

# EARL SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 7.30pm Earl Soham Village Hall

## MINUTES

**In attendance: DG,CC,TC,CP,MR and PR**

1. Apologies for absence  
AG, TG
2. Declaration of interest  
None
3. a) Approval of minutes from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023.  
Approved unanimously  
b) Matters arising from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
None
4. Public Comment  
1 member of the public – Spoke how he felt the condition of the cemetery was poor and needed to be improved and asked the PC to look into the matter and address the issues. It was agreed it would be looked into.
5. Report from Elaine Bryce  
Apologies and no report
6. Report Owen Grey and Maurice Cook  
They were not present, but the Clerk said the report would be sent to all, but there was nothing in re: Earl Soham
7. Planning Application  
None
8. Discuss East Suffolk Planning Alliance  
Tony Carr has taken this role on and asked if another person could be the back up to him on this committee. No meetings had not yet taken place.
9. Village Hall  
CC reported, that are doing flyers, and looking into getting solar panels put on the roof.
10. PC projects – SID – TJ is now taking this project on. Telephone Box – £338.34p to get the parts required to repair the box. This was unanimously agreed and GH to order. Dog Bin – It has arrived - MR will put it up. Newsletter – Another one will be due this autumn. AG will be requested to organise putting it together – needs content – all asked to help supply this. Replacement tree on the Village Green – MR to find out how big the donated tree is. CC spoke about silver birches and DG asked her to get a minimum of 2 quotes so they can be bought and planted. John Hutton Plaque to recognise 40 years running the butcher's shop – CP to speak to Dan re: wording on plaque. Water Pump on village green repair – GH said N & A engineering have been approached to repair, with help from Jo Rothery and Roger Sykes help on visuals etc. Cost will be about £450.
11. Footpath issues and presumed footpaths

No progress on it. PR and CC to work on it together as there is 20yrs experience there. It needs a minimum of 5 people to write in.

12. Update on Sizewell C.

CC proposed writing to EDF and to copy other PC's on the A1120 and County Council regarding the volume of traffic, financial benefit and comparison to Hinckley Point. There was a vote on it. There was a majority vote for it and 1 abstention.

13. Finance report

The Clerk presented the financial report – no questions were asked

14. Cheques to be signed.

DG signed the cheques.

15. Website update.

The Clerk is taking on this roles and asked people to contact him as necessary

16. Correspondence since last meeting

No correspondence since the last meeting

17. Statement from the Chairman

In May I spoke to GH - Clerk and at the beginning of August I spoke to the vice chairman MR about stepping down from the Parish Council.

So after 11 years and 8 as Chairman on the Earl Soham Parish Council, I am announcing that my last meeting as Chairman will be January 2024.

I would like to thank all the councillors for their support over the last few years who have made it possible to achieve quite a number of things.

I would especially like to thank the Clerk - Guy Harvey without whom I could not have done the job.

I would like a new Chair elect to be on place by the November meeting so a sensible hand over can take place.

Those who wish to consider putting themselves forward please feel free to contact me should they wish to understand the role more and I will be only to happy to help. Please be aware that the role does take more time and effort that you may think, and a close working relationship with the Clerk is essential - as any PC Chair will tell you.

Can all applications be in to GH 2 weeks before the November meeting.

On a final note can I ask that all councillors who have not done the - how to be a Councillor Course please do one. It is imperative everyone understands how everything should work, and what your responsibilities are.

Also, all councillors should have a good knowledge and understanding on the ESDC Local Plan, because this need to be

the basis for any discussion on planning applications and need to be used to support or object to any application. That is my final request to you all, and I hope you take this in the manner that I mean it, and that is to help the Council be the best possible Council.

Once again my thanks to everyone on the council who have made it possible for me to do my job.

Kind Regards

David Grose  
Chairman  
Earl Soham Parish Council

18. Next meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

Meeting closed at 20.30

Signed .....16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Chairman  
Earl Soham Parish Council