**EDGEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall,**

**Monday 20th July 2015, 7:00pm**

**Present:** John Seymour (Chair) Eric Earnshaw)

Emma Cletheroe (vice chair) (arr. 7:15pm) Mark Cook (arr. 7:05pm)

Anne Harrup Suzanne Longe

Harrie Morshuis Kirsty Cotgrove (clerk)

David Ramsbotham (County Councillor) + 5 parishioners

1. **Chairman’s welcome & apologies for absence** – The Chairman welcomed everyone. There were no comments from members of the public.
2. **Statement of pecuniary or Prejudicial interests** – none.
3. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Monday 22nd June 2015** – the minutes are approved and signed (prop. SL & sec. AH).
4. **Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda** –SL asked if it is time to reduce the frequency of the newsletter to 3 per year, due to a lack of contributions. The next issue is due at harvest time. JS asked if this one could be produced, with an article to let people know that if no contributions are forthcoming, future issues may not be produced. All agreed.

**5. Police Report** – JS read a short Police Report to advise that since the last Parish Council meeting, there have been 5 calls to the police, with one crime reported (burglary, other than a dwelling). There have been similar incidents in nearby villages, and PCSO Keith Clarke will be holding a crime prevention afternoon at Holt Allotments on 27th July 2015, between 2 & 3pm. PCSO has left Holt SNT and due to cuts will not be replaced. With this in mind, it is recommended that a Councillor attend the SNAP meetings. The next one is 13th August at 7pm at Holt Youth Project. JS advised that EC often attends these meetings, and asked if she could attend the next one.

1. **Finance**

**(a)Payments**

The following payments were approved and the cheques were signed. (Prop SL, Sec HM)

1. Kirsty Cotgrove – Clerk net salary (Jul) £ 186.55
2. EDF Electricity direct debit £ 27.00

**(b)Receipts**

None

**(c) To agree changing the clerk’s payment method to monthly standing order.**

The clerk asked if she could in future be paid by monthly standing order. (Prop HM, sec SL, all agreed)

**7. Planning**

**(a)Permission for Development** –None.

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**(b)Refusal of permission** – None

**(c)Applications** – None

**(d)Development committee decision** – None.

**(e)Decision notice** – (i) PF/15/0368. 1 The Cottages, Holt Road, Edgefield, NR24 2RP. Erection of porch and one and a half side extension – NNDC permit given.

(ii) PF/15/0419. Annandale Cottage, Ramsgate Street, Edgefield, NR24 2AX. Erection of part first flor / part two storey side extensions & rear storey extension – NNDC permit refused.

**(f)Additional information on applications** – None.

**(g)To consider late planning applications** – None.

JS advised that it appears that the extension at Street Farm has been demolished with no apparent planning permission. This has been reported to planning enforcement. In addition, the front wall at the Mount looks as if it has been demolished, where in previous planning it was supposed to be retained. This has also been referred to planning enforcement.

1. **Update on the Parish Partnership grant application** – JS reported that all quotations are in and the PC needs to formally agree to go ahead with the work. The clerk had made enquiries to Steve White at Highways for a detailed breakdown to the work for the Village Gates and signs, and these have been given and were read out. There are still a few queries, relating to the wording of the signs, where the 30mph signs will be placed, and whether the north gates could be removed and re-sited without damage, should the housing development go ahead. The clerk will contact Steve White to raise these queries. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the SAM2 sign and the gates, subject to the queries.
2. **To discuss the work plan for the village pond** –JS confirmed that he has had a telephone conversation with Ian Keymer, who stated that he saw a Great Crested Newt in the pond four years ago, and hasn’t seen one since. He is happy for the planned work to go ahead. The PC discussed whether or not to apply for the permit, which would cause long delays, or to go ahead with the work as planned. MC advised that he has looked on the Defra website regarding the newts, and that no permit would be required should the work take place in November onwards. It was agreed for members of the Council to meet with the Digger company soon, and discuss exactly what will be done, and to agree a provisional date for as close to November as possible. All preparation will be done in advance of November so there will be no further delays. Wordingham Plant can supply a tipper truck to take the waste away at an additional cost. This work will inevitably mean that there will be a fair amount of water leaking from the tipper truck. JS will ask Stody if we could borrow their motorised brush. JS will arrange a meeting with Wordingham Plant for 2nd week of August
3. **To discuss and agree the clerk’s enrolment on the CiLCA course** – All agreed for the Council to sponsor a quarter off the course costs for the Clerk to attend and complete the CiLCA accreditation.
4. **To discuss and agree maintenance for the oil tank at the Village Hall** – JS suggested that if a new bunded oil tanks should be needed at the Village Hall, the PC should offer a contribution towards it. The new tank may be needed due to where the current tank is, and at present, it is not a bunded tank.

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It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the Village Hall committee to advise that, should it be necessary to replace the tank, the PC will consider a contribution.

1. **Report from John Ramsbotham, County Councillor** –DR reported that the Rainbow alliance are still controlling the County Council with 43 councillors. The budget has been fixed for the next year, but it has been a challenge with costs going up and less money from the Government. There has been £245 million of savings since 2011-12 tax year, and there will need to be a further £115 million of savings over the next three years. Adult services are changing towards live in carers rather than Hospitals and Homes/Hospices. NCC are looking for volunteers for the ‘Love Food, Hate Waste’ campaign. There will be courses to attend to become a ‘local champion’ to educate others, similar to the ‘Master Composter’ scheme in the past. The Parish Partnership grants are running again this year, with an application deadline of December. There will be a hazardous waste amnesty at selected Recycling Centres in September. This is being publicised in the local press. AH asked DR what is happening regarding the faster broadband rollout. DR confirmed that Edgefield is on the list, with a rollout date of up to the end of 2017. AH advised that her broadband speeds are worse than ever. DR suggested that she should contact her provider to complain. AH said that the speeds vary, dependent on how many people are online at the same time. JS advised that the survey was carried out in the village to show how many people are reliant on broadband for business / study which was passed to BT via DR, which got us onto the waiting list. DR feels that the lack of broadband is the fault of the Government. JS stated that BT are making substantial profits and are concentrating on where the most money can be made. He commented that there are alternatives to BT.
2. **Report from Georgina Perry-Warnes, District Councillor** – None.
3. **Correspondence** – (i) The Clerk has received correspondence from EDF, to advise that the direct debit will increase from £27 per month to £47 per month due to usage. HM suggest that the clerk call them to request a lower direct debit. Electricity usage at the Village Hall was discussed as it seems a lot of money for lights and a fridge freezer. It was agreed that the clerk will contact the Village Hall committee to raise concerns as to usage and request that the fridge and freezer only be switched on for events. A parishioner advised that a monitor can be requested from the electricity company to find out why the usage is so high.
4. **Dates of next meetings** – Monday 17th August 2015, at 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:10pm

Signed by:

Date:

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