

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June 2012 in Eastington Methodist Church

1. **To note Attendance and Apologies for Absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Niblett (Chair), Allen, Bullock, Cozens, Edwards, Greenaway and Simmons; District Councillor Stephens (arrived 8:30); Mary Gribble (Clerk); Robert Powell (RFO). One member of the public was present. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Evans and Edis-Bates. Apologies were also sent by County Councillor Blackburn, PCSO Ward and Phil Drew (Neighbourhood Warden).
2. **Chairman's Announcements:** Chair gave congratulations to:
 - the organisers of the Eastington Jubilee celebrations – a very successful day
 - Cllr Bullock on her nomination to attend the Lord Lieutenant's Jubilee reception
 - Moreton Valence Parish Council on its establishmentChair also remarked that he had been honoured to represent the Parish Council at the recent school Jubilee Street Party and to present the school children with commemorative bookmarks purchased by the school.
Action: Clerk to write to congratulate the organisers of the Eastington Jubilee celebrations and Moreton Valence PC.
3. **Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:** Cllr Edwards on Item 7.2.1.
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting:** Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Cllr Greenaway, seconded by Cllr Edwards and carried. The Minutes were signed as a fair record.
5. **Actions arising from the Minutes of the last Meeting:** RFO was added to the action to review the insurance. RFO confirmed that he was getting the information ready.
6. **To consider changes to the order of business:** None were requested.

The meeting may was adjourned at 7:12 for members of the Public to speak.

Chair read a report from County Councillor Tony Blackburn:

- Orchard Leigh: The residents have approved Highways' plan for a "build out" to slow traffic where the residents cross the Bath Road.
- The report of the Springhill accident is awaited.
- Javelin Park: There is still time for objections or comments. The Waste Strategy inquiry result is pending, the planning committee hearing is likely to be in the autumn.

There being no further public comments, the meeting was reconvened at 7:20

7 Resolutions

7.1 Finance

- 7.1.1 RFO referred to his report for the financial year 2011-12 which was circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that the expenditure for 2011-12 was £27,000 against £22,500 the previous year. The reasons for the variations are detailed in the report. Income was down by £1500. RFO confirmed that the accounts received an internal audit today. The internal auditor commented that the reserves were a little high, bearing in mind the current economic climate. RFO answered a question about the GAPTC fees. There were no further comments or questions on the accounts, and all councillors confirmed that they were satisfied with the accounts. Cllr Cozens proposed the 2011-12 accounts be accepted and signed off. Seconded by Cllr Greenaway and carried unanimously. The accounts were duly signed.
Action: RFO to circulate the internal auditor's report.
- 7.1.2 RFO gave an update of the 2012-13 accounts. A copy of his report is attached to the signed copy of these Minutes. After today's cheques, £43,430 remains in the accounts. Spend to date is £7164, mostly on grass-cutting, salaries and loan repayments.
Action: RFO to send copies of the grass-cutting invoices to Cllrs Allen and Bullock
- 7.1.3 RFO ran through the list of accounts for payment, which was circulated prior to the meeting. Apart from salaries, there was one cheque over £500, the payment of the grass-cutting invoice of £520.
- 7.1.4 Cllr Cozens proposed a donation of £225 to cover in full the cost of the Diamond Jubilee commemorative bookmarks which had been purchased by the school and presented to the schoolchildren by Chair. Seconded by Cllr Edwards and carried unanimously. [LGA 1972 s.137]

Signed
Chairman/Responsible Officer

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7.2 Planning

7.2.1 To consider the planning committee's recommendations for the following applications:

S.12/0859/FUL. William Morris House, Chipmans Platt. Extension to the existing residential college, with mixed use residential and educational buildings all in association with the college.

Having attended the pre-application meeting, Cllr Greenaway and Simmons confirmed this is a long-term project to increase the facilities for students. Concerns about parking in the lane and traffic control during construction to be noted in EPC's comments to SDC. Cllr Simmons proposed that EPC supports this application. Seconded by Cllr Greenaway and carried. Cllr Edwards abstained.

S.12/0965/FUL. Hilltop Garage Claypits. Part of garage forecourt to be a hand car wash in place of redundant car wash previously situated on site. (Retrospective application).

Cllr Simmons noted that this hand car wash had been in operation without problems for some months. Cllr Simmons proposed that EPC supports this application. Seconded by Cllr Greenaway and carried.

7.2.2 and 7.2.3 It was agreed that EPC needs to know what value a Neighbourhood Plan and a Village Design Statement would bring. The resources and effort required needs to be investigated. It was agreed that steering committees would be set up to investigate the costs and benefits of undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan and a Village Design Statement. Cllr Edis-Bates to be joined on these committees by Cllrs Allen, Bullock and Greenaway. It was noted that due to other commitments Cllrs Allen, Bullock and Greenaway could not commit time to this until July.

7.2.4 Chair read Cllr Edis-Bates written update on the Core Strategy, and confirmed that a consultative cross-party group on the model of GSPAG (Gloucestershire Structure Plan Approval Group) has been invited to work with SDC on the housing requirement data. This group will include members of "Don't Strangle Stroud".

7.3 Roads and Transport

The Roads and Transport committee have met and revisited the priority list, and are gathering information on that and other issues. A report will be submitted to the July EPC meeting for consideration. The possibility of using the Victoria Drive carpark at peak times will be added to the list. It is noted that the District Council are creating a car park at Victoria Green. Chair thanked the new Roads and Transport Committee for their work.

7.4 Javelin Park

Matter deferred to a future agenda.

7.5 Footpaths

Cllr Edwards confirmed that he is investigating the costs of a display case for a large scale definitive footpath map. It was suggested that smaller maps could be made available.

Action: Cllr Edwards to bring more detail (costs, size and location) to a future meeting.

7.6 Communications and Training

7.6.1 Cllr Allen suggested that a 'Welcome Pack' be prepared and made available to new councillors. She suggested it should contain 'need to know' information, guidance and protocols. Chair thanked her for taking this initiative.

Action: Cllr Allen and Clerk to begin work on the welcome pack.

7.6.2 There were no requests for training courses.

7.7 Code of Conduct

There were no volunteers to make a response on behalf of EPC to SDC's draft code of conduct.

7.8 Consultation

Delegation of authority to respond on behalf of EPC to the following consultations:

- Consultation on Council Tax Support - None
- Clinical Commissioning Group's draft Constitution – Cllr Allen
- Public Rights of Way – Cllr Edwards
- Major Infrastructure Planning Regime – Cllr Simmons

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

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8 Updates

- 8.1 Noted planning permission granted: S.12/0565/HHOLD. Bourne Cottage, Middle Street. Erection of single storey rear extension
- 8.2 Update on the progress of the youth Pod: Cllr Bullock advised that the EYG were re-considering their plans. It has been suggested that it might be better to start a new build from scratch rather than use Unite's pods. The Unite pods could be sold and the proceeds used towards the new build. Chair confirmed that Mrs Harris is supportive of the request to build, providing there are no objections from neighbours.
- 8.3 Update on the Parish Plan: members of the group are evaluating the parish survey data and starting to draft the text for the plan.
- 8.4 Update on Sophie's Pitch: Chair advised that someone has come forward with a claim to ownership of the land. Once this ownership has been established in court, the land will be sold to Mr Smith. Mr Smith has agreed to write the parking prohibition on Sophie's Pitch into the conveyancing documents.
- 8.5 Cllr Bullock gave a report on the Village Hall AGM: The village hall maintains a healthy funding level. Complaints about dog hair after the dog-training sessions have been addressed. It has been agreed that the width of the ramp to the side entrance will be increased. The committee are looking into obtaining a music licence. Cllr Bullock was co-opted onto the Village Hall committee, additional new officers are sought. The hall hire rate is to increase to £7 an hour.

Any other business for the next meeting.

Cllr Greenaway has reviewed the application S.12/1107/T5DAY, Millend Mill. Holly next to road - dismantle to ground level. He notes that it is a rotten tree, and there is a strong commitment to re-planting elsewhere. He recommends that EPC supports this application. All present supported this suggestion. To be returned to the July agenda.

Cllr Simmons advised that a path in Cress Green was overgrown and difficult to pass through. She will forward more detail to Clerk.

District Cllr Stephens apologised for missing the last two meetings due to clashing meetings at SDC. He spoke on several issues:

- He will pass on the Planning Committee's complaints about the e-planning system to Phil Skill.
- Core Strategy: work continues on the 5-year land supply issue. He hopes to be part of Dennis Andrewartha's advisory committee.
- He recommended that the Scheme of Delegation be studied. SDC would be receptive to requests for decisions to be made in public if there are valid planning reasons.

The meeting closed at 9:17

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th July 2012. 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 4th July 2012.

Signed

Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date