

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2015 at 7.00pm in Eastington Methodist Hall

Attendance and apologies for absence: In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie, Loveridge, Simmons and Cozens and County Cllr Williams. There were seven members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllrs Allen, Edis-Bates and Evans

1. **Chairman's announcements** Cllr Bullock thanked Anita Sach for stepping in to take the minutes and working on the accounts. She apologised that the website wasn't being updated but this will be addressed soon.
2. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** Cllr Bullock declared an interest in item 7.2; Cllr Loveridge declared an interest in item 6.1.1
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the meetings of 13th January and 17th February 2015** RESOLVED to accept both sets of minutes
4. **Outstanding actions from previous meetings** The website is still being reviewed. Cllr Bullock will attend a meeting of the playground committee on 11 March. The drawings for the Newlands Homes have now been received.
5. **Changes to the order of business** None

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak.

The following points were raised by members of the public:

Residents of Middle Street were taking it upon themselves to rent machinery to clear ditches to prevent the repeat of the flooding of 2007. Council was asked if there was any funding to support them and County Cllr Williams was asked to look into this.

Mr Low, on behalf of the Community Land Trust group, asked if there was funding for road access and junction improvements to make Community Land Trusts more viable and County Cllr Williams advised the group to submit plans to Stroud Planning who would then consult Highways.

Mr Low wanted it put on record the enormous effort by Cllr Edis-Bates, Cllr Evans and Daniel James in putting together the consultation process for the examination in public for the NDP. However, he had concerns that the response to question 5 on the form indicated that the Stonehouse cluster could take 500 houses. This statement was not based on evidence and requested that the second paragraph must be removed as it could cause the village to fragment. It was reported that Cllr Edis-Bates stated he would remove this paragraph.

It was reported that several lorry loads of rubbish had been buried, without a licence, in Oliver's Orchard.

County Councillor's report Cllr Williams reported on developments with the new incinerator, funding received for flood prevention in the valleys and recruitment underway to find a new Highways stakeholder manager. She also advised that the budget proposals had gone through unchallenged and that she still had some grant money available and suggested the playground people may be interested. She also appealed to be kept informed about community issues, such as the lack of public transport.

District Councillor's report Cllr Stephens sent a report to Cllr Bullock advising of his opposition to the proposed 2-ward Severn group in the boundary review. He also reported on the Bath Road appeal where it was suggested that the applicants had been encouraged by SDC to put in the application, although SDC denied this.

6 Resolutions

6.1 Finance

- 6.1.1 **Approval of accounts for payment** A bank reconciliation for the end of January was circulated together with a statement of budget versus spend. Work was continuing to sort out the accounts. RESOLVED to accept the payments schedule.
- 6.1.2 **Proposal to pay the planning consultant, Mr Ian Stuart, a sum of £1000 a month, to cover all services provided by him** Council decided to postpone this to the next meeting to give time for Cllr Bullock to discuss with Mr Stuart the controls that should be in place to monitor the work done.
- 6.1.3 **Change bank mandate** RESOLVED to change the address for receipt of bank statements

6.2 Planning

- 6.2.1 **Report on West of Stonehouse / Local Plan** In Cllr Edis-Bates' absence Cllr Bullock read

his report (attached). Cllr Loveridge asked for it to be noted that council was offended by the first paragraph.

6.2.2 **Neighbourhood Plan:** As for 6.2.1

6.2.3 **Planning committee's recommendations for the following applications:**

S.14.2779/OUT Land North of Alkerton Road, Proposal for Doctors Surgery / Dental and up to 36 dwellings RESOLVED to delegate the response to the Planning Committee to be submitted by the end of March

S.15.0248/HHOLD Teasel Cottage, Claypits. Resubmission of application S.14/2594/HHOLD to include extension to front elevation and additional windows to first floor front elevation.

No objections

S.15.0289/COU Beech House, Westend. Change of use of land within curtilage of Beech House from agricultural to residential. Object as it is an extension into the countryside.

RESOLVED to accept the Planning Committee's recommendations

6.2.4 **Update on appeal S.14/1049/OUT Bath Road. Proposed development** Covered in public session

6.2.5 **Report on Oliver's Orchard: removal of trees in the Conservation Area** RESOLVED to write to Environmental Health with council's concerns and to ask for a site visit.

6.3 **Community Land Trust**

Recommendations of the planning consultant (discussed at 17th February meeting) The meeting took place on 18th February and Mr Stuart was happy with the discussions.

6.4 **Electoral Boundary Review**

RESOLVED to accept recommendations

6.5 **Personnel:**

6.5.1 **Advertisement for a Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer and interview panel** RESOLVED to approve the advertisement and appoint Cllrs Bullock, Loveridge and Allen to the interview panel.

6.5.2 **Appointment of Anita Sach as acting Responsible Financial Officer and support to Chairman and Vice Chairman until a new member of staff is appointed.** RESOLVED to approve appointment.

7 **Groups**

7.1 **Getting Around Group report** Cllr Corrie reported that the kerbing outside the Co-op had been completed but there were still no bike racks.

7.2 **Burial Ground Request from member of the public to plant a tree in the burial ground** RESOLVED to permit Alan Shipton to plant a tree and tend to it and a suitable site to be found. An offer was also made by Mr Low on behalf of the community orchard to suggest Mr Shipton could plant a tree there instead, as it is adjacent to the burial ground.

7.3 **Playground Project report** Cllr Loveridge reported that volunteers had planted a willow dome and edible hedges. Speedbumps had also been installed and other plans were in the pipeline. Council expressed concerns that the group had not signed the agreement yet and were taking actions without consulting the council as it is parish property.

8. **Dates for Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting.** RESOLVED to hold the Annual Meeting on 12 May and the Annual Parish Meeting on 19 May.

Any other business for the next meeting.

To ratify grant to the Eastington Allotments Society.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....