

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th August 2013 in Eastington Methodist Church.

1. **Election of Chair:** Cllr Allen nominated Cllr Bullock for the post of Chair, seconded by Cllr Greenaway. Carried unanimously.
2. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr Bullock signed the Acceptance of Declaration of Office.
3. **Attendance and apologies for absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Allen, Edwards, Simmons, Greenaway, Edis-Bates, Evans, Cozens, Andrea Durn (Clerk), Robert Powell (RFO). There were 4 members of the public present. Apologies for absence were accepted from County Cllr Williams and District Cllr Stephens.
4. **Chairman's announcements:** The Chair gave a vote of thanks to the previous Chair, Andrew Niblett, for his ten years of hard work to Eastington Parish Council. This was carried unanimously. She also gave thanks to the Clerk, Andrea Durn, for her help and support during the period of change. The Chair said she was looking forward to a future of more effective working together for the benefit of the Parish.
5. **Clerks report:** The Clerk went through the issues and correspondence she had dealt with in the previous month.
6. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None.
7. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 3rd July 2013:** Cllr Allen proposed, seconded by the Chair. Carried.
8. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 9th July 2013:** Cllr Allen asked that the final action be removed. Proposed by Cllr Greenaway, seconded by Cllr Evans. Carried
9. **To consider changes to the order of business:** Cllr Edwards asked that agenda item 7.4 be moved to the top of the Resolution items. Agreed by the Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak.

Ed Davis said that he was not impressed with the conduct of the Council to date and hoped for an improvement. The Chair replied that the Council had recognised this and had held a Strategy Workshop to take this forward.

Cllr Stephens had sent the following report: I have been following up the council decision on its housing allocation and numbers with officers and other councillors. This involves meetings etc to try and ensure that all references to West of Stonehouse are removed from the consultation document before issue, and that the document does indeed properly reflect the position taken by members. I have also been talking to officers and parishioners on the Swallowcroft appeal, and associated documents, and just how that will be dealt with. I am aware of the resignation of Andrew Niblett as both chair and a member of Eastington Parish Council. I would like to record my thanks to him for all the help, support and assistance he gave me as District Councillor over the years.

7.4 Footpaths

Cllr Edwards proposed the quotes of £100 for installation of a kissing gate at Middle Street and £75 for the repair of a kissing gate at Cress Green. Seconded by Cllr Simmons. Carried.

7 Resolutions

7.1 Finance

- 7.1.1 RFO gave an update of the 2013/14 accounts, referring to the circulated report (copy attached to the signed copy of these Minutes). The spend is approx. £32k including donations of £20k taken out of accumulated reserves.
- 7.1.2 The list of cheques for payment totalled £1811.96 were proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Greenaway. Carried.
- 7.1.3 The RFO went through the contract details for the Parish Council mobile phone and dongle. The

- 92 -

Signed.....
Chairman/Responsible Officer

Date.....

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

monthly cost is £40 plus VAT and includes internet access. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Greenaway. Carried.

- 7.1.4 The RFO is waiting for the online banking forms. **ACTION: RFO**
- 7.1.5 Legal advice for the Charlie Bullock Fund is to set it up as a charity. The RFO will pursue this.
ACTION: RFO
- 7.1.6 The RFO is waiting for the bank documents for the Charlie Bullock Fund. **ACTION: RFO**
- 7.1.7 The Charlie Bullock Fund Trustees meeting is on 3rd September 2013 at 7.30pm. Venue to be arranged.
ACTION: Clerk
- 7.1.8 It was agreed to give a donation of £300 to the Bluebell Group. Proposed by Cllr Edwards and seconded by Cllr Simmons. Carried. Cllr Allen requested that the RFO circulates a list of donations that have been made by the EPC.
ACTION: RFO
- 7.1.9 The approval of a poppy wreath up to a value of £50 was proposed by Cllr Cozens and seconded by Cllr Simmons. Carried.
- 7.1.10 The Chair proposed, with Cllr Simmons approval, that Cllr Simmons represents the Council at the Remembrance Service on 10th November 2013. Carried.
- 7.1.11 The payment of £390 for the planning consultant to represent the Council for the objection to the planning application on land adjacent to Swallowcroft was proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Allen. Carried.

7.2 Planning

- 7.2.1 Swallowcroft Appeal: Cllr Greenaway gave feedback on his meeting with Stroud District Council and Keep Eastington Rural (KER) Group. KER have raised concerns and made objections. Millend Row: An objection on behalf of the Council has been made to SDC. Land Opposite Avenue Terrace: Objections on behalf of the Council have been made to SDC. Cllr Evans will circulate a link to the Planning Inspectorate web site. **ACTION: Cllr Evans**

7.3 Roads and Transport

Cllr Allen proposed her plans to hold a public meeting on road safety issues in the Parish to develop a 3-4 year rolling programme. Seconded by Cllr Evans. One abstention. Carried. **ACTION: Cllr Allen**

7.5 Strategy Workshop

After an in depth discussion it was proposed to hold a second Strategy Workshop. A proposal by Cllr Cozens to hold the workshop in January 2014 was seconded by Cllr Simmons with three for, four against and 1 abstention. Not carried. A proposal by Cllr Allen to hold the workshop in October 2013 was seconded by Cllr Greenaway with four for, 3 against and one abstention. Carried. The Clerk to arrange with GAPTC dates and venue. **ACTION: Clerk**

7.6 Action Plan

The Clerk circulated copies of the current Action Plan and said that further work needs to be done with councillors. The Clerk to send copies to councillors for further review. **ACTION: Clerk**

7.7 Communications with other organisations

The Clerk clarified the roles of the Clerk and Councillors and the legal requirements of the Local Government 1972 with regard to communications. She said that further training for councillors on this was available from GAPTC details of which she had recently circulated.

7.8 Grounds Maintenance Contract

The current contract was reviewed and amendments were suggested for the next contract of deletion of Sophie's Pitch, updating of contact numbers, and addition of waste bins on the burial ground. Proposed by Cllr Simmons, seconded by Cllr Cozens. Carried.

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

7.9 Times of future meetings

The start and end times, day and the venue of the Council meetings were discussed. It was agreed to stay with the current times of 7pm till 9pm on a Tuesday and to use both the OHMG and Eastington Methodist Church Hall.

8 Updates

8.1 Roads and Transport

There were no questions on the report.

8.2 Churchyard and Burial Group

There is a dangerous tree overhanging the orchard on Spring Hill. It will cost an estimate of £175 for tree surgery and £35 for Tree Conservation Officer approval. It was proposed by Cllr Allen to get the work done and seconded by Cllr Cozens. Carried. **ACTION: Cllr Allen**

8.3 OHMG

Cllr Bullock gave feedback from the meeting with OHMG where it was agreed that previous issues were now being resolved.

8.4 Play Equipment

Cllr Evans reported that the play equipment was beyond economic repair and that the Council's previous recommendation was that it should be removed and a replacement considered. Cllr Evans said he would get quotes and report back to Council. **ACTION: Cllr Evans**

8.5 Community Land Trust

Cllr Bullock gave a report on her meeting with Martin Hutchings, GRCC. He is working on the HNS report and will give a presentation at the September EPC meeting.

8.6 Neighbourhood Development Plan

Cllr Bullock notified the Council that she will be meeting GRCC shortly on the next steps for the development of the NDP.

8.7 Community Alternative Renewable Energy Sources Project Trust

Cllr Evans will be carrying out research on this. **ACTION: Cllr Evans**

8.8 Planning notices

Noted.

Any Other Business

Cllr Allen will bring a report on the Eastington Flood Group to the next meeting.

Cllr Edis-Bates would like a future discussion on Planning and roles and responsibilities.

The meeting finished at 9.05pm.

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 13th August 2013. 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 Monday 5th August 2013.