

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2014 in Eastington Methodist Church.

1. **Attendance and apologies for absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Allen, Edwards, Corrie, Edis-Bates, Evans, Andrea Durn (Clerk), County Cllr Lesley Williams. There were 9 members of the public present. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr Simmons and District Cllr Stephens.
No apologies were received from Cllr Cozens.
2. **Chairman's announcements:** The Chair thanked the Clerk for dealing with a heavy workload and working extra hours. The Chair reported that she had asked parishioner Andrew Niblett to attend the Canal Trust meeting on her behalf. She also reported that she was working with parishioners in the Millend area of the parish on a complex planning application and would be bringing recommendations to the next meeting.
3. **Clerks report:** The Clerk went through the issues and correspondence she had dealt with in the previous month.
4. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None.
5. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 10th December 2013:** Cllr Allen asked that under item 10.3.2 the consideration of speed bumps be deleted. Cllr Edwards proposed to accept the minutes with the amendment by Cllr Allen. Seconded by Cllr Allen. Carried.
6. **Actions:** The actions from previous meetings were reviewed:
There has not been a response from Cllr Williams on the query about contractors carrying out ground testing on land in the parish. **ACTION: Cllr Williams**
Cllr Cozens to inform Cllr Allen who was responsible for the entrance to Alkerton Farm and OHMG. **ACTION: Cllr Cozens**
The Clerk to check the legal requirement on the burial ground failed topple test monuments. **ACTION: Clerk**
8. **To consider changes to the order of business:** Items 10.2.2 and 10.2.3 to be discussed before the public presentation.
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. Cllr Evans proposed that Alison Loveridge be co-opted to the Council, this was seconded by Cllr Corrie. A vote was held and all were in favour of the proposal, none against. The Clerk will meet with Alison Loveridge so that the Declaration of Acceptance of Offer and the Register of Interests can be completed.

The following items were brought forward as agreed:

10. Resolutions

- 10.2.2 Swallowcroft Appeal: Ian Stuart, the planning consultant, gave an summary of the Swallowcroft hearing and outcome. A member of the public, Ed Davis, asked if a formal response will be forthcoming from EPC to SDC and the Planning Inspectorate. Ian Stuart's advice is that time and care is needed in preparation for the appeal.
- 10.2.3 Local Plan: Ian Stuart, the planning consultant, is acting on behalf of EPC. He gave a summary of the process of the Examination in Public (EIP). He recommended that EPC purchases 2 copies of the Local Plan. He will complete a response for the EIP by 28th February 2014.

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

A presentation on the progress, funding, and options for the future of renewals energy for the parish and the Eastington Renewals Energy Group (E-REG) was given by Andrew Niblett and Paul Manning followed by a question and answer session. E-REG suggested that the £2000 grant previously agreed EPC may not now be needed due to other funding opportunities.

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Signed.....
Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date.....

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There was no report from County Councillor Williams.

A report with apology for not being able to attend the meeting was received and read out from District Councillor Stephens.

10 Resolutions

10.1 Finance

- 10.1.1 The RFO gave an update on the preparation of accounts.
- 10.1.2 The list of cheques for payment for December and January totalled £10,077.44. The Chair proposed the accounts. Carried.
- 10.1.3 The bank forms for updating the Council signatories are being completed and will be submitted to the bank for processing.
- 10.1.4 The Chair gave an update on the Grass Maintenance contract review. The current contractor had completed the contract to the satisfaction of the Council. The current contract would therefore be extended by the final two years as per the conditions of the contract. The Chair will send the boundary amendments to the Clerk so the schedule can be updated. **ACTION: Chair and Clerk**
- 10.1.5 The Clerk highlighted the training schedule that had been previously circulated and encouraged Council to review and send her requests for training. The Chair proposed the Clerk attend the training by GAPTC on financial record keeping and managing the external audit. Carried.
- 10.1.6 The Chair asked the Clerk to arrange a budget business meeting on 21st January and the EPC precept setting meeting on 4th February 2014. **ACTION: Clerk**

10.2 Planning

- 10.2.1 Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Edis-Bates gave an update on the development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. He reported that GRCC had been commissioned to support the process, themes to the plan were being developed, a number of events were being organised and funding is to be bid for from central government. He suggested that there should be match funding from EPC as part of budget decisions. He explained the GRCC Memorandum of Understanding between GRCC and EPC and proposed the Council accept it. This was seconded by Cllr Allen and carried with one abstention.
- 10.2.4 To consider the planning group's recommendations for the following applications S.13/2578/FUL and S.13/2579/LBC: Millend Mill, Millend Lane, Eastington. The Chair gave an update on the background to the application and parishioner and SDC meetings that had been held to date. The Clerk had reported that SDC had given a deadline extension to 12th January 2014 for comments. The Chair proposed that this application be discussed at the next EPC meeting so that further information can be assessed.

10.4 Boundary review

The Clerk reported that a briefing note had been requested from SDC on the review and that Stuart Hook from SDC had been asked to attend the next meeting to be available to answer questions.

10.5 Communications

- 10.5.1 ECN: The dates for publishing deadlines for the EPC had been circulated. The Chair reported she would be writing an article under Parish Matters. Cllr Edis-Bates reported that there would be articles on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 10.5.2 Councillor surgeries: The Chair reported that there will be more opportunities for parishioners to meet councillors at parish events and would also hold some specific Meet Your Councillor events in the summer. Cllr Edis-Bates suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan events would be a positive opportunity for meeting people.

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10.6 World War One Centenary Commemoration

The Chair reported that she was researching with parishioners ideas for commemorating the WW1 centenary. She asked that any ideas should be sent to her and for an item to be put on the next meeting agenda. **ACTION: ALL**

10.7 Groups

10.7.1 Roads and Transport Group

A report had previously been circulated. Cllr Allen reported that she is planning a feedback survey on the Build Out in Bath Road.

10.7.2 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**

10.7.3 Flood Prevention Group

The next meeting will be on 16th February 2014

10.7.4 Allotments

Cllr Edwards is acquiring quotes for the replacement of the fencing for consideration at a future meeting.

Cllr Corrie will lead on the Allotments group in future. She reported that there is a vacancy for a Treasurer. The allotments currently have 5 vacant plots.

10.7.5 Footpaths

Cllr Edwards gave an update of actions that had been taken and were in progress around the parish. He reported that Open Spaces will have an article in the next ECN on residents dumping grass cuttings on verges and public rights of way. The Landfill Project will be used to clear public rights of way in the summer. Cllr Edwards reported about a number of complaints about village greens and public rights of way that had been received in the parish and actions that had been taken with GCC to resolve.

10.7.6 Community Land Trust

A meeting is to be scheduled.

10.7.7 E-REG

There was no report as there had been a presentation to EPC.

10.7.8 Youth Services

The Chair gave an update on the meeting she had attended with the Clerk and Stonehouse Town Council on the options for joint working on youth provision. Further research would be carried out on the options and feasibility for joint service provision.

10.4 Planning notices:

The following planning application decisions were noted:

S.13/2279/COU: Apple Tree Park, Claypits, Eastington. Change of one touring caravan plot to a residential pitch for a mobile home to be occupied only by a manager/s primarily occupied in the management of the associated touring caravan park. Permission.

S.13/2359/HHOLD: Oakview, Claypits, Eastington. Erection of extension and installation of new window to front elevation. Permission

11. Closed Session

To review matters relating to employment

Pursuant to section 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 the press leave the meeting during consideration of items of employment to be discussed.

11.1 The Chair proposed to agree the new terms and conditions of the Clerk/RFO. Carried.

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Any Other Business

None

Meeting finished: 9.30pm

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.