

Minutes of the Meeting Of Earls Colne Parish Council

Held in the council chamber 19th April 2023

1) Present: Cllr. Tony Calton (Vice Chair), Cllr. Ray Ranns, Cllr. Jackie Parrish, Cllr. Nik McKean, Cllr. Katy Kerslake, Cllr. Paul Kerslake, Cllr. Nikki Spelling (Chair) District Cllr. Gabrielle Spray

2) Apologies were received from Cllr Hugh Street, District Cllr. George Courtauld and County Cllr. Chris Siddall

3) Declarations of interest Cllr N McKean noted an interest in planning item 22/00852/HH

4) No members of the public were present

5) To approve the minutes of the last meeting Some members had received these and others not, so their approval was postponed to the May meeting.

6) To Accept the resignation of the Clerk. Mrs Debbie Hayns has resigned effective from 19th April. Efforts so far to find locum cover have not been successful, but are ongoing, with the Internal Auditor, Mr Michael Letch having someone who may help. Advertising for a permanent replacement is ongoing and Cllr K. Kerslake to reassess and escalate.

7) Resignations; Resignations had been received from Cllrs P.Wall, E Wilkin and M. Jackson for a variety of reasons, and these were accepted. Cllr K Kerslake will adjust the notice advertising two Casual Vacancies to three and will advertise those vacancies again in all the usual places.

8) Letter of Public Interest This had apparently been sent to us in January, and allows a month for us to fulfil the criteria outlined. Since we had only become aware of it in the last few weeks, we have attended to it now. The letter is on the website, and has been discussed at this meeting and at others involving the Chair, Vice Chair and Finance lead Cllr Ray Ranns. It was agreed

unanimously to appoint Mr Michael Letch as our Internal Auditor to assist in closing down Year 21/22 at a cost of £150, and provisionally to assist with Year 22/23 at a cost of £350, to be further negotiated when we have a clear idea of what progress we have made towards that this weekend.

It was further agreed that Lorraine would be responsible for raising invoices for hirers from now on. Cllr Spelling was designated to instruct her of this.

The proposed timeline for submission of the AGAR for 22/23 was approved.

Councillors Ray Ranns and Paul Kerslake were approved as being responsible for Finance going forward.

Changes to the Co-Op bank mandate were approved with Cllrs N. Spelling and T Calton named as able to add further signatories and have full access. Cllr Ray Ranns would have access, but be unable to change signatories. In the absence of any previous signatories being available, it was agreed to remove any still remaining on the account, leaving only the three nominated councillors as above.

It was agreed that the Trustees for the Cambridge Bond should be updated to Chair Vice Chair and Finance Lead. Forms to be completed.

9) Report from District Councillors Cllr Spray reported that the unstable wall at Brick Wall Court had been inspected by BDC officials and made safe. BDC have accepted responsibility and will monitor periodically, whilst still trying to ascertain definite ownership.

She also reported that the extension to Colne Place Care Home had been enthusiastically accepted. It was not clear whether the plans passed still included a community café as was suggested initially.

10) Planning There were no objections to any of the plans submitted for consideration this month.

Meeting closed 20:30 hours.



Chair

21st April 2023.

Date



Cllr FINANCE

21ST APRIL 2023