

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Business Meeting held on 13th January 2015 in Eastington Methodist Church.

1. **Attendance and apologies for absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie, Allen, Simmons, Cozens, Loveridge, Andrea Durn (Clerk)

2. **Staples business account**

The Chair presented the option of having a business account at Staples and the benefit to the Clerk on not having to pay for supplies and then claiming it back in expenses. Cllr Cozens also gave the advantage of being able to order online.

3. **Parish Council checklist**

The Chair went through the checklist that was presented to Council at their extraordinary meeting on 5th January 2015 and the response from the Community Centre. There were further actions to follow up by OHMG before presenting to EPC for discussion.

4. **Budgets 2015/16**

The Clerk circulated an updated budget report and the proposed budgets were discussed on a line by line basis. The Clerk advised Council on the expectations of Government to limit council tax increases by 1% but that there was no cap or requirement of a referendum if parish and town councils increased their precept by more than 1%. She also reminded Council of the increase in 2014/15 on 2013/14 budgets and the parish council statement in the ECN that the majority of that increase was for one-off budgets. The Chair reported that she wished a public meeting to be held to discuss the proposed budgets, the results of which would be reported to the next EPC meeting when Council considers the setting of the 2015/16 budget. It was noted that with the proposals suggested at the meeting the precept for 2015/16 would be £109.91 per Band D property. This was £60.65 in 2013/14 and £96.98 in 2014/15.

Action: Insurance – check costs with insurance brokers. Cllr Cozens to send details to the Clerk. Clerk to check with other parish councils.

Action: Play ground project – Cllr Loveridge to discuss with the project team the project plans for Phase 3 onwards and to ask them to attend a future EPC meeting.

Action: Renewal of grounds maintenance contracts – Chair and Cllr Cozens to work with OHMG on the filed maintenance specification.

Action: Sponsorship of dog bins – Cllr Loveridge to contact local business including shops, dog groomers, dog trainers, vets on possible sponsorship of dog bins.

5. **2015/16 Budget public meeting**

There would be a public meeting at the Village Hall on Saturday 17th January 2015 at 11am till 12 noon.

Action: The Clerk to circulate posters for the event to councillors for them to advertise the event.

Action: The Clerk to provide reports for the public.

Action: The Clerk to provide a report for Cllr Cozens for his presentation

Meeting finished: 8.55pm

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 27th January 2015. 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 Monday 19th January 2015.

Signed.....
Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date.....