

EASTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Easton on the Hill Parish Council held on Wednesday **21st February 2018** at 7.45pm

Present:

- Cllr J Moll (Chairman)
 - Cllr S Goodwin
 - Cllr Emma Hanson
 - Cllr S Geraghty
 - Cllr P Bates
 - Cllr H Tomblin
 - Cllr A O’Grady
-
- Mr A Howells (Clerk/RFO to the Council)

<p>At the meeting dated 14th February, attending: Cllr Simpson, Chairman, Cllrs Bates, Wheatley, Hanson, Tomblin, Moll, Bates, Geraghty and Goodwin.</p> <p>The one item discussed was:</p> <p>Given that the agenda was not complete and not sent to Councillors or published with 3 clear days’ notice as per the Good Councillors Guide, and that the date and time of the meeting on the Parish Council website was not accurate, any financial decision could be challenged as illegal. The decision to be made is, which will need to be unanimous, does the meeting continue with the revised agenda and it is Resolved to make all the relevant financial decisions, or should the meeting be postponed by a week to be compliant.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that the meeting be cancelled and that a new meeting be arranged. Prop: Cllr Geraghty Sec: Cllr Bates.</p>	ACTION
<p>18/018 – To approve the cancellation of the meeting of the meeting of 12th February.</p> <p>It was deemed this was not necessary.</p> <p>18/019 – Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies from Cllr Mike Simpson, Cllr Debra Asher and Michelle Baker</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve the absence of Cllrs Simpson, Asher and Baker (approved unanimously).</p>	

<p>18/020 – To receive declaration of interest under the Council’s Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.</p> <p>No Conflicts</p>	
<p>18/021 – To receive and approve for signature The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 09th November 2017 and 13th November 2018.</p> <p>November Minutes:</p> <p>Cllr O’Grady said that one amendment to October minutes requested at the November meeting had not been done – The October minutes should include item 17/170 – Closed Session as per the October Agenda. Cllr O’Grady asked the Clerk that the November minutes be amended accordingly (under item 17/173) and that the October minutes be updated as this amendment was approved by the whole council at the November meeting.</p> <p>January Minutes: the following amendments were requested</p> <p>Remove Cllr Goodwin and Cllr Geraghty from Present list.</p> <p>18/005 b) This should be scheduled as an agenda item for the April meeting.</p> <p>18/010 should say ‘keep in touch with owners’.</p> <p>18/010 It was agreed that... (delete Cllr Bates)</p> <p>18/014 delete ‘Should this issued be the remit of the finance committee?’</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes DELIVERED BY HAND BY the Clerk and be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meetings with the above amendments.</p>	<p>Clerk to amend Nov minutes and October minutes + January minutes</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/022 – Matters arising from previous minutes of November and January.</p> <p>18/004 Cllr O’Grady asked that the letter from Mrs Ward be made available to the March meeting. Clerk to check with Dawn Barrett.</p> <p>Cllr O’Grady asked that matters arising from the November meeting be on the March agenda (£427.44) Clerk to find out information relating to this Transparency Fund application</p> <p>18/010 under 18/031 Clerk to keep in touch with owners as to progress of remedial work on wall (subsidence) of 4 Stamford Road. Clerk to enquire with East Northants whether the path is a public footpath and East Northants’ concern or whether it is Parish land.</p> <p>18/011b – Proposal 1. Cllr O’Grady expressed concern that giving permission to EOTHCC to rent out the pitch would be against Financial Regulations. It was agreed that EOTHCC would be allowed to rent out the cricket pitch for a maximum of 4 games in the forthcoming season. The EOTHCC’s liability insurance will apply.</p> <p>18/011c – Scanning files carry forward to meeting when Cllr Simpson can give more information.</p> <p>18/014 The Peace Garden, see public time below.</p> <p>The above items were approved by the council unanimously, Cllr O’Grady and Cllr Geraghty.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p>18/023 – Public Time.</p> <p>a) Mrs Ward mentioned that the cricket club should not be renting out the cricket field as it's a village resource, is it a village asset? Perhaps a proportion of the "profit" made from renting it out should be given back to fund the grass cutting?</p> <p>b) Peace Garden – Tim Nichol reported that they had reached their target of £5000. They will start the end of March and Complete by end of June. Launch end of July. Cllr O'Grady has been informed that the loan was made under the Burial Act, the terms of which were quite restrictive. It was noted that the remaining funds borrowed to purchase the graveyard extension (held in reserves) could only be spent under the specific terms of the original loan, for capital expenditure only and exclusively for the graveyard. Any divergence from this would mean that the Parochial Council be required to put a formal request to the Secretary of State. However, should the Peace Garden project require funds for future phases of the project, the Parish Council will explore options.</p> <p>c) Ketton Drift Bridle Way – Mrs Greaves Update needed on status of bridleway, grass verge damaged due to heavy traffic. The council gave the "impression" that it is public access by an article in the Mercury, but the council needs to see the article. All agreed it was a matter for the police and the Parish Council is not empowered to prevent vehicles driving on the bridleway.</p>	
<p>18/024 – Public Correspondence</p> <p>In Cllr Simpson's absence, these two items (a) and (b) were postponed to the next meeting.</p>	
<p>18/025 – To receive report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee</p> <p>No applications were received</p>	
<p>18/026 – Finance</p> <p>To receive and approve the budget and precept for 2017 – 2018. To allocate and approve the Section 137 Payments</p> <p>a) It was resolved to pay £561.81 to the clerk, £186.00 to Cumbria Clock Company and £720.00 to Water Line Solutions. Prop by Cllr O'Grady app by Cllr Geraghty</p> <p>b) It was agreed that the Clerk would issue the Quarterly accounts to the councillors, as they have been signed off by Cllr Geraghty.</p> <p>c) Swing Cradle cost of £135.63 approved by the council. P – Cllr O'grady, S – Cllr Geraghty</p> <p>d) This item will be discussed below.</p> <p>e) Clerk to follow up on payments made to David Lattimore and find the two invoices already paid for next meeting. Third invoice sent by Mr Lattimore. PC to discuss at next meeting.</p> <p>f) See below:</p> <p>To receive and approve the budget and precept for 2017 – 2018. To allocate and approve the Section 137 Payments</p> <p>It was resolved that a precept demand under S41 of the local Government Act 1992 be issued to East Northamptonshire council for £23,660 for the year 2018/19 as Easton on the Hill Parish Council. (Proposed by Cllr Wheatley Seconded by Cllr Hanson).</p> <p>It was agreed that we would make the following amendments totalling a net of £600 reduction to the precept:</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Increase the defibrillator to cover maintenance of £200 to £225. Clerk to establish the cost of maintenance and contact Trish Mason?. Cllr O’Grady to find out what school is being charged II. Cancel the cost of the village sign of £1000. Review in next year. III. Increase the playing field solicitor costs from £500 to £700. IV. It was agreed to establish the cost of visiting the archive of £108.00 (Proposal from Cllr Simpson) V. The £1287.47 legal cost is too precise to be an estimate? Clerk to research and clarify VI. Cllr O’Grady to provide historic correspondence that may enable to ascertain that the playing fields belong to the PC VII. £5,000.00 budget for legal costs – unanimously agreed that this was not needed. Discuss at next meeting if Cllr Simpson is at the meeting. Should a situation arise which requires expenditure, it will need to be resolved that the funds will be allocated from reserves. 	<p>Clerk Cllr O’Grady</p>
<p>18/028 – Playing Field Items.</p> <p>(a) discuss and resolve the grass cutting tender 2 options were presented by Cllr O’Grady.</p> <p>Option 1 for contractors to quote one price for all the grass areas in the village. Option 2 enables contractors to break down quote in two: grass areas and playing field area.</p> <p>It was proposed and agreed unanimously to opt for option 2 and proceed with the tendering process as outlined by Cllr O’Grady. (P: Cllr Goodwin, Sec: Cllr Hanson). Cllr O’Grady to liaise with Clerk. Clerk to advertise in Stamford Mercury. Deadline for tender agreed to 29th March 2018.</p> <p>(b) Update on playing field ownership by Cllr Simpson</p> <p>Carried forward to March meeting.</p> <p>(c) Proposal from Northampton Council re Community Pay Back</p> <p>Clerk has mentioned before about Ufford Parish Council using Community Payback Teams from Peterborough to cut the grass in the church yard and in playing field. He investigated if Northants does a similar scheme and they do. It must make it “worth their while” because it would provide a mini-bus with 8 people and a person in charge of them. Clerk to investigate next steps and to progress if possible. We would have to provide equipment which would need to have a permanent store, which may be a problem. It could be too late for this summer? SEE 18/31 BELOW</p>	
<p>18/029 – Parish Meeting</p> <p>The council agreed unanimously that we should go for 2nd week in May if possible. Clerk to organise for week commencing 7th May 2018. Clerk to advertise in Village. Clerk has established that the Hall is available on 4th May and 25th May only.</p>	
<p>18/030 – Checkers for March – Cllr O’Grady</p> <p>Fortnightly</p>	
<p>18/031 Spring Close issues</p> <p>It was agreed unanimously that a working party was required and that we could use Community Payback Team to tidy up in Spring Close, Cllr Geraghty volunteered to supervise with Cllr Bates.</p> <p>It was discussed that we should not concern ourselves with the unauthorised dumping of waste, and</p>	

<p>that a letter to the owner was not required as owner informed the PC that this was their land. Clerk to check boundary.</p> <p>Clerk to keep in touch with owners as to progress of remedial work on wall (subsidence) of 4 Stamford Road and find out from Cllr Baker whether she has an update. Clerk to enquire with East Northants whether the path is a public footpath and East Northants' concern or whether it is Parish land.</p>	
<p>18/031 Play field Items</p> <p>Post replacement work by wooden gate, play area off spring close, is not finished off. Clerk to speak with Dawn Barratt to obtain contact details of contractor and contact him.</p> <p>Vehicular access to playing field via locked gate. Leaving groves on playing field. This will be monitored.</p> <p>Location of wickets – concern as these appear to have moved eastwards and cricket pitch now encroaches onto football play area. This was not the case in previous years. There was disagreement within the PC whether this was the case or not.</p> <p>Reported Asbestos Waste around the cricket hut. Clerk to write to the Cricket Club to ask them to dispose of CAREFULLY.</p> <p>Clerk to write to thank farmer (Mr Pete Mitchell) for cutting the hedge on the east and west side of the playing field, as well as by the allotments.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/031 Fortnightly Inspection Reports</p> <p>Clerk to compile any matters arising for each meeting.</p> <p>Data Protection Act Implications (GDPR)</p> <p>Clerk do carry out a full review on what the council should be aware of, speak with NALC to gauge what we should be doing.</p> <p>Previous Clerk</p> <p>Clerk to find out what use the previous clerk has to the old AOL account. And to establish how she is using it. To also get an archive and ensure that the AOL account is closed off.</p> <p>Also to investigate the feasibility of having our bespoke "EOHPC" emails to avoid using personal emails in future. Touch Base with Graham Lilley.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/018– Close</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21:32</p> <p>(Note: The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 12th March 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall) second Monday of month.</p>	

Signed: _____

Date: _____