

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th August 2010 in the Methodist Hall, Eastington

1. **To note Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Stephens, Simmons, Hill, and Edwards; Mary Gribble (Clerk); Robert Powell (RFO). There were no members of the public present. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Souster and County Councillor Tony Blackburn.
2. **Chairman's announcements:** Chair announced that he had, with great regret, accepted Sandra Hadley's resignation. Her resignation is due to family circumstances beyond her control. A vote of thanks was proposed to Sandra Hadley from the whole Council.
3. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** Cllr Stephens on all planning matters as an SDC Member, and also on Item 7.3.2.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting** was proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Cllr Stephens and carried unanimously. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Outstanding actions from previous meetings** were reviewed. It was acknowledged that, due to lack of resource, some of the actions will not be reached.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** None required.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Speaking as District Councillor Ken Stephens reported: No news from SDC following the demise of the RSS; he has attended Sheltered Housing Review Meetings; he continues to help parishioners in several areas of concern.

7 Resolutions

7.1 Finance

- 7.1.1 RFO circulated a report (copy attached to the signed copy of these Minutes) detailing the expenditure since 1.4.10. It identifies which budgets have not been used yet this financial year. For those budgets which have been used, the expenditure and balance available is shown. It was noted £600 remains in the budget for a noticeboard as a resident constructed a noticeboard at lower cost than anticipated. The professional representation fund was discussed. Cllr Stephens explained that this fund exists to enable this Council to pay for professional planning expertise on planning issues.
- 7.1.2 Approval of the accounts for payment (schedule distributed prior to the meeting) was proposed by Cllr Stephens, seconded by Cllr Simmons and carried unanimously. A copy of the list of cheques for payment is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes.
- 7.1.3 Chair proposed this Council writes to OHMGC to remind that the repayment of the £4000 interest-free loan is due at the end of 2010. Carried unanimously.
Action: Cllr Hill to speak to Mark Cousins. Clerk to draft the letter.

7.2 Planning

- 7.2.1 Cllr Simmons proposed: 'no comment' for the application S.10/1352/TCA 4a Springhill. Works to lime tree in a Conservation Area; and support for the application S.10/1496/TCA Cleeve Cottage. Lift hawthorn and ash branches. Light pruning to Cherry branches and to Yew tree. Seconded by Cllr Edwards and carried unanimously. It was noted that the application for development at Sage House has been withdrawn.

7.3 Road and Transport

- 7.3.1 Chair reported that he had received three complaints about the danger to pedestrians from the restricted width of the pavement along Bath Road (from the garage to Middle Street). The usable width has been reduced by encroaching vegetation.
Action: Clerk to write to GCC to ask that the pavement be widened to enable pedestrians to walk in safety.
The crack in the pavement at Budding Road has been reported to Highways by Clerk.
It was noted that residents have requested a 20mph speed limit in Middle Street. Cllr Blackburn has indicated he is willing to support this.
Action: Roads and Transport priorities list to be updated with these issues
- 7.3.2 There was discussion on the proposed signs for 'Farm Entrance' in respect of Middle Hall Farm. These are sought because very long HGVs often take the wrong route and get stuck in narrow Middle Street by day and middle of night. The proposed sites are in Bath Road at the farm entrance, and at the junction of Bath Road and Middle Street. The council agreed verbal (not financial) support.

7.4 Owen Harris Memorial Ground

- 7.4.1 Item to consider the quotes for tar filling of cracks along Snakey Lane deferred as quotes not before the Council.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

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7.5 To consider pension provision for the Clerk

7.5.1 Cllr Hill explained the LGA option, and current state and potential liability of that scheme if it is revalued such that the employer's contribution may rise above the current level of 20.4%. An alternative option could be a contribution to a private pension scheme with EPC paying a defined amount per year. Chair proposed £1000 to be paid into a personal pension of the Clerk's choice, for the year 2010-11. To be reviewed annually. Carried unanimously.

7.6 Footpaths

7.6.1 Cllr Edwards indicated the proposed sites for the 4 kissing gates on a map (EEA6, EEA72 x2, EEA44). These are either side of the Kings Head and at Millend. Cllr Edwards proposed the installation of the gates at the proposed locations, subject to permission from the landowners. Seconded by Chair and carried. Chair congratulated Cllr Edwards on this achievement.

7.7 Waste reduction campaign

7.7.1 The ways in which this council could support this campaign were discussed. The following were suggested:

- Better signage for the recycling facility at the Kings Head
- Encouragement through the Eastington Community News
- A presentation at the Fete

Action: Chair to look into possibility of a presentation at the Fete.

Action: Clerk to request improved signage at Kings Head

7.8 Vibrant Village Award

7.8.1 A quote of £167 has been secured, by Cllr Edwards, for 3 'Vibrant Village' signs size 800 x 200mm to fit a standard lamppost. Logo, colour and typeface to be agreed. It was agreed this is a good price. Cllr Stephens proposed that this quote be accepted, Cllrs Edwards and Niblett be delegated authority to decide the wording. Seconded by Cllr Hill and carried. (POWB?)

7.8.2 It was agreed that Councillors who will be present at the Fete will wear name badges to identify themselves as Councillors, and ask a series of structured questions for the Parish Plan. A more detailed sheet of questions will also be available.

7.9 The 'First Birthday Fete'

7.9.1 Cllr Stephens proposed that authority be delegated to a sub group of any three councillors to spend up to £400 on costs associated with the promotion of the parish plan at the Fete. Seconded by Cllr Edwards, carried unanimously. (LGA 1972 s.111)

7.9.2 Cllrs Edwards, Stephens, Simmons and Hill agreed to take part in inter-organisation quiz at the Fete.

8. Updates

8.1 Noted; planning permissions granted:

S.10/0754/FUL, Alkerton Green Farm. Construction of dirty water lagoon and enlargement of slurry lagoon.

S.10/0788/HHOLD, Jacame, Bath Road. Demolition of existing garage, utility room and outbuildings.

Erection of single storey extension, garage, studio and conservatory.

S.10/0862/COU, John Stayte Services. Variation of condition 3 of permission S.08/1167/COU.

S.10/0944/HHOLD, Vine Cottage, Nupend. Erection of single storey extensions to front and side of dwelling.

S.10/1027/HHOLD Frome Cottage, Millend. Demolition of existing utility room and erection of new utility room and sun room.

Any other business

The spate of anti-social behaviour in the village was discussed. Chair asked that any personal experience of, or hearsay reports of such problems be passed to him. A list of the problems to be obtained from PCSOs.

The meeting closed at 9:10

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14th September 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 8th September 2010.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date