

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@eastington-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th March 2017 at 7.00pm in Eastington Village Hall

- 1 Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Allen, Bomberg, Chatterley, Loveridge, Simmons, and Wells. There were 3 members of the public. Also present District Councillors Stephen Davies and John Jones, County Councillor Lesley Williams (arriving 8.15pm), and Parish Clerk Mrs J Shirley. Apologies received from Cllr Corrie.
Absent: Cllr Cozens.
- 2 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** None.
- 3 Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Bullock reminded residents and councillors that the Clerk is contracted part-time for 20 hours per week; the Clerk arranges those hours during the week Monday to Friday but may not always be available; phone calls from councillors should be kept to a minimum and all emails copied to the Chairman. The workload is likely to increase due to reserved matters planning applications for Land West of Stonehouse. The Resources Group will look at the Clerk's hours further when they meet.
- 4 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd February 2017:** RESOLVED to accept the minutes.
- 5 Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** Item 8.4 Alkerton Road speed bumps to be considered once the speed survey data analysed.
- 6 Changes to the order of business.** None

The meeting was opened up for Public question time; there were no matters raised.

To receive a report from the District Councillors: Cllr Davies gave apologies for missing parish council meetings recently due to meetings at Stroud District Council. SDC has approved its budget which will draw on reserves. The reserved matters application for Land West of Stonehouse was withdrawn by Redrow following a number of issues raised by SDC and others. Ecotricity has submitted Further Environmental Information; application is unlikely to be determined by the Development Control Committee before the autumn. Cllr Jones gave an update on council tax 2017/18; a band D property will pay £1589 for the year. Planning fees are increasing approximately 20% from June 2017 onwards. Cllr Allen passed on a comment to the District Councillors regarding the food waste collection that the smaller bins are thrown rather than placed back; also lids are being left open. Cllr Wells reported that Ubico are now avoiding driving on the green on Cotswold Avenue following a request. Cllr Bomberg raised a concern about GFirst LEP promoting planning applications when they are a government-funded organisation.

7. Planning

7.1 The Council noted planning decisions made by Stroud District Council:

Application No:	Address	Details	EPC Comments	SDC Decision
S.16/2852/HHOLD	The Heathers Middle Street, Eastington	Remove rear extension and replace with a 2 storey rear extension	NO OBJECTION 09/02/17	PERMIT 23/02/17

7.2 The Council considered the application support request from Mr Booth; the proposed site is not in the settlement boundary as detailed in the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Cllr Chatterley noted that the development would provide a bungalow and wished to support the application; majority were against supporting the application. **Action: Clerk to advise Mr Booth.**

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7.3 The Council considered the following planning applications:

Date received	Application No:	Address	Details	EPC Comments
17/02/17	S.17/0369/HHOLD	Rochdene, Bath Road, Eastington	Proposed single storey side and rear extension together with part garage conversion to provide large family room, play room, w/c, utility room and garden room	No objection
20/02/17	S.17/0366/CPL	Rochdene Bath Road, Eastington	Conversion of loft to provide additional master bedroom and en-suite	No objection

8. Groups / Meetings / Reports

- 8.1 Cllr Allen requested that if a Councillor is unwell and likely to be unavailable for a while that the Council has a contingency to ensure work continues in their absence; **Action Clerk to add to the next agenda.** Cllr Allen gave a verbal update from the Getting Around Group regarding a proposal that Highways install bollards to prevent parking on the grass triangle outside the Church. Cllr Allen also outlined a request for a “no parking on the grass” sign on the grass that could be re-used elsewhere once the bollards were in place. It was agreed to support the installation of the bollards and authorised the Clerk to order the signs. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.2 The Council reviewed the accident and speed data analysis for Alkerton Road compiled in November 2010 which demonstrated that there has been a speed reduction since the installation of the speed bumps. Highways will re-align the speed bumps as part of the resurfacing which should reduce the noise impact on vehicles driving over the bumps; the main issue is the HGVs using Alkerton Road and Cllr Allen suggested volunteers carrying out a lorry survey to identify the main offenders. **Action: Cllr Chatterley** to talk to potential volunteers and arrange a day for ‘lorry watch’. Cllr Allen further reported that some hedgerows overhanging roads have been cut however debris from the work has been left on the paths and roads. The hedge from the Diocese land on Millend is still overhanging the pavement/road but the Diocese is not responding to emails; Cllr Allen will call into the Diocese office when next in Gloucester. **Action: Clerk** to send details to Cllr Allen.
- 8.3 The Churchyard & Burial Ground Group is due to meet to consider a number of matters. **Action: Cllr Allen** to arrange a meeting. The School has passed on praise for the grounds maintenance of the churchyard. Cllr Allen requested that the waste bin is left within the burial ground for Smith’s to empty rather than move it to the gate.
- 8.4 The Resources Group is due to meet to consider a number of matters.
- 8.5 The Council received the notes of the latest meeting of the Strategic Planning Working Group held on 16th February. The notes for the meeting held with SDC Planning on 24th February will be included with the April meeting pack. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.6 Cllr Chatterley reported that 2 new bins have been installed at Springhill and Millend. The Clerk is still to order the dual use bin stickers.
- 8.7 The Council received a written update from Eastington Community Land Trust.
- 8.8 The Local Council Award Scheme Working Group is due to meet to consider the draft application. **Action: Clerk** to convene a meeting to progress the application.
- 8.9 The Council received a report from Cllr Allen on training attended at Stroud District Council regarding personal resilience.
- 8.10 The Council received a report from Cllr Allen on a recent flood management seminar; it was noted that Flood Management can give a talk at the Annual Parish Meeting on 25th May. The Clerk will put an article in the community newsletter to advertise the talk.

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To receive a report from the County Councillor: Cllr Williams mentioned parishes having water-wardens to keep a watch on the waterways in the parish. Cllr Williams gave an update on County Council matters: Children's Services are being inspected by Ofsted; Cleeve Link care services went out of business and GCC had to quickly sort out alternative provision with many carers continuing without pay to ensure no break in provision.

9. Finance

- 9.1 The Council received an update on the 2016/17 accounts including bank reconciliation.
- 9.2 The Council approved the payment of Clerk's expenses for February 2017 which will be paid with the March payroll.
- 9.3 The Council received the Clerk's timesheet for February 2017.
- 9.4 The Council noted that the National Joint Councils agreed a 1% salary increase with effect 1st April 2017 (email from GAPTIC dated 23rd May 2016 refers).
- 9.5 The Council agreed annual membership renewal of Gloucestershire Playing Field Association at a cost of £50
- 9.6 The Council agreed annual membership renewal of the Ramblers at a cost of £60.50.
- 9.7 The Council agreed annual membership renewal of CPRE at a cost of £36.00
- 9.8 The Council decided not to renew the annual membership of Open Spaces Society.
- 9.9 The Clerk gave an update regarding the Skate Area project; work will commence on Monday 20th March with Smith's of Gloucester removing the excess soil before Freestyle commence the skate area on 24th March.
- 9.10 The Council noted that the annual safety inspection of the play area will be carried out during April at a cost of £66.50+VAT plus £3.50 per item after the first 5 items.
- 9.11 The Council appointed IAC Audit & Consultancy Ltd as independent auditor for the internal audit 2016/17 at a cost of £185+VAT; it was requested by Cllr Bomberg that the Council changes to a different auditor for 2017/18 as Council has used the same auditor for several years.
- 9.12 The Council agreed that unspent budget as at 31/03/17 will be moved to earmarked reserves for use during 2017/18; **Action: Clerk** will provide a breakdown with the year end accounts at the next meeting.
- 9.13 The Council agreed that the Clerk attend the South West Conference for Local Councils on 16th March in Taunton at a cost of £60+VAT.
- 9.14 The Council considered a grant request from Allsorts; Cllr Bullock proposed a grant £182.50 (the unspent balance of the grants fund for 2016/17), seconded by Cllr Loveridge. Five in favour; motion carried. **Action: Clerk.**
- 9.15 The Council agreed the Getting Around Group's recommendation for flower displays around the village comprising 1 flower tower and 2 railing baskets. **Action: Clerk** to place the order.
- 9.16 The Council authorised the Clerk to sign the BT phone box adoption contract. **Action: Clerk.**
- 9.17 The Council approved the accounts for payment:

Invoice Date	Payee	Details	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	Budget
28/02/17	Post Office Ltd	PAYE & NI payments to HMRC for February 2017	£266.85	£0	£266.85	Parish Admin
15/02/17	Wellers Law Group LLP	Management Agreement for land use at OHMG	£400	£80	£480	Play Park
28/02/17	Gloucestershire Playing Field Assoc	Annual Subscription	£50.00	£0	£50.00	Subs
21/02/17	The Ramblers	Annual Subscription	£60.50	£0	£60.50	Subs

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	Association					
21/02/17	CPRE	Annual Subscription	£36.00	£0	£36.00	Subs
26/02/17	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defib wall cabinetsx3, Annual Membershipx3, Trainingx1	£1813.00	£0	£1813.00	Grant funding rec'd
22/02/17	NALC	Local Council Award Scheme Gold registration	£40.00	£8.00	£48.00	Training
27/02/17	BT Payphones	Adopt the payphone at Victoria Drive	£1.00	£0	£1.00	Repair projects
09/03/17	Allsorts	Grant/donation	£182.50	0	£182.50	Grants/ Donations
08/03/17	Freestyle	Skate area stage 1	£7474.69	£1494.94	£8969.63	Grant funding rec'd
	DIRECT DEBITS:					
23/02/17	NEST	Pensions for February 2017	£106.41	£0	£106.41	Parish Admin
23/02/17	Vodafone	Parish Mobile	£40.83	£8.16	£48.99	Parish Admin
		TOTAL			£12062.88	

10 Correspondence

10.1 The Council received a list of correspondence received for information.

10.2 Agreed to ask GAPTC to request a meeting of all Gloucestershire parish and town councils with the 6 Gloucestershire MPs to highlight the NALC lobby day.

Business for the next meeting: request for no parking signs on the grass verge of Victoria Drive.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Thursday 13th April 2017. 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 9am on Wednesday 5th April 2017.

Signed

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Date