

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Monday 11th July 2016 at 7.30pm
at Easton & Letheringham Village Hall

Reports from District & County Councillors, Police, and questions from members of public: -

2 members of public

Meeting opened at 7.30 pm

1 PRESENT

Cllr S Piggott – Chair
Cllr A Thomas – Vice-Chair
Cllr F Siddall
Cllr A Hollins
Cllr M Coney

APOLOGIES

Cllr B Gibbon

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS - None

3 CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS - None

4 MINUTES OF MEETING 16.5.16

Signed and Approved

5 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING

The Chair contacted LCPAS with regards to arranging to interview Mrs J Thomas who had put herself forward to be considered for the Clerks role, the Chair was advised that the re-advertisement had to run for a period of time prior to any interviews, it was agreed that the advert was placed and that the next PC meeting date of July 11th would provide adequate time. The Chair sent out the re advertised post, there are now two applicants, the arrangements can now be discussed under item 8.

The Chair met Mr and Mrs Boon at the cemetery to discuss the seat in memory of their family members that they would like to donate and position at the contemplative circle, this will be discussed under item 10.

The Chair compiled the paper work required for internal audit and delivered to the Internal Auditor, the accounts all balanced but the payments to S.Loader needed to be presented differently the Auditor advised how this should be and the table was adjusted accordingly.

The Chair distributed the Internal Audit report and sent to be uploaded onto the website.

6 FINANCE - Financial Statement – To Approve

6.1 The Financial Statement was Agreed.

- 6.2 Councillors agreed that once the formal Grant Application paperwork is made available on the website, that all organisations including the Church will be able to apply to be considered for a grant, which historically has been given to the Village Hall each year. **SP**

7 **PLANNING**

- 7.1 The Appeal decision has now been received, the Hopkins development at Bentries Farm has been approved by the Inspectorate. Councillors agreed that they should write to the Case Officer to make clear that the Parish Council will now need assurances that the conditions are adhered to, and that the expectations will be that sympathetic materials for any hard landscaping required in relation to securing the bank at the entrance splay be used ie flint and brick, also for the most visible housing units.
- 7.2 The Application - DC/16/0422/FUL-Home Farm has been Withdrawn

8 **CLERK VACANCY**

Now that a reasonable time has been given for the advertisement for the Clerk Vacancy, interviews of the two Applicants can now be arranged. It was agreed that Cllr Hollins and the Chair join LCPAS to form the interview panel. A date will be arranged. **SP**

9 **PLAYAREA – Cllr Siddall**

S.C.L. notified the council that they had found Japanese Knotwood growing by the goal posts, they have treated the weed to eradicate all that they found.

10 **CEMETERY**

Following the meeting that Cllr Piggott convened with Mr and Mrs Boon, Councillors considered their commemorative bench and the position that Mr and Mrs Boon would like the bench to be placed, it was agreed that this was acceptable, the Chair will contact Mr and Mrs Boon. Councillors also agreed to contact S.C.L to prepare the contemplative circle by levelling, raising the lower branches of the tree, and widening the entrance by a small amount.

SP

11 **HIGHWAYS**

- 11.1 The Chair had received a request for the Parish Council to consider flashing speed signs to compliment the Community Speed Watch team. The Chair reported that she had enquired with SCC and the Clerk of Framlingham Town Council. SCC will not allow fixed flashing signs, only movable, the criteria to operate them is very complicated and onerous, contractors have to be appointed to move the signs, and gathering the electronic information which is purely speed, no vehicle details, is complicated. Councillors decided that they would not pursue mobile flashing speed signs and that the Community Speed Watch should be maintained as a deterrent, increasing the volunteer teams and times would be the best solution.

- 11.2 The Community Speed Watch News for the locality taken from the May Newsletter was given:

Multiple and Excessive Speed Offenders and Feedback

Reply from driver-‘I am so sorry you have had to send a warning letter regarding my exceeding the speed limit on the 20th April. Thank you for not taking the matter

further. I am a person who has a great respect for the law and I will be very careful in the future’.

Officers have called upon a company in relation to one of their drivers coming to our notice with multiple speeding offences and advice given as to the consequences of the driver failing to conform to the speed limits.

29th April Parham 37 mph

4th May Sutton 38 mph

6th May Parham 39 mph

Warning letters have been sent out and Officers have been also been asked to call upon the keepers of vehicles the drivers of which drove with excessive speed within a 30 mph area.

13th March Yoxford 52 mph* 14th April Otley 51 mph**

18th & 20th April Sutton 50/55 mph*** 20th April Eye 55 mph

20th April Eye 50 mph 21st April Parham 50 mph

23rd April Woolpit 61 mph 4th May Blundeston 51 mph

Feedback from officers attending the registered keepers

*’Just to let you know I attended the Home address of the driver for the reported vehicle. He had already received your warning letter and was expecting a ‘visit’. He was most apologetic, a professional driver and realised what he had done. I don’t think he will be repeating the same mistake’.

** ‘The driver for this has been spoken to, they had received the letter. They have also been made aware of consequences if they continue to speed’

***’ Just to let you know we called on the driver yesterday. He admitted to being the driver of the vehicle on the relevant days / time and was given advice as requested’.

From Chief Inspector Matthew Rose to you all.

‘Almost 10,000 vehicles were recorded by our Community Speed Watch volunteers in 2015, whilst it is disappointing that so many drivers have chosen to exceed the limit in our communities; the figures demonstrate the hard work and time that Community Speed Watch volunteers have given to making our roads safer. As the majority of our “speeders” are local, the fact that out of all those written to, less than 4% have been recorded again; demonstrates the effectiveness of the initiative.

One of my favourite aspects of my role is frequently receiving letters of apology, like the one at the beginning of this newsletter, from people have been recorded speeding by CSW. I have had the awful task of informing someone that their loved one has been killed on the road, so my view is that even one fewer person speeding could mean a life saved on our roads and the prevention of the devastating effects on everyone involved.

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment to your community and assure you that you really are making a difference’.

Speed Enforcement Officers

Those of you who were able to attend one of our Annual Meetings are already aware that a Police Staffed civilian Speed Enforcement Officer (SEO), Chris Fiske, has been employed and accredited by the Chief Constable to carry out speed enforcement checks in Suffolk. He is expected to be joined by another SEO in the near future.

He operates a Police style speed device on a tri-pod, wears a Hi Vis jacket with ‘Police Staff’ on the back and puts signs either side of where he is operating which State ‘Safety Camera Enforcement’ showing a camera. His role is to attend areas where high vehicle speeds have been noted. To gain this information he has access to our Community Speed Watch data base to identify those areas. He will attend Community Speed Watch and other sites in order to carry out his enforcement which means that the driver of any vehicle he monitors in excess of the limit will receive a fine and endorsement on their drivers licence.

As usual the Community Safety Team wish to thank volunteers for your continued hard work and support.

12 EMERGENCY PLANNING

There have been no developments or updates.

13 FOOTPATHS

There are no issues to report.

15 CORRESPONDENCE

Terrorism Awareness posters for the Notice board.

16 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26th September, 28th November 2016 and 30th January 2017 - **TBC**

Meeting Closed 8.40pm

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Chair

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Date