

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2010 in the School Hall, Eastington

1. **Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Cozens, Stephens (arrived 8:15), Simmons, Edwards, Souster (arrived 8:30), Mary Gribble (Clerk); Robert Powell (RFO); two members of the staff of Eastington school and three pupils; and two members of the public. Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Hill, Bullock and Rank-Broadley, County Cllr Tony Blackburn and PCSO Ward. Apologies for lateness due to another meeting were accepted from Cllr Stephens.
2. **Chairman's Announcements:** Chair thanked Malcolm Strang for providing the venue and hospitality.
3. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Cllr Stephens declared an interest on all planning matters as SDC Member. Chair declared an interest on Item 7.2.1 S.10/2291/HHOLD (near neighbour).
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** Proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Chair and carried. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Actions arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting:** Speeding issues will be on the January agenda.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** Item 7.3 to be brought forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 for members of the Public to speak.

Presentation by Eastington School Council:

Annie, Kate and Ted each spoke on behalf of the School Council, outlining the school's history, traditions, awards, and after-school activities. This was accompanied by a visual presentation created by the School Council members. The School Council stated their wish to help make Eastington a better place to live. They offered to help the Parish Council, and suggested they might undertake a village survey, a road safety project or eco-project. They invited a member of EPC to a School Council Meeting.

Chair warmly thanked the children for their excellent presentation; he was joined in his thanks by all Councillors present. He assured the children that the parish council is actively looking into issues affecting them, and that their offer of help with a village survey is timely and appreciated.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:25

7 Resolutions

7.3 Community Orchard Project

- 7.3.1 Chair summed up the report prepared by Tom Low. The full report will be circulated to all Councillors. The financing of the project may be assisted by the recent award of \$1000 to Chair in recognition of his voluntary work in the community. Chair advised that the first meeting of the Orchard Group had taken place – there is a great deal of interest in this project and many volunteers. The Community Orchard Project will be part of the Parish Plan.
- 7.3.3 Chair confirmed that he had spoken to the Licensee of the Grass Keep, who believes the Community Orchard to be a good idea. He has no problems in relinquishing the Licence, providing EPC lets him know before the end of the financial year.
- 7.3.4 The safeguarding of the burial ground use for the future was discussed. It was agreed that although the land is designated for burials, it may be feasible to use it for orchards on a temporary basis
- 7.3.5 The possible layout and planting was discussed. Tom Low's suggestion is for 'zoned' areas, including soft fruit near the current burial plots which could easily be removed when the land is required for burials. In the furthest zone would be trees, gradually increasing in scale. Cllr Simmons suggested that if espaliers were used these would look like a fence and could possibly be left in situ to divide up the burial plots.
- 7.3.2 Chair proposed that EPC approves the use of the land north of the Burial Ground a Community Orchard in principle, subject to checking the legal position regarding the original conveyancing of the land to EPC, and liaison with the PCC.
Action: Clerk to check legal position regarding the use of the land conveyed to the Parish Council as burial land
Action: Cllr Simmons to advise when the next PCC meeting is and arrange for this matter to be brought before the PCC.
- 7.3.6 Chair confirmed that a new land opportunity has arisen in the centre of the village. The developers indicate that the land behind the housing development at the Kings Head may be offered for community project use. The meeting agreed this opportunity should be investigated further.
Action: Chair to discuss this matter further with Guy Woodisse of Bayhill Property Developments.

Signed
Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2010 in the School Hall, Eastington

7.1 Finance

7.1.1 RFO circulated a hard copy of the finance report (copy attached to the signed copy of these Minutes). There is £29,207 in the accounts. RFO believes EPC is well-placed to increase its reserves this financial year. The monies banked detailed on the report include £2000 in part repayment of the loan to OHMGC.

RFO is in process of updating the mandate for cheque signatories.

The school has not invoiced EPC for the use of the school hall for the three parish council meetings, a donation to the school to be proposed if they do not invoice.

Action: RFO to establish whether the school intend to invoice.

Cllr Edwards commended RFO for producing a easily understood financial report.

7.1.2 RFO presented the accounts for payment, 5 cheques, a copy of list of cheques attached to the signed copy of these Minutes. He advised that the cheque for Alan Loveridge is for emptying the bins at the burial ground.

7.1.3 The new damage to the bus shelter highlights the problem of vandalism in the village. The issue to be laid out in the Eastington Community News, and the community to be asked for their help in preventing vandalism.

Action: Clerk to obtain quote for repairs to the bus shelter.

7.2 Planning

7.2.1 S.10/1873/CPE. 1 New Cottages, Nupend. Condition C of Planning Permission G.3787 dated 12.11.62 is no longer relevant or applicable.

The planning committee recommend 'no comment' on this application

S.10/2070/FUL. Land to Rear of Kings Head Inn. Erection of 7 affordable dwellings

The planning committee recommend support for this application

S.10/2217/HHOLD. Hill View, Bath Rd. Loft conversion and alterations

The planning committee recommend support for this application

S.10/2291/HHOLD. Sage House, Middle Street. Demolish single storey garden store and extension and refurbishment to outbuilding to provide staircase access (resubmission following withdrawn application S.10/0920/HHOLD)

The planning committee recommend support for this application

The recommendations for the four applications listed above were proposed by Cllr Simmons and seconded by Cllr Cozens. Carried.

7.4 The Future of Pubs in Eastington

7.4.1 It was agreed that the news that the Kings Head is up for sale is alarming, as Eastington could potentially lose both pubs.

Chair proposed that a small working group be set up to look into the options for community use of the pubs. Carried. Cllrs Simmons, Stephens, Clerk and RFO to join this group.

7.5 Recycling facilities

7.5.1 The current proposal is to re-site the existing facilities at the front of the Kings Head, to the eastern side of the site.

7.5.2 Cllr Cozens advised that he has sought the views of the OHMGC, who are not happy with the suggestion of relocating the recycling bins to Snakey Lane. It is feared that as the site is open and windswept, litter will be blown about. There are also issues with site security. It was agreed that the current site at the Kings Head is a central location, and more likely to be used. Cllr Souster spoke against using the front of the Kings Head as the bins will be unsightly, and suggested that instead SDC step up their kerbside collections.

Chair proposed that EPC accepts the re-siting as proposed in S.10/2070/FUL. Seconded by Cllr Cozens. Carried. Cllr Souster voted against, and Cllr Stephens abstained.

7.6 Consultations

Chair asked Councillors to consider making response to the following consultations, but noted it was not feasible to spend time in council meetings formulating an EPC response.

Consultations: Corporate Strategy and 2011/2012 Budget Consultation; The Local Government Boundary Commission for England; Meeting the Challenge Consultations on Transport; Consultation on the Coordinated Admission Arrangements for Gloucestershire County Council for the Academic Year 2012/2013; The Future of the Library Service

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2010 in the School Hall, Eastington

7.7 Environment

- 7.7.1 Excessive lighting of the Stroudwater Industrial Estate: Cllr Stephens advised that the lighting was subject to planning consent. To be returned to future agenda.
- 7.7.2 Excessive litter at the Oldbury roundabout: It is not clear if this problem has worsened recently, and monitoring was suggested. EPC has previously written to the site owners regarding this issue, another letter could be sent. Matter to be returned to a future agenda.

8. Updates

- 8.1 Noted planning decisions made by Stroud District Council:

Planning Permission granted:

Westend Barns, Westend Farm, Grove Lane. S.10/1762/COU - Change of use of barns to B1 office and light industrial use. (Permission previously granted for 4 holiday lets under S.06/2787/COU)

Meadow Cottage, Millend Lane. S.10/1958/TCA - Work on Yew Tree, 10% reduction, small cherry tree to fell and remove

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

Planning application withdrawn:

Victoria Inn, Alkerton Road. S.10/1572/COU - Change of use from a public house to an office

Planning permission refused:

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

- 8.2 **Oliver's Orchard:** Clerk advised that an update has been requested from Chris Sly, the Enforcement Officer at SDC, but it has not yet been received. Cllr Stephens added that he understands that SDC's Tree Officer is happy with the removal of the trees, as they were dead trees and new trees have been planted in replacement. Cllr Stephens further understands that Chris Sly is currently investigating whether the container on site is in breach of planning controls.
- 8.3 **Nastend Conservation Area:** Update deferred to a future meeting.

Any other business

Cllr Stephens requested that a group be formed to meet and analyse the letter from SDC regarding the new Scheme of Delegation, together with the Minutes from the meeting at which the Scheme of Delegation was agreed.

Action: Cllr Simmons to arrange this meeting early in the New Year.

Cllr Stephens reported on a recent meeting he attended at which Geoff Sallis of Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service had presented plans to change the road rescue response. Cllr Stephens is concerned that the plans may pose a life risk if the casualties do not receive the fastest possible medical assistance.

Action: Clerk to clarify the proposed rescue response with GFRS.

The meeting closed at 9pm

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 11th January 2011. 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 5th January 2011.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date