

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

### Statement of Intent as to Community Engagement

#### **1. Aims and objectives**

Eastington Parish Council aim to work with all members and groups of the community by keeping them informed of events within the parish. Eastington aims to be an open and transparent Parish Council who listen to their electorate and try to make a difference to their community within its power and financial constraints.

#### **2. Community**

The Parish of Eastington has many voluntary organisations, a school, two Churches and many businesses, along with the parishioners which include all age groups.

#### **3. Provisions of Information to the Community**

Eastington Parish Council has a website which is regularly updated [www.eastington-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastington-pc.gov.uk) which includes local events and news and information from the Parish Council such as the minutes and agendas. The Annual Report is available at the Annual Parish Meeting and then also on the website and included with the Eastington Community News which is distributed to every household. On the notice board outside the Co-op the agendas are displayed along with any other information about consultations taking place from Stroud District Council or Gloucestershire County Council. The annual accounts will be displayed on the notice board providing opportunity for them to be viewed. The Parish Council also contribute articles to the Eastington Community News. All documents are available in different formats on request, such as large print, audio, or other written languages.

#### **4. Opportunities for Community Involvement**

At the start of each Parish Council meeting is 20 minutes for parishioners to raise any questions to the council. Each year in May Eastington holds its Annual Parish meeting which is a meeting for the electorate to have their say.

#### **5. Opportunities for formal representation to the Council**

Items for the agenda can be sent to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda. Eastington Parish Council meet on the second Thursday of the month, therefore any item to be included on the agenda must be with the Parish Clerk in writing or e-mail by the first Wednesday of the month.

#### **6. Involvement in Partnerships**

Where appropriate the Parish Council has and will continue to liaise with other various organisations such as neighbouring parishes, District and County Council, Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils, Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, Police safety teams etc.

#### **7. Role of Eastington Parish Councillors**

Parish Councillors are there to listen and represent the views of the community. Parish Councillors are provided with an official Parish Council email address which is used for all Council communications.