

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

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

- 1 **Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie (Vice-Chair), Allen, Simmons and Cozens. There were 7 members of the public. Also present County Councillor Williams and District Councillor Davies. Apologies were received from Cllrs Evans, Bomberg, Loveridge and Edis-Bates.
- 2 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** None.
- 3 **Chairman's announcements.** None.
- 4 **Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2015:** RESOLVED to accept the minutes of 13th October 2015.
- 5 **Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** Item 11 nomination of assets of community value is outstanding; Clerk is seeking advice from Locality on how to proceed. Item 8.5 from 9th September 2015 also outstanding.
- 6 **Changes to the order of business** None

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

Mr Elliot raised an issue with the litter bin on the public footpath outside his property being used for dog waste disposal. Mr Elliot requested a dog waste bin for this location, the Parish Council explained Stroud District Council's policy on combining waste bins and that litter bins can be used for the disposal of dog waste and the Parish Council has been asked to pay for the emptying of any parish owned dog waste bins. Mr Elliot also noted that this bin has been missed from the weekly waste collections and will let the Clerk know the waste bin number so that she can advise SDC that it is being missed. It was also suggested that an article be placed in the ECN to raise awareness of SDC's new policy.

Mr Elliot further noted that overhanging trees and brambles on the public footpath from 1 Broadfield Road to 1 Buckingham Close need regular maintenance from SDC but only do so when notified which is a slow process. The Clerk will contact Public Spaces at SDC to request this is put on the regular maintenance schedule.

Mr Elliot also queried the grass cutting contract for the Owen Harris Memorial Ground which is currently out for tender; this was clarified by the Clerk as to what has been included on the tender invite.

Mr Low stated that 5 flats are now occupied at Millend Mill and still no action from SDC Planning Department to enforce the planning conditions required prior to occupation. Clerk and District Cllr Davies were requested to follow up.

Mr Low noted that South View at Nupend has received planning permission for 6 properties which includes 3 affordable units. Mr Low offered his assistance in drafting a policy to respond to nomination rights on these affordable properties. Clerk to follow up with SDC and get back to Mr Low.

Mr Low noted that the Stroud Local Plan inspector's report has been published; Alkerton's third tier settlement status has been confirmed.

Cllr Cozens arrived.

Mr Niblett highlighted that Friday 13th November is the deadline for ECN articles.

Signed

- 32 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Mr Niblett mentioned that the two solar farm developments at Stanley Downton is due to be determined next week; he also mentioned that Severn Trent Water is planning to install a small solar farm development on their land as part of their statutory undertakings and do not need planning permission.

Mr Parry observed that pot holes had recently been filled but the contractors work very slowly. Cllr Allen will feed this back to Highways.

Mr Low requested that the Council considers budget for signposting and gates on the footpaths along the canal when it discusses the draft budget at agenda item 10.5. Cllr Corrie confirmed that an amount has been budgeted for footpaths.

County Councillor's Report Cllr Williams gave an update from the County Council. GCC is due to debate the future of Javelin Park on 11 November; £5k of Cllr Williams' Highways money has been allocated towards the village gateways for Eastington and will check if that will be received in the current budget year. Local Transport Plan is out for consultation until 5th February 2016. Cllr Williams also outlined the "We are Gloucestershire devolution bid" which is also the name of the document on their website.

District Councillor's Report Cllr Davies spoke about planning and noted that the inspector's report has been published on the Stroud Local Plan. Ecotricity is not in the Local Plan but the Plan does talk about an increase in employment land at the request of SDC last December. The District already has 19Ha of employment land, and the Ecotricity proposal should not be influenced by any employment land need. Solar Farm developments look unlikely to be granted permission at this stage. Cllr Davies will follow up the Millend Mill breach of planning conditions.

Changes to waste collections have been communicated through ECN and Stroud District newsletter.

7 Groups

- 7.1 Cllr Allen gave a verbal report from the Getting Around Group; Cllr Allen and Cllr Corrie met with residents of Orchard Leigh over concerns about speeding traffic making it difficult to cross the road. The residents feel the speed of traffic is faster since the installation of the build-out. Complaints have been received about obstructive parking blocking access to The Bungalow/Compton House; Highways has offered to paint a white "H" on the road to indicate area to keep clear but it would be at a cost of £60 of the householder.
- 7.2 Cllr Allen reported that the inspection of the closed churchyard will be carried out on Thursday 12th November.
- 7.3 The Council received a written report from the Resources Group.
- 7.4 No report from the Strategic Planning Working Group.

8 Policy and Procedures

- 8.1 The Council received the following Council Policies and RESOLVED to adopt as drafted:
 - Equality Policy
 - Community Engagement Policy
 - Training Policy

Cllr Corrie took the Chair for the next item.

- 8.2 The Council received a written report of a complaint from Cllr Evans against the Chair that the Clerk had dealt with in August 2015. Cllr Corrie stated that Cllr Evans requested this item be deferred until the next meeting so that he could present further comments to the whole council. Cllr Allen noted that this item has been discussed at length at a previous Council meeting and also at length during the Parish Councillors' Strategic Workshop in September. The Council did not agree to

Signed

- 33 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

defer the matter.

Cllr Corrie called for a vote that the complaint has been handled in line with Council policy. It was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Corrie asked whether Council wished to follow-up any aspect of the original complaint. It was unanimously agreed that the Council did not wish to follow-up any aspect of the complaint.

Cllr Bullock retook the Chair.

9 Planning

- 9.1 The Council received a written update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the Clerk gave a verbal update. The NDP Group has decided the matter of the settlement boundary and agreed to accept the boundary as per the Stroud Local Plan. The Clerk also reported that the Basic Conditions Report will be produced by a Planning Consultant at a cost of £600+VAT.
- 9.2 The Council received the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 27th October 2015.
- 9.3 The Council received the notes of the meeting held with Ecotricity on 14th October 2015.
- 9.4 The Council received the notes of the West of Stonehouse development meeting held with Stroud District Council on 26th October 2015. It was noted that there will be follow-up meetings as the plans progress.
- 9.5 Cllr Bullock gave an overview on the recent planning training attended with Cllr Bomberg on 22nd October 2015. The training was provided by Campaign to Protect Rural England and covered planning policy at all levels (European down to neighbourhood planning level). Parish Councils are encouraged to involve CPRE at early stages in relation to planning proposals impacting the parish.
- 9.6 The Council noted that the inspector's report on the Stroud Local Plan has been published and the strategic allocation at West of Stonehouse is confirmed as being in the Local Plan.

10 Finance

- 10.1 The Clerk circulated an update on 2015/16 budget versus spend, and bank reconciliation.
- 10.2 Council RESOLVED to pay the Clerk's expenses for October 2015 at £97.08 and these will be paid with the November payroll.
- 10.3 The Council approved the accounts for payment, schedule circulated prior to meeting:

Payee	Details	Chq No	Amount	Budget
Salaries & Expenses	September 2015 Expenses agreed 13/10/15 processed through Payroll plus October 2015 Salary	1676	£1333.44	Parish Admin
Post Office Ltd	PAYE & NI payments to HMRC for October 2015	1677	£267.75	Parish Admin
Alan Loveridge	Grass cutting	1678	£580.00	Ground Maintenance
Avoca PLD	NDP £885 Stroud Local Plan £240 WoS Objections Prep £210 Alkerton Road objection £60	1679	£1395.00	NDP £885 Planning £510
Severn Trent Water	Burial Ground tap	1680	£23.28	Severn Trent Water
Eastington Methodist Church	Council meeting room hire	1681	£16.25	Parish Admin
NEST	Pensions for October 2015	DD (20/10/15)	£104.75	Parish Admin
Vodafone	Parish Mobile	DD	£48.99	Parish Admin

Signed

- 34 -

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

		(20/11/15)		
		TOTAL	£3769.46	

- 10.4 The Council noted the Clerk's timesheet for October 2015 including 5 hours paid overtime.
- 10.5 The Council considered the draft budget for 2016/17 and noted that some budget headings are still work in progress. The draft budget will be further considered at the next meeting.
- 10.6 The Council noted that income of £5908.86 has been received from Cambridge Solar Farm. Councillors requested a briefing on how the Solar Farm Fund will operate prior to advertising of the grant scheme. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.7 The Council RESOLVED to donate £100 to the Citizens Advice Bureau. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.8 The Council noted that Stroud District Council has approved the Snakey Play Park proposal to receive section 106 monies totalling £53,784 from the Swallowcroft development.
- 10.9 The Council RESOLVED to purchase 3 new grit bins at a total cost of £282 to replace old grit bins. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.10 The Council agreed that Cllrs Bullock, Bomberg and Loveridge will attend the HR & Employment Law training on 21st November 2015 at a cost of £35 per attendee.
- 10.11 The Council RESOLVED to donate £100 to the Royal British Legion for the poppy appeal. **Action: Clerk.**

11 Recognition scheme for active citizens

This agenda item was requested by Cllr Bomberg to consider ideas for a scheme to show appreciation of active citizens. The Council felt it was inappropriate to single out individuals and that some volunteers may feel excluded.

12 Correspondence

- 12.1 Council received a list of correspondence received since the last meeting for information. Cllr Allen suggested that the Clerk attend the Cluster Meeting at SDC on 18th November.
- 12.2 The Council considered the letter from SDC regarding the neighbourhood warden scheme and would like to know more about the scheme. The Clerk can find out more details when she attends the Cluster meeting.
- 12.3 The Council decided against attending the Charities Showcase event on 18th November at Coleford Town Council.
- 12.4 The Council considered the request to chase up delivery of superfast broadband to Eastington parish and noted that Fastershire is aiming to deliver superfast broadband to the parish in December 2015. Up-to-date information is available on the Fastershire website.
- 12.5 The Council considered the request to extend the street trading hours of the Towbar Snacks at layby A419 to commence at 6am instead of 7.30am and had no objections.
- 12.6 The Council considered the request from Community R4C to give a presentation to the Parish Council and agreed to invite the group along to the December Parish Council meeting to give a 10 minute presentation. **Action: Clerk.**

Any other business for the next meeting.

None.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Notice: The next Full Council Meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th December 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 Monday 1st December 2015.

Signed

- 35 -

Date