

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th September 2013 in Eastington Methodist Church.

1. **Election of Vice Chair:** The Council received no nominations for the post of Vice Chair..
2. **Attendance and apologies for absence:** In attendance were Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Allen, Simmons, Edis-Bates, Evans, Cozens, Andrea Durn (Clerk), Robert Powell (RFO) and County Cllr Lesley Williams. There were 3 members of the public present. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Greenaway, Edwards and District Cllr Stephens.
3. **Chairman's announcements:** The Chair gave a warm welcome to Martin Hutchings from GRCC. It was announced that Robert Powel, EPC RFO, had tendered his resignation and that he would leave at the end of October 2013. The Chair gave thanks to Robert for his stalwart service. This was agreed by all councillors present. The Chair stated that Mark Jones was representing EPC at the SDC Development Committee as it was meeting at the same time as the EPC meeting.
4. **Clerks report:** The Clerk went through the issues and correspondence she had dealt with in the previous month including a letter of thanks for the donation from the Bluebell Club; the letter of resignation from the RFO and a letter from SDC that stated an election had not been called for the councillor vacancy.
5. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None.
6. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting dated 20th August 2013:** Cllr Allen proposed that they be accepted with the amendment of the Updates be amended to read 'There were no questions on the report'. Seconded by the Chair. Carried.
7. **Actions:**
The EPC Strategy Workshop will be held on 29th October 2013.
Progress on the tree surgery in the churchyard to be ascertained. **Action: Clerk**
8. **To consider changes to the order of business:** The Chair proposed that item 7.2.2 be brought forward to discuss after the public presentation. Carried..

The meeting was adjourned at this point for members of the Public to speak. There were no comments or questions.

Presentation on Housing Needs Survey (HNS) by Martin Hutchings, GRCC.

Martin gave thanks to Tom Low for his help and support on the HNS. Martin gave the background and methodology of the survey before going through the analysis in the report. He pointed out that the report was still at a draft stage as there is still time to send in completed survey forms. It was hoped that the report would be finalised at the end of September 2013.

County Cllr Williams gave her report. She requested that in future EPC send her a copy of the agenda, reports and minutes for each meeting. She explained that each GCC councillor has a Highways budget of £20,000 to spend on their area. She works with the local Highway Manager on a programme of highway's works and is currently working with the parishes in her area to allocate the budget. She agreed to send a copy of the criteria of spend for the highways area budget. Cllr Williams will be meeting with the EPC Chair when the Chair returns from holiday. Cllr Williams talked about the Javelin Park appeal and explained that GCC have set up a group to look at alternative options of waste disposal for the county. Other issues being discussed in GCC include: a Task and Finish Group looking at One Tier/Unitary Working of local government; Living Wage on GCC employees and contractors; Zero Hours contracts.

7 Resolutions

7.2.2 Housing Needs Survey Report

It was proposed by Cllr Evans that a summary of the report be put in Eastington Community News and a copy of the full report be circulated widely. Seconded by Cllr Allen. Carried.

7.1 Finance

7.1.1 RFO gave an update of the 2013/14 accounts, referring to the circulated report (copy attached to

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

the signed copy of these Minutes). The spend is approx. £35k including donations of £20k taken out of accumulated reserves. There is approx £28k available but there are commitments to be made including the churchyard wall.

- 7.1.2 The list of cheques for payment totalled £2095.28 were proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Allen. Carried.
- 7.1.3 It was proposed by Cllr Simmons to approve the quote of £15 per clean of the bus shelter, Seconded by Cllr Evans. Carried. It was suggested by Cllr Edis-Bates that in future volunteers should be sought.
- 7.1.4 Cllr Evans proposed the attendance of the Clerk on the Putting Communities First conference and Charitable Trusts course. Seconded by Cllr Allen. Carried. Cllr Allen asked that a list of courses attended by the Clerk be circulated. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 7.1.5 The Clerk asked that there be a review of the asset register and insurance. The Chair asked that this is put on a future agenda when the Council agrees the Groups and membership. **ACTION: Clerk**
- 7.1.6 The RFO reported that the Charlie Bullock Fund does not need to be a charity as the income is too small and that a governing document signed by all trustees is sufficient. **ACTION: RFO**
- 7.1.7 The RFO is still waiting for the banking documents for the Charlie Bullock Fund. **ACTION: RFO**
- 7.1.8 The annual budget meeting will be held on 15th October 2013 at 7pm. Venue to be confirmed. **ACTION: Clerk.**

7.2 Planning

- 7.2.1 The following planning group recommendation's was considered for the following application: S.13/1276/LBC Kings Head, Bath Road, Eastington. The planning group recommended that the Council supports this application.
- 7.2.3 Javelin Park: A discussion was held on Hardwicke Parish Council's request for a donation to the Appeal fund. The Clerk is to ask Harwicke PC on what donations they have received to date. The RFO is to check the level of reserves available for donations. **ACTION: Clerk and RFO**
Cllr Evans proposed to donate £1000 towards the Appeal costs, seconded by Cllr Edis-Bates. Carried with one abstention.
- 7.2.4 Stroud Local Plan consultation: Cllr Edis-Bates proposed to set up a group to review the consultation and bring recommendations to the next EPC meeting. Seconded by Cllr Evans. Carried. **ACTION: Cllr Edis-Bates**
- 7.2.5 GRCC Pre-Application Community Involvement: Cllr Edis-Bates proposed to set up a group to review the consultation and bring recommendations to the next EPC meeting. Seconded by Evans. Carried. **ACTION: Cllr Edis-Bates**
- 7.2.6 Community Land Trust Funding: It was proposed by Cllr Edis-Bates to apply for funding. Seconded by Cllr Evans. Carried.

8. Updates

- 8.1 **Roads and Transport Group**
Cllr Allen gave a verbal update.
- 8.2 **Churchyard and Burial Group**
The repair of the church wall has been completed. Compliments have been received on the quality of the work and the way it was carried out. Work on getting tree surgery carried out on a tree in the churchyard is being progressed. The fencing at the burial ground boundary has now been replaced.
- 8.3 **Flood Prevention Group**
There were no questions on the report previously circulated.
- 8.4 **Play Group Equipment**
Cllr Evans to talk to Martin Elliott on next steps. **ACTION: Cllr Evans**
- 8.5 **Footpaths**
The kissing gates have been installed.
- 8.6 **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Bullock gave an update on an introductory meeting with GRCC. They will be invited to a future meeting of the EPC to give a presentation on developing the NDP and funding. **ACTION: Clerk**

8.7 **Community Alternative Renewable Energy Sources Project**

Cllr Evans to chase up progress.

ACTION: Cllr Evans

8.8 The following planning application decisions were noted:

S.13/1017/FUL: Eastington Community Centre, Owen Harris Memorial Ground, Alkerton. Construction of a set of sports changing rooms to the rear of existing community centre.

Resubmission of withdrawn planning application S.13/0494/FUL. Permission.

S.13/1126/AGR: Grove House Farm, Cress Green, Eastington. Erection of steel framed grain storage barn. Permission

9. **Closed Session**

Cllr Allen proposed the approval of a pension payment to a private pension scheme for the former Clerk. Seconded by Cllr Simmons. Carried.

Any Other Business

There were no items.

Meeting finished at 8.55pm.

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th October 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 30th September 2013.