



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Welcome to the Annual Report 2018-19 on the activities of the Council. You will find details of how the Council spent its money and how the Council funds this expenditure.

The Parish Council consists of 9 councillors who represent an electorate of approximately 1,360. Elections are held once in every four years, the next election will be May 2020 where it is currently proposed to increase our number to 10 councillors.

The Parish Council has a number of responsibilities in the village including: Burial ground, closed churchyard, play area, notice boards, bus shelters, and grass cutting of the parish owned open spaces.

The Parish Council employs 3 part-time staff to manage all Council matters; the Parish Clerk is employed 20 hours per week, the Planning Clerk employed for up to 10 hours per week as workload demands, and the Assistant Clerk is also employed for up to 10 hours per week as workload demands.

The Council meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Village Hall in Eastington. Agendas are displayed on the village notice board and also on the website – www.eastington-pc.gov.uk. The public are welcome to attend these meetings and raise questions during the 20 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

We keep residents updated on parish matters through our website www.eastington-pc.gov.uk, the Eastington Community News and you can follow us on Twitter (@Eastington_PC) or on Facebook (EastingtonPC).

Parish Councillors as at May 2019:

Alex Bomberg	alex.bomberg@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Muriel Bullock	muriel.bullock@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Mark Chatterley	mark.chatterley@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Jennifer Corrie	jennifer.corrie@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Andrew Cozens	andrew.cozens@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Lynne Farnden	lynne.farnden@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Alison Loveridge	alison.loveridge@eastington-pc.gov.uk
Jill Simmons	(no email) tel: 01453 825303
Sharon Wells	sharon.wells@eastington-pc.gov.uk

Chairman's Report:

Our Clerk has been researching our archives and found the minutes of the very first meeting of our Council, it will be the 125th year anniversary of this event in December this year!!

We are asking for suggestions for a way to celebrate this milestone so any suggestions will be welcome.

Councillors have been busy this year endeavouring to deliver on your requests.

The main concern is parking in the village and at and around the school, the former is difficult due to the lack of suitable space to use as a car park. Some staff and customers are using the car park in Victoria Drive and using the footpath to the shops etc.

Our Getting Around group are working with the school to find solutions to their problems.

Planning: We are pleased to welcome our planning clerk; it is good to have expert advice as we continue to deal with Great Oldbury details. As you have probably noticed it is progressing very quickly and some houses are already occupied. Although I saw the plans before work started it still looks very large!!

We will be replanting the village gateway troughs soon and would be grateful for any offers of help with planting and watering during the season. We have also purchased two displays for the barriers on Alkerton road.

If you have anything you would like to discuss with the Council we meet on the second Thursday of every month at the Village Hall starting at 7.00pm.

We also meet on the 4th Thursday of the month when required, to consider Planning applications, the notice board at the Co-op will give details of the Agenda for both meetings.

If you need to get in touch, please contact our Clerk

Muriel Bullock - Chairman

Grants & Donations

The Parish Council manages the Solar Grant Fund (from the Cambridge Solar Farm income) and a small grants and donations budget; we have been able to support the following groups and initiatives during the past year:

Eastington Primary School	£20
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£200
Owen Harris Memorial Ground Charity (loan)	£3000

Solar Grant Funds:

Owen Harris Memorial Ground Charity (M5 fencing)	£3000
Owen Harris Memorial Ground Charity (public toilets)	£2500

Do you have a project in mind? Please see the Grants page on our website to see how the Council can help.



Eastington Parish Council Receipts & Payments Account for the Year Ending 31st March 2019

	Year ended 31 March 2019	Year ended 31 March 2018
Receipts		
Precept	70,580.00	68,898.00
Local Council Tax Support Grant	0.00	0.00
VAT refund	7,321.95	18,489.81
Burials	3,440.00	4,585.00
Bank interest received	34.58	29.78
Rent and wayleave	27.38	37.38
Grants & Donations	7,235.86	62,393.40
Solar Grant Fund	6,466.32	6,269.83
	95,106.09	160,703.20
Payments		
VAT	1,379.43	16,902.36
Hall hire	339.50	321.25
Ground maintenance	9,127.50	9,390.00
Office expenditure/phone	1,257.02	1,338.37
Severn Trent Water	26.41	29.39
Audit & legal fees	655.00	610.00
Grants and donations	3,220.00	300.00
Subscriptions	1,066.13	768.97
Training	485.00	575.00
Loan repayments	5,522.96	5,522.96
Insurance	1,119.12	1,104.88
Payroll services	217.50	90.00
Staff costs	25,452.98	19,517.81
Expenses: Clerk and council	705.11	997.04
Election expenses	0.00	0.00
Graveyard Burial Ground repairs	949.28	3,655.80
Planning expenses	2,750.00	4,288.26
Repair projects	0.00	1,136.80
Professional representation fund	300.00	251.00
NDP/Parish plan	0.00	0.00
Footpaths and Highways	447.74	2,361.21
Village gateways	195.85	9,925.00
Other	185.18	524.25
Defibs	1,379.00	
Snakey Park (from grants)	5,497.50	58,673.20
Snakey Park maintenance	1,874.42	644.71
Ecology projects	0.00	800.00
Bus Shelter replacement	0.00	6,999.00
Solar Grant Fund	5,500.00	9,000.00
	69,652.63	155,727.26
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2019		
Opening Balances	100,269.69	95,293.75
Excess Receipts/(Payments)	25,453.46	4,975.94
	<u>125,723.15</u>	<u>100,269.69</u>

Budget 2019/20

The Parish Council has requested the annual precept figure of £78,720 which is an increase on the 2018/19 figure of £70,580. However, due to the council tax base increasing there will be a zero-percentage increase on the parish part of your council tax bills. The Parish Council's budget for 2019/20 is £87,480 so we are using other income apart from council tax to fund activities and improvements to the village such as the new memorial garden.