

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@eastington-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th August 2017 at 7.00pm in Eastington Village Hall

- 1 Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Corrie (Chair), Loveridge, Simmons and Wells. There were 7 members of the public. Also present Parish Clerk Mrs J Shirley and District Cllr Davies. Apologies received from Cllr Bullock, Cllr Bomberg, Cllr Chatterley and District Cllr Jones. Absent: Cllr Cozens.
- 2 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** Cllr Loveridge declared an interest in item 9.6, 9.7 and 9.11.
- 3 Chairman's announcements:** Cllr Corrie expressed thanks to Miss Leonard for providing locum clerk cover for the previous week. Cllr Corrie also expressed thanks to Mrs Allen for her service as a parish councillor and noted that she will be very missed by the Council. A new notice board has been installed at the Co-op to replace the old metal board. The decommissioned telephone box has undergone refurbishment by volunteers of the community and is looking very smart; it will be used as a library.
- 4 Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th July 2017:** RESOLVED to accept the minutes.
- 5 Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** (March 2017) Item 8.2 Lorry Watch volunteer day to be arranged by Cllr Chatterley. (April 2017) Item 9.2 Clerk to seek consent from various Alkerton-central locations for possible defibrillator installation. (July 2017) item 9.13 Clerk is awaiting a response from Kings Head House Hotel regarding permission to install a plaque for the Alkerton Cross fingerpost, item 9.18 Clerk will discuss the request for pedestrian crossings with Highways at the meeting scheduled for Monday 14th August.
- 6 Changes to the order of business.** It was agreed to bring forward item 10.4 regarding the request from Keep Eastington Rural for a public meeting to discuss the Ecotricity Park proposal.

The meeting was opened up for Public question time.

Mr Davies asked if there had been any interest in the councillor vacancy; the Clerk confirmed that no interest had been received as yet however the Council cannot invite applications until Stroud District Council confirms that no election has been requested.

Mr Dave Marshall from Stroud District Council gave a presentation on the proposed planning application for the "missing mile" of canal and the background behind the project. It is planned to submit an outline planning application by 20th September, which gives time for the local planning authority to determine the application before the funding application is submitted to Heritage Lottery Fund. Ecotricity is proposing to lease the land to Cotswolds Canal Trust, on a 40 year lease. Ecotricity has agreed to the equivalent of £200,000 worth of soil removal to be placed on its land. There was a question from a member of the public as to how this will affect the flood plain; Ecotricity will have investigated the impact but the answer was not known. The Ecotricity planning application is unlikely to be decided until early 2018. The funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund will make an assumption as to the outcome of the Ecotricity planning application. There were a number of questions from the public; due to time constraints Cllr Corrie suggested that members of the public attend one of the consultation sessions (1st or 2nd September) to go into more detail of the Canal plans.

To receive a report from the District Councillors: Cllr Davies gave an update: a revised planning application has been received from Redrow for the first phase of 103 houses at West of Stonehouse. Highways England has requested a further 3 month extension on the Ecotricity planning application, which means it is very unlikely to be considered by the Development Control Committee before 2018. Stroud DC is looking to cut the workforce approx 20% over the next four years, which equates to natural attrition

Signed

- 120 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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rates. The Subscription Rooms is now up for sale and assistance is provided to community groups wishing to put in a bid. Stroud DC is progressing with plans to build 34 affordable homes (using £8 million of reserve money). Cllr Simmons asked if the area in front of the Subscription Rooms is included in the sale; not known but believe the 'piazza' is owned by Stroud Town Council.

Jo Bradford from Keep Eastington Rural addressed the meeting regarding its request for the Parish Council to arrange a public meeting in September/October to discuss the Ecotricity Park proposal, share information and hear from all views from the public. It was agreed that Keep Eastington Rural will contact the Parish Council regarding arrangements for a meeting in the autumn, following the publication of the ECN survey results.

7. Planning

7.1 The Council noted the following planning decision made by Stroud District Council for Eastington parish this month.

Application No:	Address	Details	EPC Comments	SDC Decision
S.17/0617/COU	Fromebridge Garage Fromebridge	Change of use of agricultural animal pen to car park	NO OBJECTION 08/06/17	PERMIT 29/07/17
S.17/1117/HHOLD	Pippin, Bath Road Eastington	Rear extension	NO OBJECTION 08/06/17	PERMIT 24/07/17
S.17/0983/FUL	Unit 2 Brunel Way Stonehouse	Extension to factory and office	NO OBJECTION 08/06/17	PERMIT 25/07/17
S.17/1001/FUL	Land adjacent to Gilfach Newtown	3 houses comprising 2 semi detached and 1 detached house	OBJECT with comments 08/06/17	REFUSE 27/07/17
S.17/1276/FUL	Claypits Farm Claypits, Eastington	Relocation of existing barn	NO OBJECTION 13/07/17	REFUSE 28/07/17

8 Groups / Meetings / Reports

- 8.1 Cllr Corrie gave a verbal update from the Getting Around Group; the group is meeting with Highways on 14th August. The hedges on Millend are overgrown; this has been passed onto Highways as there has been an ongoing dispute regarding responsibility of the hedge at Glebe fields.
- 8.2 The Council received a brief verbal update from the Churchyard & Burial Ground Group; the actions agreed at the last Council meeting have been implemented.
- 8.3 Cllr Corrie gave an update from the Resources Committee; the Committee met on 27th July (the draft minutes available on the website). The responsibility of grass verge cutting is to be discussed with Highways on 14th August.

9. Finance

- 9.1 The Council noted that a vacancy has arisen on the Council due to the resignation of Cllr Allen and that a notice advising of the vacancy has been displayed. Electors have until 14th August to request an election to fill the vacancy. The Council agreed that Cllr Corrie and Cllr Wells would join the Getting Around Group. Additional members for the Strategic Planning Working Group are still to be decided.
- 9.2 The Council received an update on the 2017/18 accounts including bank reconciliation.
- 9.3 The Council approved the payment of Clerk's expenses for July 2017 which will be paid with the August payroll.
- 9.4 The Council received the Clerk's timesheet for July 2017.

Signed

- 121 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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- 9.5 The Council received an update on the donated defibrillator and agreed to purchase the new battery and pads needed and use it at Churchend instead of proceeding with the purchase of the new defibrillator from British Heart Foundation. **Action: Clerk.**
- 9.6 The Council approved the purchase of new litter/recycling bin to be located outside the Co-op at a cost of £555+VAT (plus installation) and agreed the donation of the old Co-op bin to Eastington Community Orchards for installation on Spring Hill at the entrance to the orchard. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Loveridge left the meeting for the next item.

- 9.7 The Council considered quotes to clear the overgrown area of burial ground and agreed to award the contract to AL Ground Works at a cost of £500. Clerk to request a follow-up spray of herbicide to prevent re-growth. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Loveridge re-joined the meeting.

- 9.8 The Council deferred the item on considering how to respond to requests for information in other formats, eg audio, other written languages. **Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.**
- 9.9 The Council approved the draft Risk Assessment & Management document with the addition of a sentence to cover online banking on page 4.
- 9.10 The Council reviewed the following policies and agreed minor amendments:
- Absence Management
 - Dignity at Work
 - Disciplinary
 - Staff Appraisal.
- 9.11 The Council approved the accounts for payment, with the exception of Rubicon Industries as the skate park event had been postponed; the invoice will be re-presented when a new date is scheduled.

Invoice Date	Payee	Details	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	Budget
27/07/17	Salaries & Expenses	Payroll July 2017 & Expenses June 2017	£1280.04	£0	£1280.04	Parish Admin
05/08/17	Post Office Ltd	PAYE & NI payments to HMRC for July 2017	£263.86	£0	£263.86	Parish Admin
01/07/17	Eastington Village Hall	Room hire 23 rd March 2017	£10.50	£0	£10.50	Parish Admin
20/07/17	All Out Play Ltd	Safety surfacing (£1345.20) Storage bench (£414.00)	£1466.00	£293.20	£1759.20	Grant Funding
20/07/17	Came & Company	Temporary insurance cover for portable loo	£25.00	£0	£25.00	Insurance
27/07/17	Midland Forestry Ltd	Tree works at Burial Ground, Alkerton Green, Nastend Green	£1138.00	£227.60	£1365.60	C&BG / Contingency
30/07/17	Alan Loveridge	Grass cutting July 2017 (£1135)	£1135	£0	£1135	Grounds Maint
	DIRECT DEBITS:					
24/07/17	NEST	Pensions for July 2017	£107.60	£0	£107.60	Parish Admin
22/07/17	Vodafone	Parish Mobile	£41.28	£8.25	£49.53	Parish Admin
		TOTAL			£5996.33	

Signed

- 122 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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The Council also noted the following receipts:

OHMG	CCTV Donation	£3167.50
Funeral	ERB & interment	£550.00
Parishioner	Grave maintenance	£25.00

Online banking has been set-up for four councillors; the whole council to run through the process at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

10 Correspondence

- 10.1 The Council received a list of correspondence received for information.
- 10.2 The Council agreed responses on the draft Heritage Strategy for Stroud district (available online at <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/heritagestrategy>).
- 10.3 The Council agreed to join the Planning Support Service at a cost of £100 per year.

It was noted that there will be a Charlie Bullock Fund meeting prior to the next Full Council meeting.

The Planning Committee meeting on Thursday 24th August will be at 6pm. Cllr Corrie's membership of the Planning Committee was confirmed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Thursday 14th September 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 6th September 2017.

Signed

- 123 -

Date