**Minutes of Ettington Parish Meeting**

1. **April 2017**
2. **Welcome**

Cllr Rainie Holtom, deputy Chairman of Ettington Parish Council welcomed approximately 14 members of the public and introduced the Parish Councillors

1. **Minutes of 13 April 2016**

The minutes were approved as a true record

1. **Report from Cllr I Seccombe, Warwickshire County Council**

Cllr Seccombe reported that WWC works in 4 year cycles and the Council is nearing the end of such a period meaning that an elections is scheduled for 4 May. As a result of a review by the Electoral Commission boundaries have been changed which will lead to a reduction in the number of Councillors. Cllr Seccombe will stand for her current constituency. The Council has seen significant changes to its structure in the last 10 years in order to provide services more effectively and economically. There will be a continued need for adaptability and streamlining. The voluntary sector continues to step in to support the Council as funding streams lead to changes, for which the Council is appreciative. A by-election for SDC Ettington Ward will be held on the same day.

1. **Parish Council Reports** 
   1. **Chairman’s Report**

Cllr David Hughes, reported that there has been significant activity with regard to Planning Applications with some 26 applications, including an supporting the community in respect of an Planning Inspectorate re the Spitfire Development, a financial contribution towards the cost of a Highways Consultant and objections in respect of The White Horse. There have been necessary ongoing repairs to the playground and installation of a safety gate, resulting from a comment by a parishioner. The trees at the playing field have been surveyed resulting in some work being carried out and more to be done. A dog waste bag disposal bin has been purchased and installed. Grants have been made to support The Community Centre, Ettington Speed Watch and Ettington Village News. Grant applications forms can be obtained by contacting the Clerk ([epc.clerk@yahoo.com/07786938072](mailto:epc.clerk@yahoo.com/07786938072)). Two new Councillors have been recruited and one has resigned. Cllr Hughes thanked the Cllrs and recognised the work they have undertaken on behalf of the parish. There are Councillor Vacancies and information can be obtained from the Clerk. Agendas and Minutes of Meetings can be found at <http://www.ettington.org/parish-council>.

* 1. Neighbourhood Plan

Mike Terry, Chairman of the NP Steering Group gave background to NP including that it links to the Stratford District Council Core Strategy and will relate to the period to 2031. A detailed survey of parishioners was undertaken in 2015 , the results of which will be incorporated into the plan which will outline the future development (including employment, transport and housing). Much progress has been made in progressing the plan which would not have been possible without engaging the services of a planning consultant which would not have been possible without grant and Parish Council funding. It is anticipated that a draft document will be submitted to SDC for checking/approval and a 6-week public consultation period will commence, hopefully in early June in order to seek the views of parishioners. The next stage will be to refine the document, submit to SDC who will appoint an external inspector for rigorous examination. Once approved by the inspector a referendum will be held. If successful the NP will be adopted by SDC which must take its content into consideration when responding to planning applications. Information can be found at <http://www.ettington.org/neighbourhood-plan>.

C **Youth Council**

Cllrs Smithreported that the current focus of the Youth Council is to progress plans for play equipment for 11+ years young people. These plans are the result of a consultation. A wheeled play area (scooters, BMX bikes, skateboards etc) is favoured and it is hoped that, in addition to this sufficient funds will be available for a youth shelter and a Green Gym (example posters were available to view). The Spitfire development will result in S106 funding and the Youth Council is organising a fundraising event on 1 May (posters to be displayed around village). Grants will also be applied for.

D **Allotments**

John Wade, secretary of the Allotment Committee (known as Ettington Diggers) reported that there is a growing list of people who have expressed an interest in having an allotment. Again, the Spitfire development has resulted in S106 funds to support purchase/lease of land for this purpose and the search is on for a suitable piece of land.

1. **Community Reports** 
   1. **Ettington Church of England School**

Mr Johnson, Head Teacher’s report is appended to these minutes.

* 1. **Gardening Club**

Matthew Marsh reported that club continues to flourish with around 40 members participating in monthly meetings/ outing including talks on houseplants, Japanese gardents, birds in the garden, butterflies of Ettington. Trips have included visits to gardens and to Bath Christmas Market. Social activities are also held including a summer BBQ. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month and details can be found at <http://www.ettington.org/groups/ettington-gardening-club>.

* 1. **Monday Club**

Pat Beaty reported that the Monday Club is in its tenth year with membership of 29. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month with a break in June, July and August and topics covered include hospital appeal fund, flower demonstration, musical evening and visitors are always welcome. In addition outings are organised to places of interest, coffee mornings are held as is a summer garden party. It is anticipated that 2017 will be as successful as previous years.

* 1. **Community First Responders**

James O’Neil reported that the First Responders work in partnership with West Midlands Ambulance Service. The previous year has sen a 226% increase in responses to 999 calls, being called upon 98 times. There are four First Responders who have completed extensive training. The Responders vehicle will need replacing soon and it is hoped that a second vehicle will be purchased too. This necessitates fundraising and the Mark Wood event held last year raised £1.5k and the Village Breakfast raised £445. Russ Inman was awarded a distinguished service award for his dedication.

* 1. **Community Speedwatch**

Geoff Wells reported that problems with accessing the Police speed gun have been resolved by a grant from the Parish Council to purchase equipment. The group is working cooperatively with Alderminster and Pillerton Priors to share both the equipment and volunteers. A minimum of 3 people are needed for each monitoring session and more volunteers are required (Ettington currently having only four). A training session organised by Police has to be attended by volunteers and this takes half a day. Volunteers can contact Geoff on geoffwells4@hotmail.co.uk

* 1. **Community Centre**

David Martin Secretary of management committee reported that the previous 12 months had been very successful with a number of wedding receptions, pantomime, village breakfasts, bingo, cinema club for young people have resulted in a healthy financial position enabling extensive refurbishment. This has been supplemented by PC grant funding. Cat and dog shows brought in a substantial income but the decision has been made that these will no longer be held due to the extensive cleaning required. The feasibility of using the upstairs is being looked into..

* 1. **Ettington Runners**

Simon Pipe reported that the Stratford Park Run have given acknowledgement to the impact Ettington Runners has had on the success of the Park Run.

* 1. **Ryepiece Barn Concerts**

Six concerts are held each year and John Wade, Ant Pipe and Bev Faulkner Gant organise them. The next concert will be on 5 May 2017.

i  **Church**;

John Wade reported that there is still no Vicar in post though interviews have been held. John Horton is owed great thanks for stepping into the breach of being without a vicar.The church needs repair work but poor financial circumstances will impact on the ability to undertake this. The Youth Group was re-started in January and is doing well.

J **Panto.**

Rainie Holtom confirmed that another successful Panto had been performed in January 2017 and there will be one in January 2018. Though hard work a lot of fund is had by the cast and all involved. Thanks were given to all, particularly Tony Batchelor for Stage Management and Gill McGettigan the Producer.

1. Stratford Timebank

Sarah Coxall outlined how the timebank works whereby an hour of time given (many skills/knowledge available/required) earns an hour of time to “bank” for redemption. The scheme supports community development. There are 101 members in Stratford (which is one of 300 UK timebanks). More information can be found at [www.stratfordtimebank.org](http://www.stratfordtimebank.org) [/welcome@stratfordtimebank.org.uk](mailto:/welcome@stratfordtimebank.org.uk) / 07419373680.

1. Any Other Business

Parishioners were invited to raise any matters pertaining to the Parish

The issue of slow broadband was raised with Rainie Holtom reporting that there is a ‘Which’ test which will contribute to a comparative study of broadband provision. This can be found at https://broadbandtest.which.co.uk/

***Notes from Mr Johnson, Headteacher at Ettington CoE Primary School***

*It has been another highly successful year at Ettington C of E Primary School and we have much to celebrate as a school and community.*

*Number of pupils at the school continue to rise and we are now almost full to capacity with 170 pupils. Indeed in several year groups we are full and have pupils on a waiting list.*

*We are pleased to have received confirmation from the Local Authority that we shall receive substantial sum of money to expand the school by one class from September 2017. This funding will enable us to run straight year group classes across the school. Funding has been allocated from Section 106 money, received as a result of recent developments within the school catchment area.*

*Work on refurbishing the existing mobile classroom will commence in May and will be completed in time for the new school year. It is our aim that we will increase pupils number by five in each year group over the next three years.*

*As always our school provides a diverse and exciting curriculum for the children, furthermore we continue to provide a range of extra curricular activities such as: trips, after-school clubs, sports fixtures/tournaments, theatre visits and we welcome many visiting groups to extend learning.*

*Our 'Friends of Ettington School' (FOES) is very proactive and run a wide variety of events for our children, their families and friends throughout the school year. They continue to raise money to assist in projects such as developing our outdoor play provision.*

*Our links with the Church remain strong and we continue to hold regular events and services there which enables the wider village to community to get involved.*