

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th December 2013 in Eastington Methodist Church.

1. **Attendance and apologies for absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Allen, Simmons, Edwards, Corrie, Edis-Bates, Evans, Andrea Durn (Clerk), County Cllr Lesley Williams. There were 2 members of the public present. Apologies for absence were accepted from District Cllr Stephens.
No apologies were received from Cllr Cozens.
2. **Chairman's announcements:** The Chair reported that notification had just been received that a developer had proposals for a development around the A419 in the parish. She said the Council would carry out further research.
The Chair reported that the Clerk had just received the finance records and once collated they would be shared with the Council.
The Parish Council office would be closed from 24th December 2013 to 2nd December 2014. This is in line with Stroud District Council office Christmas closing. She reminded councillors that all leave should be notified through the Clerk.
3. **Clerks report:** The Clerk went through the issues and correspondence she had dealt with in the previous month. She reported that she had just received the finance records and that she would need time to collate them before circulation to Council.
4. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None.
5. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 12th November 2013:** Cllr Allen reported that she had given apologies for non attendance at February and March 2014 meetings. Cllr Edwards proposed to accept the minutes with the amendment of Cllr Allen's apologies. Seconded by Cllr Allen.
Carried.
6. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 26th November 2013:** Cllr Simmons proposed that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Cllr Bullock with 2 abstentions. Carried.
7. **Actions:** The actions from previous meetings were reviewed and the action plan updated:
The Clerk is meeting with Stroud District Council to discuss S.106 monies. **ACTION: Clerk**
Cllr Williams asked that the query on contractors carrying out ground testing on land in the parish be put in writing and she would investigate. **ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Williams**
The Chair reminded Cllr Williams and the Parish Council that all correspondence should be put through the Clerk **ACTION: All Councillors**
Cllr Cozens to inform Cllr Allen who was responsible for the entrance to Alkerton Farm and OHMG. **ACTION: Cllr Cozens**
Swallowcroft Appeal: Chair to check progress on leaflet for 6th January 2014 event at Eastington Methodist Church Hall with Mr A Brasier **ACTION: Chair**
Cllr Edwards is composing a leaflet to the parish about the proposed West of Stonehouse development **ACTION: Cllr Edwards**
8. **To consider changes to the order of business:** None.
9. **Co-option of councillor:** The vacancy created by Derek Greenaway's resignation had been advertised and there was no call for a bye-election, it had been agreed to fill the vacancy by co-option. The co-option vacancy has been advertised but no applications were received by the deadline. The Chair proposed to extend the application deadline. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak.
There were no queries or comments from the public.

Report from County Councillor Williams.

The Gloucestershire County Council highways maintenance contract has been awarded to Amey.
The GCC Medium Term Financial Strategy is out for consultation. £114m is to be saved. Full Council will make their decision in February 2014.

The Local Enterprise Partnership is developing their economic strategy for the next four years, this includes a growth plan and finance pot. Improving the A419 will be bid against the pot although the priority will be improving the A417 Air Balloon roundabout.

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Signed.....
Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date.....

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A report with apology for not being able to attend the meeting was received and read out from District Councillor Stephens. There were no questions.

10 Resolutions

10.1 Finance

- 10.1.1 The Clerk reported that the finance papers had just been received and that the finance report would be circulated. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 10.1.2 The list of cheques for payment will be compiled and circulated to the Council. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 10.1.3 The Council signatories needs to be updated. The forms will be circulated for completion. **ACTION: All**
- 10.1.4 Cllr Allen asked that the Parish Council would pay for the meeting room hire of Eastington Flood Group which is estimated to be £120 per year. Cllr Edwards proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr Evans. Carried.
- 10.1.5 The Chair reported that the Grass Maintenance Contract should be reviewed. A discussion was held on the detail of the contract. Cllr Edwards proposed that EPC give authority to the Chair to extend the contract for a further two years if there has been satisfaction on the performance of the contractor. Seconded by Cllr Simmons. Carried.

10.2 Planning

- 10.2.1 Neighbourhood Plan: The Chair and Cllr Corrie gave feedback on the Planning Conference that was recently held by GAPTC. Cllr Edis Bates gave a summary on the contract meeting with GRCC and the public meeting and workshop facilitated by GRCC on 9th December 2013. He reported that the next steps were to form the Steering Group and to invite neighbourhood leaders, experts, and parishioners to get involved. There will be a public parish meeting in January 2014.
- 10.2.2 Swallowcroft: There is to be a meeting on 19th December 2013 to prepare the parish speakers for the Hearing.
- 10.2.3 CLT: There is to be a meeting to discuss progress and partnership working.

10.3. Groups

10.3.1 Roads and Transport Group

A report had previously been circulated. The road safety proposals for the Co-Op area are currently being designed and mapped.

- 10.3.2 Speed bumps and lorry watch: Cllr Edwards referred to his report that had been previously circulated. He felt that the speed bumps were not fit for purpose. Cllr Allen responded that road safety improvements for the parish were being considered as a theme under the Neighbourhood Development Plan parishioner consultation. She reminded the Council that the Lorrywatch Scheme had been stopped by GCC in 2010/11. Any traffic offences should be reported to the police.

10.3.3 Churchyard and Burial Ground

A report had previously been circulated. A discussion was held on the results of the topple test. The memorials that have failed have been taken down. The Clerk is to check the legal requirements of the Council and memorial owners and report back to Council. **ACTION: Clerk**

10.3.4 Flood Prevention Group

A report had previously been circulated. There were no questions.

10.3.5 Allotments

Cllr Edwards is acquiring quotes for the replacement of the fencing.

10.3.6 Footpaths

There was no report.

10.3.7 Community Land Trust

A meeting is to be scheduled.

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10.3.8 E-REG

There was a heated discussion on the concerns of some councillors of E-REG. The Chair reported to the Council that E-REG have been invited to the next EPC meeting to give a presentation on progress and future plans and to be available to answer any questions. The Chair asked that any concerns to be sent to the Clerk so she may send to E-REG in advance of the presentation so they may be able to respond at the EPC meeting. **ACTION: Clerk and all Councillors**

Cllr Edis-Bates asked that it be minuted that no funds should be paid to E-REG in advance of the presentation.

Cllr Edwards left the meeting at 8.40pm

10.4 Planning notices:

The following planning application decisions were noted:

S.13/2145/HHOLD: Manor Cottage, Churchend, Eastington. Erection of single storey rear extension. Permission.

S.13/2146/LBC: Manor Cottage, Curchend, Eastington, Erection of single storey extension. Consent.

S.13/1984/TCA: Burial Ground, Eastington. Semi-mature sycamore – fell to ground level. Permission.

S.13/2058/FUL: Leahug Farm, Nupend. Erection of steel portal framed straw barn. Permission.

S.13/1276/LBC: Kings Head, Bath Road, Eastington. Refurbishment and upgrade of existing licensed premises together with a single storey toilet block extension. Consent.

Any Other Business

None

The Chair wished everyone a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Meeting finished: 8.45pm

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14th December 2013. 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 Monday 6th January 2014.