley's report is attached to these minutes Appendix:A

1820 To receive apologies for Absence.

Apologies were noted and approved from Cllr Lumbers.

1821 Declarations of interest in any agenda item

Cllr Chapman declared an interest in item:1824 + 1825.
Cllr Crook declared an interest in item: 1825

1822 County and District Councillors Reports

Cllr Ian Gardner also confirmed he has asked Highways if all of the white lines in the village previously missed could be re-done. It is not known if the request will be actioned. Cllr Gardener requested if any residents had any comments on the new Tiger bus service to let him know.

Cllr Ian Gardener was asked if there will be a new secondary school in Alconbury Weald. This was confirmed.

Cllr Ian Gardener was asked about traffic and the recent SAG meeting. It was noted that the new development to RAF Molesworth will cause an increase in traffic.

1823 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th November 2024

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

1824 To consider matters arising from the previous minutes / not covered elsewhere on agenda:

- **Drainage Ditch Pumping Station - Update**
  Cllr Chapman declared an interest in this item.
  Noted Cllr Hinchliffe recently carried out minor works to the ditch. Cllr Chapman confirmed he has not be able to carry out works to this ditch. However, as work has been carried out by Cllr Hinchliffe he will await to see if this alleviates problems before looking to carryout any additional works. The possibility of creating a new side ditch was suggested.
- **Free Compost - Note now delivered**
  This was gratefully received by residents and has now nearly gone.
- **HDC 2024/5 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding round - note application not submitted due to not meeting requirements** - NOTED
- **LHI Application - Note application submitted**
  Noted an application has been submitted for new MVAS units for Ellington Thorpe and 30mph roundels to be installed on Thrapston Road to discourage speeding.

1825 HDC Local Plan

Cllr Chapman and Cllr Crook both declared an interest in this item.

- **Note Submission** - NOTED
- **Note Updates to Call for Sites**

It was bought to the attention of the Parish Council that 3 additional sites have been submitted. Huntingdon District Council confirmed they will asses the sites as per previous applications and the Parish Council will be asked to consult on the sites in due course. Cllr Chapman confirmed his Land Agent put in an application to Call for Sites for a bigger area than what he previously indicated.

1826 Street Light - Update

The Clerk provided a detailed report on the current situation. It was unanimously agreed based on the Clerk's findings that due to being unable to obtain an un-metered supplier / costings it is not visible to arrange for street lights to be installed, Malting Lane. The Clerk was asked to convey this to the resident. **Action:Clerk.**

1827 Signs

- **Consider additional parking signage by Church / Mermaid PH**

This item is to be carried forward to the next meeting in Cllr Lumbers absence.

1828 Wooley Hill Wind Farm

- **Consider Submitting Application for New Residents Village Noticeboard**

The Clerk confirmed the new round of funding is now open. It was unanimously agreed to submit an application for funding for a new residents noticeboard to be installed in the Bus Shelter. **Action:Clerk**

1829 Planning

- **Note Planning Inspectorate Decision APP/H0520/W/23/3320852: Buffaload Logistics Limited, PE28 0DA**

Noted Planning Inspectorate Decision's have now been received for 3320852 + 3320859.

Residents can go online to look at the full decision as follows:
https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Vice-Chair highlighted Buffaload Logistics appeals have been dismissed and they have 6 months to regulate the site. Mr Ross Taylor, Buffaload Logistics who was in attendance was invited to comment on this. Mr Taylor commented he now has been provided with direction and has 6 months to take action.

1830 Policies

- **Adopt New / Updated Freedom of Information Policy**

Resolved to adopt the. New policy with immediate effect.

1831 Finance & Administration:-

a) **To receive financial situation of Council and to note bank reconciliation** - NOTED

b) Consider quotes for Tree Works

The Clerk confirmed she has asked 3 companies to date to quote for works but no quotes have been received as yet. Authorisation was given to the Chairman and Clerk to compare quotes when received and appoint a contractor to carry out works up to the value of £500.

c) Consider New Website quotes

Noted one quote has been received to date. Further quotes are to be obtained and this item is to be carried forward to the next meeting. Councillors indicated the Parish Council should look to support local companies where possible. The Clerk was asked to check if there are any 'get out clauses' with the current company. **Action:Clerk.**

d) Consider New Planter Suggestions + Approve Purchase

The suggestions were noted and considered. It was unanimously felt that the new planters would be a good memorial to a pass Councillor, Dave Porter, in acknowledgement for all of his hard work as a Councillor.

Again the Parish Council indicated the Parish Council should look to support local companies. A suggestion was put forward to install planters on the entrance gates to the village. Mr Ross Taylor offered his companies support in maintaining the planters if installed on the village gates on the slip road into the village. The Clerk confirmed CIL money can be used to cover costs of the purchase of the planters.

Agreed the Clerk is to try and obtain quotes from local companies for planters and to confirm CIL money can also be spend on soil and plants. This item is to be carried forward to the next meeting. **Action:Clerk**

1832 CIL Payments

- **Note Corrected CIL Amount** - NOTED
- **Note Expiry Date / Consider Expenditure**

Noted there is an outstanding amount of CIL money that has to be spend by October 2025. Purchase of the new planters should use this money and therefore it will not have to be returned.

1833 Payments made since last meeting and payments to be authorised.

Attached.

1834 Any other Business for information only

The Chairman thanked Buffaload Logistics for recent vegetation removal works they carried out in the village.

Cllr Mackenzie reported on the following:

- A14 Westbound Planned Closure Ellington to Spaldwick junctions - Night 17 Jan 2025.
- Pavement works - centre line patching and pothole repairs.

Accidents at A14 Easton junction during December 2024.

- Contacted Mike Baker (Easton PC Chairman) to ask if they had any accident statistical information for the Easton junction or the A14 crossover. They did not have any

information and they have asked Allan Trille for information. Alan has asked the relevant departments to assist in the collation of information but there is no guarantee in time for the next A14 SAG on 4 Feb 2025. There is a normally 'lag time' for collation of any data provided from several different sources.

- Mike Baker confirmed that the PC had polled the Easton parishioners on the A14 crossover. 100% of replies supported the A14 crossover being open.
- In trying to de-risk accidents at the Easton slipway, The Easton PC have been unsuccessful in an attempt to make use of the remaining old road between Easton and Spaldwick. The Highways Agency does not have the funding for that option.
- Easton PC are now looking at the options for better signage on the A14 to warn drivers of slow moving vehicles at the turnoff/slipway.

Next A14 SAG Meeting is on 4 Feb 2025 at 1400hrs.

1835 **Date of next meetings:** 2025:- March 10th, May 12th, July 7th, Sept 8th, Nov 10th.
There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.48pm