

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2015 at 7.00pm in Eastington Methodist Hall

- 1 **Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Corrie (Acting-Chair), Allen, Loveridge, Simmons, Bomberg, Edis-Bates (part of the time). There were 6 members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllrs Bullock and Evans. No apologies received from Cllr Cozens.
- 2 **Election of Chair for the ensuing year:** Cllr Corrie nominated Cllr Bullock in her absence and confirmed that Cllr Bullock had indicated she would be happy to be Chair for a further year, seconded by Cllr Allen. Cllr Bullock was unanimously elected as Chair for the ensuing year.
- 3 **Election of Vice-Chair for the ensuing year:** there were no nominations so it was agreed to leave this as a vacant post for the time-being.
- 4 **Terms of reference for the working groups** will be agreed for the working groups at each first working group meeting.
- 5 **Councillors appointed to working groups as follows:**
- a. **Resources Group:** Cllrs Bullock, Allen, Loveridge and Corrie
 - b. **Planning Group:** Cllrs Bullock and Simmons. At some point in the future, it may be that the Planning Group is changed to a formal Committee and this will be reviewed in due course.
 - c. **Getting Around Group:** Cllrs Bullock, Corrie, and Allen.
 - d. **Churchyard and Burial Ground Group:** Cllrs Bullock, Allen, Simmons and Cozens.
 - e. **Play Park Group:** Cllrs Bullock and Loveridge.
 - f. **Flood Prevention Group:** Cllr Allen will continue to represent the Parish Council at the Flood Prevention Group meetings.
- 6 **The co-option of a councillor.** The Council agreed to co-opt Alex Bomberg onto the Council and received his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Bomberg joined the meeting.
- 7 **Chairman's announcements.** Cllr Corrie thanked Mrs Sach for all her assistance in helping the Council whilst it has been without a Clerk and RFO. Cllr Corrie welcomed Mrs Shirley, the new Clerk/RFO. Leaflets have been delivered around the parish regarding the NDP. The Examination in Public for Stroud District Local Plan is currently underway; Cllrs Edis-Bates and Evans have been in attendance on behalf of the parish.
- 8 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda. The register of interests' book was signed** by Cllrs Loveridge (Finance) and Corrie (Allotments).

Council agreed to change the order of the agenda items and brought forward NDP and the Examination in Public (EiP) on the Stroud Local Plan.

Cllr Edis-Bates gave an update on the Eastington NDP; it is currently at public consultation and is available on the NDP website to download, and also available in paper copy in public locations in the village. The NDP now carries weight and could be used when considering planning application. Cllr Edis-Bates gave an update on the Stroud Local Plan Examination in Public which is to look at whether the Local Plan is sound. The Council thanked Cllr Edis-Bates for his attendance at the EiP and updates provided.

- 9 **Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on 14th and 28th April 2015** RESOLVED to accept the minutes.
- 10 **Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** Action 10.2.1 from 14 April 2015 meeting: Cllr Allen and the Clerk will get together to review the new financial regulations and access to internet banking. Action 5 from 28 April 2015 meeting: Cllr Allen has been liaising with the group amending the Nastend Conservation Report and they are finding it difficult to fit the report to Stroud District Council's requirements so there is a delay on this being submitted.
- 11 **Changes to the order of business** None

Signed

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District Councillor's Report Cllr Davies: no report
County Councillor's report Cllr Williams: no report

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak.

Andrew Niblett addressed the meeting regarding his concerns for the planning application S.15/0784/FUL for six dwellings on Land adjoining Springhill House. Reg Parry agreed with all Mr Niblett's concerns.

12 Finance

- 12.1 The Acting-RFO gave an update on 2015/16 accounts. Mrs Sach highlighted that the hall hire budget is showing a deficit as the room hire has been included in the parish administration budget. There was a brief discussion as to whether room hire needs a separate budget and if so this can be created by viring funds from parish administration at the next meeting.
- 12.2 The Council approved the accounts for payment, schedule circulated prior to meeting:

Date	Supplier	Details	Chq No	Gross Amount
27/04/15	Alan Loveridge	Grass cutting March & April 2015	1615	£870.00
14/04/15	PATA (UK)	Payroll fees	1616	£42.50
02/02/15	GAPTC	Audit training course	1617	£50.00
19/03/15	Muriel Bullock	Stationery	1618	£23.99
18/04/15	Severn Trent Water (Ltd)	Burial Ground water supply	1619	£20.94
01/04/15	Eastington Village Hall Charity	March & April room hire	1620	£56.00
21/04/15	Playsafety Ltd	Annual play park inspection	1621	£78.00
01/05/15	Anita Sach	Acting RFO for April 2015	1622	£373.77
	James & Owen Printers	NDP Printing	1623	£340.00
22/05/15	Vodafone	Parish Office telephone	Direct Debit	£48.99
			TOTAL:	£1904.19

- 12.3 **Repairs to churchyard wall:** It was RESOLVED to accept the quote of £2093+VAT from Chambers builders. Action: Clerk.
- 12.4 The Council agreed to obtain quotes for repairs to the river bridge. Action: Clerk.
- 12.5 The Council gave permission for The Eastington Allotment Association to install a gate at the allotments onto the playing field.
- 12.6 The Council RESOLVED to rent the "flower tower" at a cost of £180 for the summer season, the money to be reimbursed from fundraising by the EARS Group. The tower will be located on the corner by the Cross. Action: Cllr Allen.
- 12.7 The Council considered the purchase of grave number markers and decided to look at this further when the burial fees are reviewed. Cllr Bomberg offered to assist the Churchyard and Burial Ground Group with the gravestones "topple" test.
- 12.8 The Council RESOLVED to authorise the quote of £175 for the maintenance of footpath EEA/65. Action: Clerk.

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12.9 The Council authorised the Clerk to search for insurance quotes and renew the parish council insurance which is due on 1st June 2015. Action: Clerk.

13 Planning

13.1 The Council agreed responses to the following planning applications:

S.15/0784/FUL Land adjoining Springhill House, Spring Hill Erection of six new dwellings (include 2 affordable homes). OBJECT due to the loss of trees and detrimental impact to the historical setting of nearby Springhill House.

S.15/0918/FUL Oakview Claypits Erection of new dwelling. OBJECT a two-storey building will overshadow the nearby bungalow and the land is too small to accommodate an additional building.

S.15/0972/FUL John Stayte Services Ltd Siting of a portakabin. NO OBJECTION.

13.2 The Council noted the following planning decisions from Stroud DC:

S.15/0425/ADV Eastington Park, Churchend – Refusal for lighting of current signage.

14 Groups

14.1 No report received from the Play Park Group

14.2 Cllr Allen circulated the Getting Around Group report prior to the meeting; main points of note are the number of potholes that need addressing, blocked drain at Nupend awaiting action by Highways, road needs resurfacing from A38 to the Cross. The bike racks outside the Co-op are due to be fitted on 14th May 2015.

15 SEPARATE BUSINESS

Pursuant to 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during the consideration of:

15.1 It was agreed to authorise the new employee form for the PATA payroll form for the new Clerk's salary.

15.2 It was agreed to authorise the payment by cheque of the Clerk's salary by the end of May 2015 and then by standing order at each month-end in subsequent months, the amount to be determined by PATA payroll and reported to Council through the monthly payment schedule

15.3 It was noted that the new Clerk has worked a number of hours prior to the official start date and it was agreed to pay those hours with the May payroll.

15.4 **Pension Scheme:** It was agreed to use the NEST pension scheme option for auto-enrolment of eligible employees at 1st June 2015 and agreed the employer's contribution will be 8%.

15.5 The Council discussed the request from the previous clerk for the payment of additional hours worked during January 2015. The Council agreed to pay the equivalent of six additional hours. Cllr Corrie will send a letter with the payment.

Any other business for the next meeting.

None

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th June 2015. Anybody with an item they wish to bring to the attention of the Council, should forward details, in writing, to the Clerk to the Parish Council, no later than Tuesday 2nd June 2015.

Signed

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Date