

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY ERLESTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING **14th August 2008**

Present: Councillors, Mr. S. Jonik (Chairman), Mr. A. Pinnington (Vice Chairman), Mr. M. Gilbert, Mr. R.L. Smith, Mr. G. Chapman, Mrs. D. Oram, Ms. F. Morgan-Frise and Mrs. A. Whittle (Clerk).
Public, Dean Moore, David Sandford, Roger Hampton, Tony and Audrey Tye, John Ryan, Dave Wheeler, Denise and Stuart Grace, Pam Hampton and George Phillips.

Open Forum:

Cllr Jonik explained how this meeting had come about. The Parish Council had unanimously voted to remain with The Lavingtons in 2009. Wiltshire County Council made recommendations and sent them to the Boundary Committee. The Boundary Committee then changed WCC recommendations and these are what the council has to respond to by the 24th of August. Wiltshire County Council has already voted on the recommendations and has voted to accept them. Cllr Rugg and Cllr Swabey (from Ethandune) voted against the recommendation for Erlestoke but WCC voted on block to accept every recommendation put forward.

Each person present then had a chance to make their concerns known and a list was prepared of objections as follows:

1. Village business is to the east of the county not the west
2. Due to village hall closing organisations are using Great Cheverell village hall for functions
3. Medical services are in The Lavingtons as are local schools
4. Since the closure of Erlestoke village shop and Post Office, the villagers have been advised to use the shop and Post Office at Great Cheverell
5. Local identity
6. More transport services travel east then west
7. Local links on all levels are to the east and Devizes rather than to the west and Westbury

The clerk asked for a show of hands of those residents who wanted to stay with The Lavingtons which was unanimous.

The open forum was then closed and the main meeting commenced.

Agenda

103/08 Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Rugg (WCC), Cllr Grundy (Kennet DC), Michael Ancram M.P., Janine Gassmann Democratic Services Officer (WCC) and John Quinton (WCC).

104/08 Declaration of Interest. No declarations of interest were made.

105/08 Possible electoral boundary change for Erlestoke in April 2009

It was proposed by Cllr Jonik and seconded by Cllr Pinnington that the clerk writes a robust letter to Mr James Ansell at the Boundary Committee based around the list of objections compiled in the open forum as follows:

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2. Due to village hall closing organisations are using Great Cheverell village hall for functions
3. Medical services are in The Lavingtons as are local schools
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The council voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

The clerk will now compile a letter, confirm its content with the Chairman before sending to Mr. Ansell and copying to Michael Ancram M.P., Cllr Pat Rugg, Cllr Julie Swabey, Cllr Lionel Grundy, Mrs. Jane Scott leader of WCC, Janine Gassmann and John Quinton (WCC) and all those in attendance at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

The next meeting will be
Wednesday 3rd September 2008
7.15pm
in the upstairs room of
the George and Dragon public house.