

ETTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2023

Present: Councillors D Clarke, R. Smith (Chair), R. Whitfield, G. Lambert, D. Hughes, I. Houghton

Attending: Clerk Jane Carter. District Councillor Trevor Harvey. County Councillor Izzy Seccombe. One member of the public.

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| 1 | Apologies for absence or not present : Apologies received and accepted Cllr Melville-Wright. |
| 2 | Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: - Cllr Smith and Hughes declared an interest in planning application 23/02962/OUT |
| 3 | Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 8 th November, 2023 were approved and signed as true record. |
| 4 | Community Centre Update: New signs have been put at the entrance to the village. Recent community events had raised around £2,000. The curtains had been relined |
| 5 | Warwickshire County Council report: Cllr Seccombe outlined a consultation relating to changes to the Fire Service. WCC are struggling to recruit on call fire personnel. On average night coverage is less than 47% which places heavy demand on staffed fire stations. They are considering committed shifts rather than on call service. The consultation ends in March and can be found on the Warwickshire County website. Stratford District Council updates: Cllr Harvey had circulated a report, and this was noted (attached) |
| 6 | Open Forum: none |
| 7 | Planning and Highways Matters: I. Highways matters: Cllr Smith and Seccombe would ask for an update from Highways on the timetable for any works. To note and consider: II. 23/02962/OUT 13 Manor Lane Ettington Warwickshire CV37 7TE. Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of one self-build/custom build dwelling. The council agreed to OBJECT to the application. The proposal would impact on the street scene and there were concerns about highways access and parking. III. 23/03198/FUL Cherry Tree Cottage School Lane Ettington Warwickshire CV37 7TR. Single storey and two storey front and side extensions to existing dwelling. NO COMMENTS IV. 23/03239/FUL 4 Avon Close Ettington Warwickshire CV37 7ST. Demolition of single storey garage structure and construction of 2 storey side extension. NO COMMENTS |

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| 8 | <p>Governance The Financial Regulations were reviewed. It was agreed to update the clerk's authority to spend £500 to £1000, with the authorisation of the Chair.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Finance Report The finance report had been circulated: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Payments and receipts as circulated were approved ii. Bank reconciliation: current account- this was approved iii. Bank reconciliation: reserves accounts- this was approved iv. The Clerk's National Pay Award 2023-24 was noted and approved. Backdated salary would be paid in the January payroll |
| 10 | <p>Clerk's and Correspondence Report – This had been circulated and was noted. Community Centre Governance was discussed. It was agreed to form a small working group of the current trustees, Cllr Hughes and Whitfield and Chair Cllr Rich Smith. The annual ROSPA report had been received and was noted.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Youth area and playground project: The working group had considered all six tenders and had met with the preferred company Sutcliffe Play. Designs were distributed. The zip wire had been extended to 30m. Two goalposts were also included. The designs had been circulated on Facebook and would be posted within the community centre It was agreed to select the bid of Sutcliffe Play in the amount of £149,537.61 plus VAT.</p> |
| 12 | <p>MUGA Update: The clerk would continue to look at remote lighting options. Cllr Smith had carried out further repairs to the gate. The noticeboard needed replacing and Cllr Hughes would obtain quotes.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Budget and Precept 2024-25: the clerk had circulated a revised 2024-25 budget paper which forecast increases in the precept for ongoing capital expenditure and reserves. Following a debate, it was agreed that the precept submission be increased to £58,680 for the period 2024-25. This would amount to an increase of £2.35 per month per Band D household.</p> |
| 14 | <p>Dates of Future Meetings The next meeting would be Wednesday January 17th, 2024. The meeting was closed at 9.50 p.m.</p> |

Approved By _____

Date _____