

# EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [clerk@eastington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastington-pc.gov.uk)

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.00pm in Eastington Village Hall**

- 1 Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie, Allen, Bomberg, Chatterley, Loveridge, Simmons, and Cozens. There were 4 members of the public. Also present District Councillor John Jones and Parish Clerk Mrs J Shirley. Apologies received from Cllr Wells, County Councillor Lesley Williams and District Councillor Stephen Davies.
- 2 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** Cllr Loveridge declared a pecuniary interest in 9.13 and 917; Cllrs Bomberg and Cozens declared an interest in item 9.13.
- 3 Chairman's announcements:** None.
- 4 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017:** RESOLVED to accept the minutes.
- 5 Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** Item 8.2 Lorry Watch volunteer day to be arranged by Cllr Chatterley. Cllr Allen confirmed that she had carried out the action on item 8.2 relating to the overgrown hedge on Millend Lane and is awaiting an update from the Gloucester Diocese.
- 6 Changes to the order of business.** None

The meeting was opened up for Public question time.

Mr Low spoke on item 8.2 regarding improving the pathways at the churchyard and asked if it included the proposed path leading to the orchard; Cllr Allen confirmed it does.

Mr Edwards circulated a map of a survey regarding removal of the speed bumps on Alkerton Road and handed the Clerk a petition for the removal of the speed bumps, 73% of residents that were surveyed supported the removal of the bumps. Mr Edwards outlined some of the issues that residents are encountering with traffic on Alkerton Road. Mr Edwards urged the Parish Council to make funds available to review the situation and remove the speed bumps. Mr Edwards confirmed that the main issue was the noise of vehicles going over the speed bumps and that the speed of vehicles has not been reduced.

Mr Davies requested that the tree preservation order submitted for the lime tree is re-submitted. He also commented on the removal of the speed bumps.

**To receive a report from the County Councillor:** Cllr Williams sent her apologies and the Clerk read out a short update.

**To receive a report from the District Councillors:** Cllr Jones commented that the better speed bumps are the ones that go across the whole carriageway; he also commented that "MGW" written under the 7.5T on lorries indicates maximum gross weight including the payload. The camera that can be used to monitor vehicle speeds is an M500 which can detect speed and time but not the number plate. The only cameras that can record the number plate (automatic number plate recognition) as used in Rodborough have not yet been adopted by the Police. Cllr Jones noted that the refuse and recycling is being reviewed; he attended the Community Safety meeting in Stroud, Inspector Andy Clifford has taken over in Stroud. A white goods warning has been issued by the Fire Service.

Cllr Allen noted that the Parish Council has spent a lot of time over the past years working on highways matters; speed bumps that go across the whole carriageway are only possible on roads with a 20mph limit; the Council applied for funding for cameras which was turned down last year, plus a M500 was used to survey traffic on Bath Road.

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## 7. Planning

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

S.17/0277/LBC - The Yellow House, Spring Hill - replace 4 x windows to the front of the property. REFUSE 24/03/17.

S.16/2899/ADV - Shell Garage - Illuminated Signage. CONSENT 21/03/17.

S.16/2898/FUL - Shell Garage - Retrospective app for installation of ATM & frontage alterations. PERMIT 21/03/17.

7.2 The Council noted there is a planning appeal for S.16/2247/COU – Churchend Nurseries and did not wish to submit any further representation.

7.3 The Parish Council considered the following planning applications:

Date received	Application No:	Address	Details	EPC Comments:
22-03-2017	S.17/0604/HHOLD	Beech House, Westend	Extension to dwelling	Support
23-03-2017	S.17/0607/FUL	Middle Hall Farmhouse Middle Street, Eastington	Erection of agricultural building to house young stock	Support

## 8. Groups / Meetings / Reports

8.1 Cllr Allen gave a verbal update from the Getting Around Group; the bollards to be installed by Highways on the Churchend grass triangle will be installed June/July, in the meantime “no parking” signs have been erected. The village gateways will be installed after the resurfacing work has completed.

8.2 The Council received a written report from the Churchyard & Burial Ground Group. Cllr Allen noted that there were a number of long graves that will be followed up in due course. The Council has received written permission from the landowner to remove a tree affecting the church river bridge. The Council considered the following recommendations:

- Council is asked to approve that a new entrance be created to the Burial Ground from Spring Hill & that the existing path is widened & resurfaced to take grave digging machinery & visitors’ wheelchairs. Vote was 6 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention. Motion carried. **Action Clerk** to investigate the costs involved in creating the entrance and widening the path.
- Council is asked to approve the development of a Remembrance garden for the Burial Ground. Vote was 6 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention. Motion carried. **Action Clerk** to investigate the costs involved.

8.3 Cllr Corrie gave a verbal update on the latest Resources Group meeting; the group discussed bus shelters and considered transferring the responsibility of the shelters to Getting Around Group but as an asset of the Parish Council the responsibility currently rests with the Resources Group. The Clerk’s appraisal will be carried out in May by Cllr Loveridge. The Clerk’s request to carry over 4.5 days unused holiday needs to be agreed by Full Council. The Group also discussed converting to a Committee so that it can be given the authority to line-manage the Clerk and overall management of assets. All items to be carried forward to the May agenda. **Action: Clerk** to add to next agenda.

8.4 The Council received the notes of the latest meeting of the Strategic Planning Working Group held with Stroud DC on 24<sup>th</sup> February, and the Clerk read out a written update that was circulated to the Working Group in lieu of the last meeting.

8.5 The Council received the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.

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- 8.6 The Council received the Feasibility Report from Eastington Community Land Trust and released the balance of grant monies as previously agreed. **Action: Clerk** to raise the cheque.
- 8.7 It was noted that the Annual Parish Meeting is taking place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 7pm at the Village Hall.
- 8.8 The Council approved the draft Annual Report 2016/17 for presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 8.9 The Council received the Neighbourhood Warden reports for January and February 2017. A report from PCSO Liz Ward was also circulated that highlighted the importance of residents reporting items of concern, a recent report led to an arrest.

## **9. Finance**

- 9.1 The Council received an update on the 2016/17 accounts including bank reconciliation and confirmed the earmarked reserves to carry over to 2017/18.
- 9.2 The Council approved the payment of Clerk's expenses for March 2017 which will be paid with the March payroll.
- 9.3 The Council received the Clerk's timesheet for March 2017.
- 9.4 The Clerk gave an update regarding the Skate Area project; work commenced on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April and should complete in 4 weeks, additional play equipment has also been installed in the park.
- 9.5 The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17.
- 9.6 The Council approved the year end accounts for 2016/17 as amended by the Internal Auditor to take into account one cancelled cheque.
- 9.7 The Council discussed a contingency plan to retain quorum at committee/working group meetings when a councillor is unavailable to attend and noted that Standing Order 4d(v) applies and substitute members will be agreed at the May meeting.
- 9.8 The Council noted that there is a delay achieving consent from the Co-op to install the defibrillator and considered other options. It was agreed to explore consent with the Village Hall, Wickwar Brewery (for the Old Badger), St Michael's Church, and the hairdressers. It was felt that the adopted phone box on Victoria Drive should be used as a library. **Action Clerk.**
- 9.9 The Council received a written update from the Clerk on recent training attended.
- 9.10 The Council agreed the Clerk's attendance at Risk Management training on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at a cost of £15.
- 9.11 The Council agreed the Chair's attendance at Appraisal training on 8<sup>th</sup> May at a cost of £35.
- 9.12 The Council confirmed that the Parish Council meets all the Local Council Award Scheme Gold criteria as detailed below:

### **The Council confirms it publishes online the following:**

- A business/strategic plan covering a financial forecast for at least 3 years
- Annual report and at least 4 news bulletins with evidence of engaging with diverse groups, leading to positive outcomes for the community, a broad range of council activities including innovative projects, co-operating constructively with other organisations

### **The Council also confirms it has produced the following:**

- Statement confirming that the council ensures it delivers value for money
- Statement confirming that council delivers best practice in meetings its duties in relation to bio-diversity and crime & disorder
- Statement confirming that council provides leadership in planning for the future of the community
- Statement confirming that council manages the performance of the council as a corporate body
- Statement confirming that council manages the performance of each individual staff member to achieve its business plan.

- 9.13 The Council granted consent for OHMG to install a phone line across Alkerton Village Green providing the ground is reinstated. **Action: Clerk** to inform OHMGC.
- 9.14 The Council did not agree to carry out a newt survey at the allotment pond.
- 9.15 The Council did not agree to carry out grassland management or remove reeds at the allotment

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SDC Sec106 monies	£42,912.19
SDC Grant for Skate Park CCTV	£987

## **10 Consultations / Proposals**

- 10.1 The Council considered the Housing White Paper consultation and had no comments.
- 10.2 The Council agreed the proposal from Cllr Bomberg that the Council writes to GFirst LEP expressing the Council's concern of the LEP's support of planning applications. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.3 The Council had no objection to the street trading licence application received for Luigi's Woodfired Pizzas at Blunder Lock providing appropriate litter bins are provided for customers.

## **11 Correspondence**

- 11.1 The Council received a list of correspondence received for information.
- 11.2 The Council discussed submitting a resolution to the GAPTC AGM; Councillors can bring suggestions to the next meeting.
- 11.3 The Council received the updated training course list from GAPTC, Councillors invited to review and bring requests to the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

**Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 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 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017.**

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