

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held on Monday 26th June 2017 at 7.30 pm at Easton and Letheringham Village Hall

Reports from District & County Councillors, and questions from members of public:
Two members of the public and no District and County Councillors were present.

Meeting opened at 7:40 pm.

1. PRESENT

Cllr S Piggott – Chair
Cllr A Hollins – Vice Chair
Cllr F Siddall
Cllr B Gibbon
Clerk – Bill Dicks

APOLOGIES

Cllr M Coney

NOT PRESENT None

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Siddall (related to applicant in Planning Application DC/17/2596/FUL).

3. CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS – None.

4. FINANCE

Cllrs reviewed the end-year Return process. PC being satisfied with its system of internal control, the Governance Statement was signed by the Clerk and Chair. The Accounting Statements were then signed by the Chair.

5. SIGNAGE FOR CEMETERY AND PLAY AREA - Play Area

There were more issues with the play area, including more uprights broken away from the play area fencing, rubbish strewn including broken glass on the grassed area and burning of fires. The Chair explained that sharp shards of wood had been left and needed to be removed, Cllr Siddall and Cllr Gibbon will arrange to have this done. The Chair and Cllr Siddall had received concerned telephone calls. The Chair contacted SCDC who agreed to include the play area bin in the regular village waste collection, SCDC requested that a better bin be installed and gave the details. Councillors agreed on the installation of signage prohibiting littering and fires and set a budget limit of £100. Cllr Gibbon will arrange purchase of the sign. Councillors agreed to purchase a bin as advised by SCDC and set a budget limit of £185.

Cemetery

Dog fouling remained an issue in the cemetery and was adversely affecting the grass contractor. Councillors agreed on signage requesting Dogs on Leads and to Clean up after dogs, be installed. A budget of £50 was set. Cllr Gibbon will arrange the purchase of the Sign.

- Action 35/2017:** Purchase signs for play area and cemetery. **BG**
Action 36/2017: Purchase bin of SCDC approved type for Play Area. **SP**
Action 37/2017: Arrange to repair or replace splintered posts. **BG & FS**

6. FURTHER WORK CAR PARK LIGHTING PROJECT

PC decided that protection for the new lamp from errant cars was needed. Councillors agreed to get a quote for upright bollards.

Action 38/2017: Look into protection for car park lamp and report back with quotes. **SP**

7. PLANNING

DC/17/2227/VOC – Hopkins Homes

Meeting was temporarily closed

A member of the public expressed concerns regarding: the lack of information from the Suffolk Coastal District Council (~~DC~~) for both PC and public; the difficulty of understanding these planning applications – what they actually involve; and a perceived lack of SCDC oversight.

Meeting was re-opened

Three of the planned homes were affected by the proposed changes: two originally shown as chalets would now be two storey dwellings; and ~~one would have its~~ 'footprint' extended. Cllrs noted that height had been a key consideration in the original permission and agreed that the houses were too close to existing Grade 2 listed homes for these changes to be acceptable, especially as the new houses would be situated on rising ground. Councillors agreed on a response of strong objection. **Clerk**

Action 39/2017: Write to Planning objecting strongly to DC/17/2227/VOC on grounds of local policy DM 23 **Clerk**

Action 40/2017: Write to District Councillor pointing out that more information and clearer plain language explanation is required in order for residents to understand complex applications. **Clerk**

DC/17/2493/DRC - Hopkins Homes

A key condition of approval for the Hopkins development was a footpath connecting the new estate to the village. Cllrs agreed that the condition was important and needed to be upheld - a 2014 Act was enacted to protect school sports fields. As a result the Minister for Education has to approve reduction of small sports fields. PC resolved to refer the matter to County Council (CC) Schools Infrastructure. **Clerk**

Action 41/2017: Write to: Planning regarding DC/17/2493/DRC supporting the need for a footpath in principle; and Suffolk County Council Schools Infrastructure proposing that if the current footpath, which requires a reduction in the school sports field, does not secure ministerial approval, then SCC and SCDC should advocate a better direct line for the path,

Cllr Siddall left the room

DC/17/2596/FUL – Home Farm, Change of Use Barns to Residential units

Meeting was temporarily closed

The applicant provided information and clarification about the application.

Meeting was re-opened

This was a replacement application taking on board points made in responses to an earlier application. Improvements included closing off an access. Provision was also being made for privacy and certainty of sanitation for a neighbouring property. PC resolved to support the application. **Clerk**

Action 42/2017: Write to Planning supporting DC/17/2596/FUL. **Clerk**

Cllr Siddall returned

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm

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Chair

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Date