

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th December 2018 at 7.00pm in Eastington Village Hall

1. **Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie (Vice-Chair), Chatterley, Farnden, Loveridge, Simmons and Wells. **Apologies:** Cllr Cozens and District Cllr Jones. **Also present** Clerk Mrs J Shirley, Planning Clerk Mrs K Hayes, County Cllr Williams, District Cllr Davies, and 5 members of the public.
2. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda** Cllr Loveridge, Cllr Bullock and Cllr Chatterley all declared an interest in item 9.11 (for their respective payments).
3. **Chairman’s announcements** None.
4. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting** held on 8th November 2018. It was proposed by Cllr Loveridge, seconded by Cllr Farnden and Council RESOLVED to accept the minutes of 8th November 2018.
5. **To review outstanding actions from previous meeting:** None.
6. **Changes to the order of business** None

The meeting was opened for questions and comments from the public.

Mr Edwards (PROWD) spoke regarding the budget for 2019/20 and has previously requested that the kissing gates and footpaths be a separate budget on the accounts so it can be distinguished from Roads and Transport. Mr Edwards stated that the budget had always been a separate budget and he would wish for sake of clarity that it be reinstated as a separate budget. Cllr Bullock noted that the Council has committed to replacing two kissing gates per year. Mr Edwards also asked for clarity on what the footpaths and kissing gates budget has been spent on in the previous financial year; this had been answered by the clerk via email previously and the clerk confirmed that the unspent portion had been added to an earmarked reserve for future footpaths expenditure. Mr Edwards went on further that he felt that the Council lacked openness and residents living in other areas of the parish feel excluded and do not know where to find out information. All councillor contact details are available on the village notice board. Plus all council information is available on the council website; the council also publishes updates in the Community Newsletter and on social media. Mr Edwards was invited to suggest other ways to reach residents that do not access those information sources. Mr Wild added that he lives on the far edge of the parish and found it very easy to get in touch with the Council when he recently needed information.

Report from the County Councillor – Cllr Williams gave an update from Gloucestershire County Council, particularly regarding the draft budget for 2019/20. The budget will be approved at the February meeting of the County Council.

Report from the District Councillors – Cllr Davies gave an update from Stroud District Council. The new Chief Executive Kathy O’Leary has started and will make contact via Cllr Davies to meet the parish council and look at local issues. Ecotricity application is due to be considered in early February 2019. A resident noted to Cllr Davies that the Ecotricity plans for a stadium are still shown on the Local Plan review as being on the south of the A419 rather than north where it is currently proposed. Mrs Hayes has raised this with SDC and the public document should have been corrected for the drop-in public events.

7. Planning

7.1 To consider the following planning applications:

Date rec’d	Application No	Address	Details	EPC comments
20/11/2018	S.18/2432/FUL	Land at South View Newtown	Change of use of land to B8 (South View is in Eastington, land is in Stonehouse)	Object with comments as drafted by the Planning Clerk.

22/11/2018	S.18/2369/FUL	Muller Severnside Dairy, Oldend Lane, Stonehouse	New building to house the chill water & glycol refrigeration plant (Stonehouse parish)	No objection
30/11/2018	S.18/2526/DISCON	Parcels H1-H4 Land West of Stonehouse	Discharge of Condition 37 (site execution plan)	Comments only as drafted by the Planning Clerk.
27/11/2018	S.18/2362/P3Q	Agricultural building Cress Green	Conversion of agricultural building to dwelling under "permitted development"	Comments only: Footpaths must be useable at all times; and kissing gates should be installed as part of any additional fencing if the field is to be used for grazing.
07/12/2018	S.18/2447/P3Q	Land at Dotloe Farm, Nupend	Change of use from agricultural buildings to dwellings	Comments only: Footpaths must be useable at all times and kissing gates installed where boundary treatment is shown across footpaths.

(Two members of public left during the last item)

7.2. Council noted the following planning decisions issued by Stroud District Council:

Application No:	Address	Details	EPC Comments	SDC Decision
S.18/2114/TCA	6 Churchend Eastington	Goat willow next to river, reduce in height & remove deadwood	NO OBJECTION 01/11/18	PERMIT 26/11/18
S.18/2175/HHOLD	2 New Cottages Nupend	Single storey extension to rear of property	NO OBJECTION 01/11/18	PERMIT 03/12/18
S.18/2238/TCA	Meadow Cottage Millend	T1 Yew - Fell due to extensive decay at base of stem	NO OBJECTION 01/11/18	PERMIT 28/11/18
S.18/1879/FUL	Llanwonna and Brynmor, Bath Road	Creation of single vehicular access to serve both properties	NO OBJECTION 01/11/18	PERMIT 21/11/18
S.18/2248/HHOLD	Lakehouse Churchend	Enlarged porch, canopies, revised fenestration, velux windows and decking	NO OBJECTION 08/11/18	PERMIT 06/12/18

7.3. The Local Plan Review consultation is in progress with public drop-in events around the district. The Clerk has started to review the document for Council to consider at the January full council meeting. The Planning Clerk attended the Stonehouse drop-in event and outlined the growth options for the district which includes a new site at Wisloe in Slimbridge parish. The Local Plan Review has chosen a growth option that is mainly along the M5 / A38 corridor as the "easier" deliverable options in Stroud district have been exhausted. Motorway junctions will need to be improved, particularly junction 14 due to the pressure of development in that area including plans from South Gloucestershire Council. Cllr Davies added that recent evidence shows the mortality rate is flattening off so the pressure for increased housing may ease; plus there are some ideas for dispersal growth where smaller settlements take a small amount of housing as some settlements have expressed a wish to have development. **Action: All** to reviewing the consultation documents ahead of January's meeting.

Signed

Date

Cllr Williams, Cllr Davies and one member of public left the meeting.

8. Groups / Meetings / Reports

- 8.1 Council received a verbal update from the Getting Around Group. The village gateways have been planted-up for the winter and Cllr Chatterley expressed thanks to those involved in the work day; Cllr Cozens will top-up the grit bins from the stock of salt he holds as Snow Warden. Cllr Chatterley will look at the lorry watch scheme again in the warmer weather as the Council has only had one complaint in recent months. Automatic number plate recognition cameras are being looked at as a possible project for the future.
- 8.2 Council received a verbal update from the Churchyard & Burial Ground Group. The graves remedial work has been carried out. The blue bin needs emptying, the Clerk will arrange collection. Cllr Bullock requested that Council explore having a contractor to undertake the safety checks; it was agreed the Clerk will make enquiries. It was noted again that the latest safety check report needs to be finalised and the Clerk has requested a meeting with the Group to gather the information to complete the report. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.3 Council received the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 22nd November, for information.

9. Finance / Procedure

- 9.1 Council received the latest bank reconciliations (November) and budget versus spend report for the 2018/19 accounts.
- 9.2 Council approved the payment of expenses for the Clerk and Planning Clerk for November 2018.
- 9.3 Council received the staff timesheets for November 2018 (confidential and not for circulation).
- 9.4 Council reviewed and adopted the following policies:
- Grievance Procedure (updated following the Harvey v Ledbury Court Case)
 - Dignity at Work (updated following Harvey v Ledbury Court Case)
 - Member Officer Protocol (new policy – following Harvey v Ledbury Court Case)
- Cllr Corrie volunteered to manage these 3 new policies to ensure they remain valid.
- 9.5 Council approved the draft Memorial Safety Policy.
- 9.6 Council approved the draft Memorial Garden Specification for tender. **Action: Clerk**
- 9.7 Council confirmed meeting dates for 2019.
- 9.8 Council agreed to a councillor evening training session with GAPTC at a cost of £150 total. **Action: Clerk** to find out potential dates.
- 9.9 Council renewed the GRCC annual membership at a cost of £25.
- 9.10 Council considered the first draft of the budget for 2019/20. It was noted that the tax base for Eastington had increased meaning the council can receive a greater precept without increasing the council tax. The increased amount will allow for improvements at the burial ground. The Council considered Mr Edwards' request to have the footpaths and kissing gates in a separate budget; Council felt that having footpaths and kissing gates within a larger budget gave greater flexibility to meet changing needs. The Council re-confirmed its commitment to replacing two kissing gates per year but having them within a larger budget gives the flexibility to replace more than two gates if the need arises (as it has done in the current financial year). It was decided to also move the dog/ litter bins item into the same budget and rename "Roads and Transport" to "Getting Around" which is managed by the Getting Around Group. The final draft of the budget will be approved at the January meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

9.11 Council resolved the accounts for payment, schedule circulated prior to meeting:

Invoice Date	Payee	Details	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	Budget
ONLINE PAYMENTS						
29/11/18	Salaries & Expenses	Payroll November (JS) & October (AS & KH) 2018 & Expenses October 2018	£1583.88	£0	£1583.88	Parish Admin
05/12/18	HMRC	PAYE & NI November 2018	£393.24	£0	£393.24	Parish Admin
	Eastington Village Hall Charity	Hall hire October 2018 (2 invoices)	£21.00	£0	£21.00	Hall Hire

01/11/18	A J Loveridge	Grass cutting (£582.50) Grave works (£500) Footpath stone at Middle Street (£150)	£1232.50	£0	£1232.50	Ground maintenance / C&BG / R&T
08/10/18	Mark Chatterley	Expenses – Highways meeting	£5.80	£0	£5.80	Parish Admin
23/11/18	Muriel Bullock	Village gateway plants	£39.00	£0	£39.00	R&T
27/11/18	GRCC	Annual Membership (if agreed)	£25.00	£0	£25.00	Subscriptions
29/11/18	Parish Council Websites	GDPR amendments to website	£300	£0	£300	Professional
01/11/18	Network Connections UK Ltd	CCTV Annual Maintenance contract	£770	£154	£924	Play Park Maint
06/11/18	GAPTC	Planning training (£50) & Clerk training (£20)	£70	£0	£70	Training
DIRECT DEBITS:						
29/11/18	NEST	Pensions for November 2018	£109.37	£0	£109.37	Parish Admin
22/12/18	Vodafone UK	Parish Mobile	£31.86	£6.37	£38.23	Parish Admin
TOTAL					£4742.02	

Receipts:

8/11/18 Solar Grant received £6466.32

Cllrs Farnden and Corrie will authorise the online payments.

10. Council received a list of the previous month's correspondence for information.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Thursday 10th January 2019. 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 9am on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.