

EASTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Easton on the Hill Parish Council held on **Monday 11th June 2018** at 7.00pm

Present

- Cllr M Simpson
- Cllr P Bates
- Cllr A O'Grady
- Cllr H Tomblin
- Cllr E Hanson

- Mrs D Barrett (Clerk/RFO to the Council)

	ACTION
<p>18/95 – Apologise for absence Apologise from Cllr Geraghty, Cllr Moll, Cllr Wheatley, Cllr Asher, Cllr Baker</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve the absence of all Cllrs named above (approved unanimously)</p>	
<p>18/96 – To receive declaration of interest under the Council’s Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. None.</p>	
<p>18/97 – To Receive and Approve for signature The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th May 2018. There was an amendment to the minutes under 18/80 – Cllr O’Grady asked that it was minuted that the Chairman had stated that he would draft a reply to Mr Ward and send to all councillors for review before sending. Cllr Simpson stated that under the circumstances he was going to do this but now that all correspondence should be replied to by the clerk. The clerk also stated that the issue of correspondence will be addressed at the mediation workshop on 4th July 2018 RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>18/98 – Matters arising from these minutes only. 18/79 (b) – Cllr Tomblin arranged a meeting with Western Power and will provide a report at the July meeting.</p>	Cllr Tomblin
<p>18/99 – Public Time -he Chairman welcomed all the members of the public who had attended with a variety of questions</p> <p>a) Mrs Ward asked to speak and the chairman invited her to do so. Mrs Ward stated that her son had asked last year why the FOI details were not on the website and was advised by the clerk that as the Parish Council Website was being developed it would be added shortly. Mrs Ward now asked why the document was still not on the website. The Clerk advised Mrs Ward that the document was on the Parish Council Website and had been for a year. The Clerk will send Mrs Ward the link to the documents. The Chairman thanked Mrs Ward for her question.</p> <p>b) Mr Nicol asked to speak and the chairman invited him to do so. Mr Nicol gave an update on the Village Gala stating that £1800.49 was raised to split between all the village organisations involved. It was proposed and Resolved that the Parish Council would send a vote of thanks to the gala committee for all their hard work. Mr Nicol also asked to read out the following statement. Observations on the Parish Council and the impact on the village as a whole.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council dysfunctional and divisive; 2 problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keen volunteers become demoralized and disappointed, resignations in the air, personal upset only too obvious, walkouts 	

- As an organization:
 - Council has become riven with divisions
 - Personal animosities make it very uncomfortable
 - Tactical disruption of meetings
 - Over-reliance on procedure to make a point
 - Accentuating wider differences in the village
 - Seeing tribal behavior,
 - one group and supporters automatically objects to the views of others
 - identified by the street where you live
 - individuals believing their view of the world is the only right one
 - “Pro” and “Anti” views, not problem solving
- Not helped by past performance pre 2015
 - Lack of engagement
 - Poor record keeping
 - Council only survived by doing nothing
- I applaud efforts to move forward to make Easton even better place to live
 - Can we all (not just councillors) set aside personal animosities and work together constructively and efficiently in the future?

The Chairman thanked Mr Nicol for his comments and asked whether he would allow his comments to be sent to the Mediation Team. Mr Nicol agreed and the Chairman proposed that Mr Nicol’s comments should be sent to the Mediation Team. It was resolved that Mr Nicol’s comments be sent; 1 abstention. The Chairman thanked all the members of the public for attending.

18/100- Public Correspondence

The correspondence received are listed below

- a) Letter received about the use of VAS and speed limits in the village-Cllr Molls response will be included in 18/90

18/101 – To Receive an Update on recruiting a new councillor.

The Clerk reported that there would be no requirement for an election and that the council could now start the process to Co-Opt a new Councillor. A notice will be put up in the village and also on the website to invite potential candidates to send the clerk a pen picture to arrive no later than 16th July. All potential candidates will then be invited to attend the meeting on 23rd July to introduce themselves.

18/102 – To Receive a report from the Planning Committee for the application

- a) 18/00988/FUL – Single storey extension, demolition of existing porch and replacement of uPVC cladding at The Sperrins New Road Easton on the Hill. The Planning Committee reported No Objection and the clerk submitted this to the Planning Department.
- b) 18/01057/TPO – T56 Beech Fell due to restricting traffic flow and risk to car damage. T78 – Pine fell due to risk to car damage and restriction to traffic flow. To be felled as they have grown too large for their position to easily allow traffic to pass at Easton House 54 Church Street. The Planning Committee Objected to the Application and the clerk submitted this with all relevant comments.

Clerk

18/103 –Finance.

a) ICC’s report – monthly bank reconciliation and invoices are approved:

Receipts and Payments to Date

Total	

Chq no.	Description	Amount
102370	SLCC – Membership	£ 147.00
102371	Mrs D Barrett – Monthly Wage for June Plus Expenses	£ 479.10
102372	E-On – Electricity Charges	£ 278.34
102373	HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE	£ 342.73
102374	Mrs D Asher – Councillors Mileage	£ 20.70
	Total of invoices	£ 1,267.87

It was Resolved to accept the ICCs' approval and payments were made under the Local Government Act 1982 and subsequent financial legislation.

<p>b) To Receive, Review and Agree the new Revised Budget for 2018/2019 – Due to the Precept being set by East Northants Council and being lower than the previous year and the proposed budget a new budget was presented to the council and it was Resolved to accept this. The 2019-2020 precept will be increased to allow for this, the costs for next year's election and the cost of retaining the Call Collect service.</p>	
<p>18/104 – General Data Protection Register Compliance</p> <p>a) To Confirm is the Council is registered with the ICO. To approve the registration and cost of £40.00. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council was not registered. It was Resolved that this should now happen and to pay the annual cost of £40.00</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/105 – To Review the Cost Comparison from Cardinal Energy for the Un-Metered Street light Supplies.</p> <p>The Council had been sent cost comparisons for providing the service for the Un-Metered Street Light Supplies. SSC would provide a service that would save the Parish Council, therefore, the Village approx.£450 a year fixed for 58 months. It was Resolved to move over to SSC as the councils preferred supplier as of 1st July 2018. The Clerk will inform Cardinal Energy of the Councils decision</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/106 – Call Collect – To Review the Outcome of the meeting held on 09/05/2018</p> <p>As part of Northamptonshire cost cutting measures the Call Collect system would no longer be subsidised. At several meetings attended by Parish Councils affected it was proposed that the service could still be offered with Parish Councils contributing to the costs. For Easton on the Hill it would be £1000.00 for the period Sept 18 – March 19. The figure for the following full year is still to be determined precisely but would be in the order of £2000.00</p> <p>It was Resolved that the Call Collect Service was a necessity for the village and that contributing costs would be paid.</p>	
<p>18/107 – To Discuss replacing the Church Yard Gates</p> <p>The issue of replacing the two 15 foot gates at the new church yard extension was discussed. At the time of the purchase of the land it was agreed with the PCC that the two gates would include a pedestrian gate. The two gates in situation do not have pedestrian gates. Cllr O'Grady stated that access from Tank Road across is for farm vehicles only and Cllr Bates felt that before any decision was made the Parish Council should write to the Diocese for clarification on what was agreed. Cllr Simpson had checked with members of the PCC, one of who was a Councillor at the time, and they both state that pedestrian gates were requested at the time.</p> <p>The matter will be discussed further at July's meeting and the clerk will get two more quotes to go with the one already received for the work to replace the gates.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/108 – To Discuss who the charity money collected at Dhillons shop should be given to</p> <p>The proprietors ask the Parish Council for suggestions as to where the charity money collected at the Village Shop could go. It was suggested and agreed that it should go to the Village Gala committee so that it could be split between all the Village organisations involved in the Gala.</p>	
<p>18/109 – To receive a report from Cllr Moll on the Traffic Calming/Road Safety and Highway Matters.</p> <p>Cllr Moll's response to the correspondence from Mr Macdonald</p> <p>I'm writing as the Parish Councillor responsible for roads and pavements which includes road safety. Many thanks for your correspondence which is duly noted.</p> <p>The Parish Council owns three devices, two mobile battery powered and one fixed solar powered (located on the A43). You are correct that the speed limit within the village is 30mph and the Parish Council does not have the power to reduce the limit to 20mph. The Vehicle Activation Signs were acquired in order to help make our village a safer and calmer environment in which to live, the deployment of such devices is a standard approach across</p>	

<p>much of the country.</p> <p>The devices located within the village are currently calibrated to commence flashing green at c. 15mph and turn red at 20mph, this is a conscious decision to promote an advisory limit within the village, the Parish Council has not reduced the limit. The Road Safety Officer at NCC is aware of how these devices are calibrated and is happy on the on the basis that they are not located on a highway.</p> <p>If we are asked to change the calibration, I will of course respond to such a request. However, the current set up has been made with the very best intentions and with the public safety in mind. I do not agree that the flashing lights could act as a distraction to drivers, otherwise, such devices would not be commissioned so widely on our roads.</p>	
<p>18/110 – To receive a report from Trees and Greens</p> <p>There was nothing to report from Trees and Greens</p>	
<p>18/111 – Playing field Matters</p> <p>a) Grass Cutting Issues – The new grass cutting contractor has asked that grass cuttings are not put in the hedges along the playing field boundary as it makes it very difficult to cut back the nettles. The Clerk will write to the cricket club to request that they don't put the cuttings in the hedges</p> <p>b) Frequency of Cuts – This matter was discussed and it was agreed that the frequency will need to be looked at.</p> <p>c) Update of Playing Field registration – Cllr Simpson advised that he had a meeting with the solicitors before the next meeting and will provide a full report then</p> <p>d) Broken Swing –It was reported that one of the swings at the playing field has broken. The clerk will contact Wicksteeds for a quote to repair. The swing has been secured so cannot be used until fixed.</p> <p>e) Mess on the Slide –It was reported that there was a lot of bird mess on the slide. The councillor on checkers for the month will take cleaning material to clean it.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>18/112 – Checkers for June – This will be Cllr Tomblin.</p>	
<p>18/113 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>To approve the exclusion of Press and Public from the meeting for the following items of Business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the sensitive and/or confidential business to be transacted in accordance with s1(1) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 .</p> <p>To receive and discuss the complaint from the Cricket Club</p> <p>As this matter requires further research it will be rescheduled.</p>	
<p>18/114 – The meeting closed at 20.00. The next meeting will be on Monday 23rd July 2018 at 7.00pm in The Village Hall.</p>	

Signed: _____

Date: