

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June 2011 in Eastington Community Centre

1. **To note Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Souster, Hill, Bullock, Stephens, and Edwards; Mary Gribble (Clerk); Robert Powell (RFO); One member of the public was present (Tom Low). Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Cozens and Simmons.
2. **Chairman's Announcements:** Chair announced with regret that he had accepted the resignation of Ian Rank-Broadley.
3. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Cllr Stephens on all planning matters as an SDC Member.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of 10th May and 17th May were proposed by Cllr Souster and seconded by Chair. Carried. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Actions arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting:** Cllr Souster has completed a survey of potholes in the parish.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** None requested.

The meeting was adjourned 7:10 for members of the public to speak. There were no comments from the public.

Reporting as District Councillor, Ken Stephens apologised for missing recent meetings due to District Council business. He commented that the demise of the RSS and the impending Localism Bill make the next round of planning strategy consultation very important for Eastington.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:15

7 Resolutions

7.1 Proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act

There was discussion of the proposal, by Leiston Town Council, to require applicants of major developments to attend a meeting of the local Town or Parish Council, or of a duly called Town Meeting, to answer questions on the application for development; and fund the council or duly called town meeting to commission an independent report on the application and critique of any reports that the applicant has submitted in support of the application for development.

Chair proposed that EPC supports this proposal. Carried, with one abstention.

7.2 Eastington Community Orchard (ECO)

Tom Low presented the tenancy agreement, a copy of which had been circulated prior to the meeting to enable Councillors to review the document. It was noted that it is closely based on the allotment tenancy agreement, but with a provision to re-assess the boundary every ten years.

Cllr Bullock proposed that EPC accepts and signs the Tenancy Agreement between Eastington Parish Council and ECO Group. Seconded by Cllr Souster and carried with one abstention. The Agreement was signed by Chair and Tom Low, witnessed by Clerk. Chair thanked Mr Low for his work in bringing this project together, commenting that there is a high level of support in the village, and that the School are involved.

7.3 Finance

7.3.1 RFO advised that after today's cheques there is £34,345 in the accounts and that £8,770 has been spent to date this year. The statement (circulated prior to the meeting, copy attached to the signed copy of these Minutes) shows the budget and spending broken down under the same headings as in the previous financial year. The grounds maintenance budgets will be amalgamated for the next report. The only income is £70 from the burial ground.

7.3.2 The report from the internal auditor was circulated. It was noted that the auditor confirmed that EPC's internal control objectives are achieved to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the council. RFO read through the report in detail, and during this process several actions were agreed.

Cllr Stephens proposed that EPC accepts this report, and authorises the actions required in line with the internal auditor's comments. Seconded by Cllr Hill and carried unanimously.

The following actions are agreed:

- The direct debit payments to the PWLB will be shown on the 'accounts for payment list' and minuted;
- The asset register will be circulated and scheduled for review;
- The Charlie Bullock Fund's accounts to be completely separated from those of EPC;
- An interim audit will be arranged for February 2012.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

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- 7.3.3 The Playgroup's application for a grant was discussed.
Action: RFO to look at Playgroup's accounts to enable an understanding of its financial situation.
- 7.3.4 Approval of renewal of annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks and Gloucestershire Rural Communities Council was proposed by Chair and carried. [LGA 1972 s.143].
- 7.3.5 RFO presented the accounts for payment. There are two accounts over £500. £750 to Alan Loveridge for grass cutting and installation of kissing gates; £724.30 to TW Hawkins for mowing at the OHMG. Approval of the accounts for payment was proposed by Cllr Stephens, seconded by Cllr Hill and carried. A list of the cheques is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes.
- 7.4 **Planning**
The planning committee's recommendation for the following applications had been circulated prior to the meeting:
S.11/0161/FUL. Land Adjacent to South View. Old Bristol Road, Newtown. Construction of 13 houses with associated parking. (OBJECT)
S.11/0890/HHOLD. The Nestings, Nupend. Installation of solar panels on roofs of outbuildings within the curtilage of a grade 2 listed building. (SUPPORT)
S.11/1000/TCA. Meadow Cottage, Millend. Reduce pollard sycamore tree and lift lower branches on ash tree. (SUPPORT)
S.11/1039/FUL. William Morris House Camphill Community. Proposed temporary compacted gravel carpark for 16 cars and cycle track for student use. (SUPPORT)
S.11/1042/FUL. William Morris House Camphill Community. Single storey extension to existing office and reception. (SUPPORT)
Cllr Hill proposed these recommendations be accepted. Seconded by Cllr Souster and carried, with one abstention.
- 7.5 **Roads and Transport**
The request for provision of disabled parking provision at the Co-op was discussed. It was agreed that parking was a problem at peak times, and that adequate provision of disabled parking is desirable. Cllr Souster proposed that EPC engages with the appropriate authorities to investigate the provision of disabled 'Blue Badge' parking as close to the Co-op as possible. Seconded by Cllr Stephens and carried, with one vote against (Cllr Hill).
There was further discussion about parking at the Co-op, and a suggestion was made that the removal of the crossing by Eastington Mews would free up more parking spaces.
- 7.6 **Consultations**
Response to the consultations on Travellers and the relaxation of planning rules was discussed. It was agreed that there was not sufficient capacity to engage in these consultations.
8. **Updates**
- 8.1 Noted planning permissions granted:
S.11/0159/FUL Eastington Court, Spring Hill, Eastington. Combining Snowdrop and Primrose Cottages to form a single dwelling house, including adding a second dormer window, and construction of a replacement dwelling on the site of the existing stables.
S.11/0607/HHOLD The Elms, Middle Street, Eastington. Erection of extension above existing ground floor. Demolition of existing porch and erection of new porch/bay window to allow extension of lounge area.
S.11/0219/FUL Oliver's Orchard, Millend Lane. Retention of existing covered storage area with storage container, construction of access and turning circle and erection of poly tunnel.
S.11/0723/TCA Manor Cottage, Spring Hill. Felling of Eucalyptus tree on the rear left boundary, felling of small Ash tree next to stream and removal of stem growing around main stem on Alder tree.

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Any other business:

Cllr Stephens has been told that this year's planting of oil seed rape has affected the health of residents of the Broadfield Road unit. Residents have requested that oil seed rape to be planted as far away as possible from habitation. Cllr Stephens agreed to define the problem in more detail and obtain medical opinion. Matter to be returned to the next agenda.

Erosion of Alkerton Green: Cllr Stephens raised this matter, and will keep a record of the issues. To be returned to a future agenda.

Cllr Bullock advised that a report had been made to the police regarding youths camping and lighting a fire in Cotswold Avenue. There has been no response yet from the police. Clerk to follow up.

The achievements of the new Youth Group were discussed. It was agreed that recognition was due. To be returned to the next agenda.

Chair confirmed that the deadline for the next ECN is 1st July. Cllrs Simmons and Souster are due to submit articles.

Chair confirmed that Clare Watkins is leading on the parish plan. Clerk has offered to assist, and could spend up to 10 hours a week on this until completion. This received the support of the councillors. To be returned to the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 8:50pm

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 12th July 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 6th July 2011.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date