

EMPINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL (EPC)

Draft Minutes of the (virtual) Parish Council Meeting on Monday 2 November 2020

The meeting commenced from 7pm, and finished at 8.10pm

1. PRESENT

Councillors; V. Pheasant (Chairman), H. Canham, J. Corby, D. Duffin, N. Newton, P. Ecclestone and the Clerk
Ward Councillor; K. Bool

Two members of public

2. APOLOGIES (accepted)

Ward Councillor G. Waller

At this point the meeting acknowledged the resignation of Kay Parkinson-Featherstone as Councillor for EPC. The meeting thanked Kay Parkinson-Featherstone for her commitment and service to date.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. COMMENTS ON THE SOUNDNESS OF THE RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL (RCC) LOCAL PLAN

The Chairman suspended Sanding Orders for this item.

Councillor Newton summarised the background, liaison with other Parishes and the difficulty in submitting representations in the format sought by RCC. Despite EPC efforts to encourage residents to participate in the consultation and help them format their responses, many residents had sought further assistance to prepare their responses. Many residents had complained that the extensive documentation and the format for responses discouraged participation.

Members of the Public present welcomed EPC's efforts to assist residents. However as degree educated computer literate people with extensive experience in public and private sectors they had had great difficulty in preparing and submitting their representations. Ward Councillor Bool suggested they should write to the RCC CEO to make him aware of the problem.

Councillor Newton said that final draft EPC Representation circulated to EPC councillors with the agenda took account of the second stage of the report by the independent transport consultant.

Following a brief discussion EPC agreed the draft representation. Councillor Newton proposed the EPC Representation should be sent to RCC as soon as possible by the Clerk under cover of an e-mail with a copy of the Transport Consultant's Report and a list of residents supporting EPC. A hard copy should also be delivered by hand to RCC. This was seconded by councillor Corby and agreed unanimously.

The members of the public left the meeting.

EPC asked Ward Councillors to continue to support EPC and to vote against the section 19 iteration of the Local Plan.

5. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

The Minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting, with one minor amendment.

6. MATTERS ARISING (not covered by other items)

None

7. PLANNING

EPC agreed a response of 'no observations' to applications;

2020/1138/CAT, The Old Bakery 8 Church Street LE15 8PN

2020/1100/CAT, 25 Main Street LE15 8PR

2020/0981/FUL, 9 Main Street LE15 8PR

The Clerk will respond to RCC accordingly.

8. ONGOING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Finance; EPC unanimously approved a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion (this includes the cost as necessary, of a 'remembrance day' wreath) and payment of about £2500 in respect of the second stage of the consultants transport report.

Social Media; A policy has been drafted and will be forwarded to Councillors for comment.

Mollys Field/Benches; Cllr Canham contacted the contractors in respect of repair and maintenance work required, and will seek a completion date from the chosen contractor.

Noticeboard; The final art work will be forwarded to Councillors over the next couple of weeks, and subject to approval will be printed and mounted by the end of the month.

Village Christmas Tree; In light of current covid-19 restrictions, EPC decided not to take this forward this year.

Cemetery; Following EPC's agreement in 2019 to make improvements to the Cemetery, the Clerk informed the meeting that the necessary tree works had been satisfactorily carried out.

EPC agreed necessary regular site maintenance might be contracted out. In liaison with the deputy Chairman and Cllr Canham, the Clerk will make suitable arrangements in accordance with financial regulations.

Highways/Transport; Ward Cllr K. Bool advised EPC to write to RCC so we and he could check on progress including;

Verges at Loves Lane,

Pavement Parking,

Grantham Lane-re-surfacing,

Main Street surface water drainage/streams/flooding risk,

Fix my street

Street lighting near the new chicane.

Cllr Canham will take this forward.

9. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date:

Signed:

Acting Chairman of Empingham Parish Council