

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th November 2010 in the School Hall, Eastington

1. **To note Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Stephens (arrived 8pm), Simmons, Hill, Souster, Bullock and Rank-Broadley; County Cllr Tony Blackburn; Mary Gribble (Clerk); Robert Powell (RFO); and one member of the public (Ken Nicholls). Apologies were accepted from Cllr Edwards and PCSO Ward. Apologies for lateness due to another meeting were accepted from Cllr Stephens.
2. **Chairman's Announcements:** None
3. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Cllr Stephens declared an interest on all planning matters as SDC Member. Cllr Rank Broadley declared an interest on Item 7.4 (sponsor of Prof Connett).
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** Proposed by Cllr Bullock, seconded by Cllr Simmons and carried. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Actions arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting:** The interim audit will be arranged as soon as possible.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** Item 7.3 to be brought forward.

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

County Councillor Blackburn spoke on several issues:

- Business at GCC is overshadowed by the economies which will shortly be announced;
- Javelin Park: the PFI has been withdrawn, and the choice between the remaining 2 bidders has been postponed. There has been no final decision regarding the solution – it may still be biological or combustion;
- Bath Road: The road traffic order is in process. A crossing at Orchard Leigh is being pursued;
- The complaint by William Morris House regarding speeding has been acknowledge by Highways;
- Input to the sub-committee to review the guidelines on speed limit setting needs to be made by 29/11/10.

Chair thanked Cllr Blackburn for his work on behalf of this parish, and for keeping in touch.

Ken Nicholls handed a letter to Clerk regarding the registration of Sophy's Pitch. Ken also brought up safety and security concerns following the turning off of street lights.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:35.

7 Resolutions

7.3 Roads and Transport

- 7.3.1 There was a discussion on road safety issues in Eastington, including the high proportion of through traffic; that the school and William Morris House are not protected by the 30mph limit; parking issues at the school; other 'vulnerable spots' (Orchard Leigh and Playgroup) that need protection; variable road and pavement 'safety space'.

Cllr Hill proposed that Cllr Souster be empowered to draft a response to Andrea Clarke at the Environment Scrutiny Committee (Speed Limits Sub-committee). This response to be sent by Clerk (by 29/11/10). Proposal seconded by Chair and carried.

Action: Cllr Souster to draft response and forward to Clerk.

- 7.3.2 Chair proposed that this council supports William Morris House's for request for speed reduction Chipmans Platt. Carried.

7.1 Finance

- 7.1.1 RFO gave an update of the accounts. A copy of the report and spreadsheet is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes. There is currently £27,226.52 in the bank accounts. The payment to the Public Works Loan Board, and the cheques to be signed this evening will leave just under £15,000 to spend this financial year. Cllr Souster thanked RFO for clarifying the issue of reserves. He commented that there should be a note regarding the £4000 loan to OHMGC to confirm that this is in the reserves.

- 7.1.2 Chair referred to the special meeting of 2/11/10 at which the spending proposals and priorities had been discussed in detail. The Precept increase needed to undertake all the projects tabled would be 14%, which was felt to be unsustainable in the current economic climate. The suggested Precept figure was arrived after due consideration, being one that enables this council to meet its obligations and is a figure that the council feels collectively comfortable with.

Cllr Hill proposed that this parish set the Precept for 2011-12, as recommend by the special meeting of 2/11/10, at £32,830. Seconded by Cllr Rank-Broadley and carried unanimously.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

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7.1.3 The proposed spending priorities for 2011-12 were reviewed. It was agreed that office equipment should not be needed before the end of this financial year. It was also agreed that the funding for Nastend Conservation Area would be taken out of the budget. RFO confirmed that there would be almost £10,000 surplus this year, resulting in about £23,000 to be carried forward into next financial year (includes the parish plan funding and the £4000 loan to OHMGC).

Cllr Souster proposed that the funding priorities be brought back to the agenda in March 2011, and again in September 2011. Seconded by Cllr Hill and carried.

7.1.4 The list of accounts for payment had been previously circulated to Councillors. RFO confirmed that the cheques for signature were for a GAPTC training event for Clerk, the grass cutting invoice, the water rates (burial ground stand pipe), Clerk and RFO salaries and expenses, and mowing of the sports field at OHMG. Cllr Stephens proposed approval of the accounts for payment, seconded by Cllr Souster and carried. A copy of the accounts for payment schedule is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes.

7.1.5 The grant making policy was reviewed. It was noted that the power under which grants are made is now the Power of Wellbeing. Chair proposed that the consideration of grants be aligned with the review of the spending priorities in March and September. Carried unanimously.

Action: Clerk to make the amendments to the Donations Policy and circulate to Councillors

7.2 Planning

7.2.1 S.10/2013/HHOLD. 3 Hillview Cottages, Middle Street. Two storey extension to dwelling (resubmission following withdrawn application S.10/1677/HHOLD).

Cllr Hill proposed that whilst EPC is not against the principle of an extension we do not believe this proposal is suitable, object on grounds of not meeting HN16 and GE1. Seconded by Cllr Simmons and carried.

S.10/2015/DISCON. 9 Bath Road. Discharge of conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 from appeal decision S.08/0634/FUL.

Cllr Hill proposed that EPC remains opposed to this development on the basis of overcrowding a site in a rural environment. Additionally, it is noted that at present there is no mechanism to discharge conditions 1, 4, 5 and hence 6 and 7 until the land for access is in the ownership of 9 Bath Road. Seconded by Cllr Simmons and carried.

7.2.2 Proposed changes to the scheme of delegation

Chair proposed that powers be delegated to Cllrs Hill and Stephens to make a response on behalf of EPC. Carried.

Action: Response to be drafted and sent before 2pm on 11/11/10

7.4 Javelin Park

7.4.1 Cllr Rank-Broadley reported that the withdrawal of the PFI has left this project in limbo. Alternatives for waste disposal including landfill, waste reduction, and biological solutions are all still possible in the County. Interest has been shown by commercial concerns. EPC awaits further decisions by GCC.

7.5 Nastend Conservation Area

7.5.1 Cllr Rank-Broadley reported that he has met Keep Eastington Rural representatives and reviewed the situation. A letter has been sent to English Heritage, a response is awaited.

7.6 Youth Strategy

7.6.1 Cllr Bullock agreed to investigate the options and cost implications of the recent requests from Young Gloucestershire and Play Rangers regarding the provision of youth facilities in the parish.

8. Updates

8.1 The following planning decisions made by Stroud District Council were noted:

S.10/1624/HHOLD. Vine Cottage, Nupend. Erection of single storey extensions (resubmission following permission S.10/0944/HHOLD). Refusal.

S.10/1677/HHOLD. 3 Hillview Cottages, Middle Street. Erection of two storey extension to dwelling. Withdrawn.

S.10/1678/HHOLD. Bottom Cottage, Middle Street. Erection of detached garage. Permission.

S.10/1701/VAR. Land At, Alkerton Grange Cottages, Alkerton. Erection of two dwellings. Replacement of extant permission S.07/1719/FUL. Permission.

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S.10/1763/LBC. Westend Farm, Grove Lane, Westend. Internal and external alterations associated with change of use of barns to B1 office and light industrial use. Consent.

S.10/1424/MINAM. Land At Alkerton Farm, Bath Road, Eastington. Minor amendment to S.10/0151/FUL to change the alignment of the boundaries and houses. Approval.

S.10/1811/HHOLD. Holmlea, Claypits Lane, Eastington. Erection of extension. Permission.

S.10/1860/HHOLD. 10 Swallowcroft, Eastington. Erection of conservatory. Permission.

S.10/1864/HHOLD. Beacon View, Claypits Lane. Alterations to dwelling to include raising the roof by 1.5m and insertion of rooflights (revised plans received 05/10/10). Permission.

8.3 Community Orchard Project update

The inaugural meeting of this Project is on 25th November, Cllrs Simmons and Niblett will attend. The possibility of planting orchards on village greens is to be investigated. Matter to be returned to future agenda.

Any other business

Cllr Stephens advised that a report on the Alternative Core Strategy Consultation would be made in December.

The future of the Kings Head was discussed. Cllr Souster agreed to write to Punch Taverns to establish their intentions regarding the Kings Head.

Action: Cllr Souster to write to Punch Taverns

Cllr Hill advised that he is attending a site meeting tomorrow regarding the viability of the proposed car park surface at the Community Centre. Cllr Bullock agreed to attend also.

Alternative dates for Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service consultation into appliance location have been given to Clerk, these to be circulated to councillors.

Chair read the report prepared by PCSO Ward, which included notification of 2 van break-ins in Swallowcroft and 3 incidents of anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Stephens advised that Chris Acock, Neighbourhood Warden, is working with residents on several problems. Cllr Bullock offered to collate reports of problems and issues.

The meeting closed at 9:40

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

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date