

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January 2010 in the Methodist Hall, Eastington

1. **To note Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Cozens, Stephens, Frith, Simmons, Souster; Hill, and Hadley; Mary Gribble (Clerk); Katrina Naphine (RFO). No members of the public were present. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Edwards, County Councillor Tony Blackburn, and PCSO Liz Ward.
2. **Chairman's Announcements:** Chair reminded Councillors of the training arranged for 2nd February.
3. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Cllr Stephens on all planning applications as SDC Member.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting:** Proposed by Cllr Frith, seconded by Cllr Souster and carried. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Actions arising from the Minutes of the last meeting:** The list was reviewed; some actions have been delayed due to the severe weather.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** No changes were requested.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 for members of the Public to speak.

District Councillor Ken Stephens welcomed Cllr Hadley to her first meeting as Councillor.

Cllr Stephens suggested that a group be convened to study the Core Strategy documents when they are published. He has concerns that some of the alternatives presented may not meet the stated aims and objectives, and that the way that land in Eastington is referred to may lead to confusion.

Cllr Stephens advised that he has been trying to get the pavement from Swallowcroft to the shops salted, but was told that no salt was being issued.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.20

7 Resolutions

7.1 Finance

- 7.1.1 RFO advised that the accounts for payment included those for the tree maintenance and repairs to Snakey Lane. Cllr Cozens proposed approval of accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr Frith, carried. A copy of the list is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes.
- 7.1.2 Cllr Frith spoke on the receipts and payments to date. The accounts show an overspend, due to the expense associated with the sale of Fox House land. He requested the RFO hold those costs, and the loan to OHMGC, on the balance sheet as a transfer of capital.
- 7.1.3 The draft Donations Policy was discussed. Concerns were voiced that some of the requirements in the Policy were too onerous, and that provision is necessary for emergency need. Cllr Souster proposed amendments to ask that applicants for grants provide appropriate details, and to allow for requests to be considered on an exception basis outside the two scheduled times. This was seconded by Cllr Frith, and carried.

Action: Clerk to amend draft policy and issue revised document

7.2 Parish Achievements

- 7.2.1 Chair advised that he has held a meeting with RFO, and they have established the basis on which to build a plan for the future aspirations of Eastington. The process will start by looking at the achievements of groups and individuals in the parish, then go on to establish a steering group to plan the way forward. Angela Burlow has offered her assistance, and will come to the February parish council meeting to facilitate the process. Two parish meetings will be convened to which groups and individuals will be invited.
- 7.2.2 RFO agreed to finalize the meeting dates and send the invitation letters.

Action: Details of any potential invitees be forwarded to RFO.

7.3 Planning

- 7.3.1 Cllr Hill proposed that the Planning Committee's recommendations on the following planning applications be accepted:
S.09/2136/FUL. Ms Michelle Hooker, Tulip Cottage, Spring Hill. Resubmission following approved application S.09/0017/FUL - replacement dwelling (design improvements) – **Planning Committee proposed object.**

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

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S.09/2160/LBC. Saddlers Hotels, Eastington Grange Nursing Home. Internal alterations to improve layouts and facilitate disabled access. Additional bedrooms at first floor over existing structures – **Planning Committee proposed support**

Proposal seconded by Cllr Simmons and carried (Cllr Stephens abstained). Carried.

Action: Cllr Hill to seek clarification from SDC where our understanding of the planning guidelines has differed from the SDC interpretation.

7.3.2 Delegation of powers to the Planning Committee was discussed. It was agreed that delegation of power was not required.

7.4 SHLAA

7.4.1 Chair outlined the comments made at working group meeting of 24th November 2009. Matter to be returned to next agenda. A public meeting is to be held. SDC are to hold drop in sessions and a cluster meeting. Cllr Stephens clarified that the land identified under the SHLAA is not the same as the land identified in the Core Strategy. The SHLAA is an evidence-based document of achievable sites for development.

Action: Clerk to circulate the notes from the 24th November meeting. All to review the available documents prior to the meeting with SDC.

7.5 Health & Safety

7.5.1 Cllr Frith is mindful of the need to make regular updates of the risk assessment of the Burial Ground and Churchyard. Cllrs Frith and Cozens to undertake risk surveys of these areas in the next financial year.

7.5.2 Pond safety was discussed. The fencing has been installed. The gate in the fence has a catch on the back, high up. It was agreed that warning signage would benefit. Chair proposed that notices be fixed on the gate and stiles into the allotments field: "Children should be supervised at all times", and a further notice by the pond "Danger of drowning, deep water". Carried with two abstentions (Cllrs Souster and Cozens).
[Public Health Act 1936, ss260]

8 Updates

8.1.1 The following planning approvals were noted:

S.09/1431/FUL GTB Homes, Merridale, Bath Road. Erection detached house and garage (retrospective application to regularise previous planning permission S.08/2379/FUL)

S.09/1458/COU William Morris House, Chipmans Platt. Change of use from C3 to C2. Alterations and extensions for student and care staff accommodation.

S.09/1822/LBC and S.09/1821/HHOLD Mr & Mrs Charlie-Della Nevill, 3 The Cross, Alkerton. Erection of a conservatory.

S.09/1828/FUL Mr A Cozens, Alkerton Green Farm. Erection of agricultural building. Existing building to be demolished (revised plans)

S.09/1861/HHOLD Mr R Owen, St Agnes, Spring Hill. Erection of a rear two storey extension.

8.1.2 Refusal of planning permission noted:

S.09/1488/FUL Saddlers Hotels Ltd, Eastington Grange Nursing Home. External alterations to incorporate platform lift. Erection of first floor extension.

Any other business

Cllr Stephens requested that this council thanks the Branch Members of the Royal British Legion for their work and support. The annual Remembrance Service will continue, but some other Branch activities will cease.

Cllr Souster noted that the bus stop opposite the Victoria has been vandalised. Chair confirmed this is parish council property, and that there is funding in the budget for bus shelters.

Cllr Souster asked about the felling of the large oak tree at Churchend.

Action: Clerk to obtain details from SDC

Cllr Hill advised that a speed board indicator has been made available by GCC

Signed

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Chair was pleased to report that the year on year crime figures are down, and that the police have put a questionnaire in ECN.

The weight of business in February was discussed. It was agreed to hold a planning meeting before the training session on 2nd February at 6:45.

Chair announced, with regret, that Katrina Napthine has decided to step down at the end of this financial year. A job description has been prepared, and a job advertisement placed in ECN.

The meeting closed at 9:10

Notice: The next full meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th February 2010. 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 Wednesday 3th February 2010. An additional planning meeting will be held on 2nd February 2010.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date