

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY 15th May 2023

WELCOME

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT, COUNTY COUNCILLORS, & QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS OF PUBLIC—Duration time maximum 10 minutes - 2 minutes per person.

Attendees: 1 attendee – District Councillor Grey

All members of the elected Council signed a declaration of acceptance of office, paper copies are held by the clerk.

1 MEMBERS TO ELECT CHAIR –

Sue Piggott nominated herself for Chair

Proposal - Cllr Bob Gibbon

Second - Cllr G Edwards

Sue Piggott was duly elected and signed the “Declaration of Acceptance of Chairs office”

2 MEMBERS TO CONSIDER ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Fi Siddall nominated herself for Vice Chair

Proposal - Cllr Sue Piggott

Second - Cllr Bob Gibbon

AND REPRESENTATIVES. –

Highways - Cllr Sue Piggott

Footpaths - Cllr Ian Palfreyman

Emergency Cllr Bob Gibbon

Play Area – Cllr Fi Siddall

Cemetery - Cllr Gareth Edwards

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

5 CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATION REQUESTS

None

6 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING

- The Chair reported that the Kings Coronation Tea Event planning took place, two meetings were held with the cricket club Chair to prepare for and organise the event. The Chair sourced and purchased the Raffle and Draw prizes. The Coronation Tea proved to be successful with many people attending. The

Church bells rang on Coronation Day thanks go to the Bell Ringing team and Captain.

- The Clerk reported that the application had been submitted for bulbs for “Suffolk in bloom” from ESC.
- Councillor Edwards was thanked for repairing the broken guttering over the Defibrillator cabinet.

7 APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF MARCH 6th 2023 & APRIL 27th 2023

The minutes for both meetings were agreed and signed.

8 FINANCE

8.1. Approve Financial Statement – 15th May 2023

The Statement was agreed

8.2 Approve Year End '23 AGAR Forms & internal audit date 19th June 2023

The AGAR was approved. The Chair and Clerk signed and minuted the document.

8.3 Overview of the VAT refund

The RFO said that the claim for £2709.44 had been sent to HMRC.

8.4 To receive an offer to fill role of RFO by an Easton resident

The Chair proposed to divide the Clerk and RFO job.

The RFO would work 2 hours pw and the clerk 3 hours pw. Guy Pugh had been asked to be RFO and the Council agreed to appoint him to this post from July 1st 2023. **It was agreed to advertise the Clerk post on the village website and through SALC.**

9 PLANNING

Council to consider response to:

- 9.1 DC/23/1450/FUL** | Construction of a two storey new build house and garage (Use Class C3), together with associated hard and soft landscaping. | Bushy Meadow Framlingham Road Easton Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 0EN

The Parish Council can only support this application if the Lighting scheme is drastically reduced to only installing timed low light bollards for the driveway. **The Parish Council strongly objects to the application should there be no change to the lighting scheme.**

This proposal is within a Countryside setting and not urban or city scape. The village of Easton puts high importance on maintaining a dark skies policy.

All councils are expected to take on the challenges of reducing the loss of natural environment, habitat and species, all of which must recover, be improved and protected where possible. This application has designed in uplighting into trees, and hard landscaping and shows disregard for many policies that are in place, including, the Local Plan, NPPF, DEFRA and the emerging Easton NP:

- 9.2 DC/23/1520/TCA** | 1no. Eucalyptus (T1 on plan) - Fell | 5 - 6 Pound Cottages Pound Corner Easton Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 0EH

Council agreed to support this application

To ratify planning decisions of April 27th 2023 – EPC Extra-ordinary meeting

- 9.3 DC/23/0342/TCA** 1no. Magnolia (T1 on plan) - Crown reduce to 2.5 metres above ground - Lavender Cottage The Street Easton, Suffolk IP13 0ED

This decision of support was ratified by the Council

- 9.4 DC/23/0154/FUL-** Construction of a single storey contemporary garden building to be used as a home office. - Easton View 2 Home Farm Barns Wickham Market Road Easton Suffolk IP13 0ET

This decision of support was ratified by the Council

10 QUIET LANES

The Clerk reported that ex-Councillor Balcombe had volunteered to collect the signs from the Ipswich depot, the Clerk had forwarded the collection dates & times, the signed risk assessment, and confirmation that the Council insurance covered the volunteers for this activity.

11 PLAY AREA

The Clerk had been in contact with Simon Walker from Norse to request on advice on repairing the play equipment as specified in the ROPSA report. The Clerk was requested to contact the mole-man.

Clerk to send Mr Walkers details to the Vice chair and to contact the mole-man.

12 HIGHWAYS

Councillors discussed the traffic issues when the B1116 closed for repairs. The road had been closed 5 times in 8 weeks. Easton is used as a cut through, which had resulted increased traffic which involved inappropriate sized lorries and double decker buses resulting in several near “misses”. Councillor Grey offered to get involved in this ongoing issue and would look to take this up with Councillors and Highways.

The Chair reported that she had received notification that the Highways bill totalled £11k more than the expected. The initial costs agreed and expected that were given by SCC Highways had been a total of £42,000, of this the admin and licensing totalling 10,000 had been paid with a balance of £32,000 expected. The project timeline was severely delayed by SCC Highways and has resulted in the project being approx. 25% more expensive due to price hikes in materials during 2021/22, however the time line was not in the control of Easton PC who had hoped the scheme would have been delivered much earlier than it was. The Chair had been in touch with SCC & ESC to seek agreement for them to cover this increased total to the bill. The Chair had approached SCC Cllr Bryce last year who had been in talks with the SCC Highways Cabinet member and was assured that the matter would receive their attention. The Chair had made clear that Easton PC were only prepared to meet the expected costs

and that meant requiring a bill of £32,000 which would be settled. The Chair was working to resolve this issue.

Council members agreed that the expected £32,000 be paid and no more, and that the remainder due for the bill of works must be found by SCC Highways.

District Councillor was invited to speak. District Councillor Owen Grey had recently been elected following the local elections on May 4th and he would be working alongside Vince Langdon-Morris also elected following the local elections. District Cllr Grey explained that he lived locally and his family lived in Monewden. For the last 4 years he had worked in Belgium for the UN and NATO, he was looking forward to his newly elected role of District Cllr and would like to help and support Easton Parish Council and would give support in resolving the SCC Highways costs issue that has arisen from the installation of the speed calming scheme for the village. The Chair agreed to send him the details and time-line to date

13 ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- **ACTION PLAN
DEBEN WATER QUALITY**

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- 22nd May 2023 – Annual Parish Meeting –Easton Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 17th July 2023 - EPC Ordinary Meeting- Easton Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 18th September 2023 - EPC Ordinary Meeting- Easton Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 20th November 2023 - EPC Ordinary Meeting -Easton Village Hall – 7.45pm

Meeting Closed 9.00pm

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Chair

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Date