

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at Easton Village Hall, Marlingford Road, Easton on Monday 2nd October 2017 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Mr Peter Milliken (Chairman) PM
Mr Jonathan Bailey JB
Mr Mark Caton MC
Mr Mark Cordy MCo
Mrs Jan Hudson JH
Mr Alan Arber (clerk)

1 member of the public attended

1. Chairs welcome and Health and safety Information

Chair Peter Milliken opened the meeting and ran through the relevant Health and safety information for the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mike Jobling, Clare Chisholm and Margaret Dewsbury **Prop PM Sec JH all agreed**

3. Declarations of Interest and any requests for Dispensation.

Mark Caton for items under point 14, as he is due to receive a payment.
All Agreed

4. To receive a presentation from Highways England

The chairman welcomed the delegates from Highways England and wanted a detail minuted by the clerk as on their last visit they made to Easton parish council it was noted that the map was incorrect and the correct map was on show tonight. **Clerk minuted this.**

Highways England commenced their presentation with comments that the map is correct but is subject to change as they are meeting with other councils and using the local knowledge to assist them with their time frames and it was hoped to have a definitive map by the end of the year. HE then made comment that they are starting a consultation on a strategic route including all the views and opinions of all parishes involved in the discussions and are ensuring a balance is found for all parties. They are also working with Dong Energy on the issue of the western link route as they are also preparing to work in the area with cable laying. HE then made comment that one of the proposals was to remove the current roundabout at Easton towards Ringland and moving it closer to Blind Lane. On this subject they are gathering views and opinions and invited councillors to look at the current map on this issue and invite questions and feedback which could also be sent direct to the Highways England website and through the Easton Parish Council. One of the issues is that they need to consult with local transport agencies to ensure local access was available.

The chairman asked if this was an open consultation or a closed meeting. It was replied that this was a closed consultation for the agencies only but the decisions would be sent to the relevant Parish Council once the decision is made.

The chairman asked the residents present for their comments on this subject and it was overwhelming support for the plans from residents of Lower Easton as all residents present felt the road was not safe at any time and they definitely welcomed the new proposals. The chairman then read out two emails from residents from Lower Easton who were both in favour of the proposal to close the roundabout. Another email was then read out which was not in favour of the proposal on the grounds that the Easton estate needed access for lorries to access the estate and that the parishioner also felt extra fly tipping would occur.

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A councillor then made comment that he felt that there was a redundant access gate for the estate and this could be re-established to allow access for the Lorries into the estate. Highways England commented this was outside the scheme but they would look into this and see what can be done.

The discussion then centred on the proposed pedestrian underpass and cycle way and whether Lower Easton would be cut off from the main village but again the residents were in favour of this option and felt it would be of great value to the residents of Lower Easton. The general consensus of the discussion so far was this was the best option for the safety of the residents in Lower Easton.

The discussion then moved onto the worries that other parishes in the consultation felt that by moving the roundabout closer to Blind Lane would give them an increase through their area and they were against all options for this to happen. Highways England then commented that the NDR and the A47 dualling were separate schemes although highways England were in discussion with Norfolk County Council on both schemes.

It was then brought to the attention of the meeting by Highways England that Dong energy were looking at their proposal for the cable route and that work still needed to be done and that both parties, Highways England and Dong energy were working together to ensure the best routes are obtained for all and that are in discussions with Dong energy on this subject. As mentioned earlier in the meeting the local bus services and large Lorries were again discussed in relation to the food hub and Highways England were of the opinion that the junctions they had in mind were able to take this traffic but once the food hub is determined extra traffic modelling would take place.

A letter was then read out from an Easton parishioner on the noise issue that they feel may happen if the Easton roundabout was closed and the email was handed to highways England to reply direct to the parishioner that once all the decisions were in place Highways England were obliged to provide details on the issue of noise to all residents.

Finally the proposal for closing the Easton roundabout was unanimously agreed as a good step forward and a short discussion ensued as Weston Longville were opposed to the issue of closing the roundabout and moving closer to Blind lane but for the residents of Lower Easton this was the best option. The chair then thanked Highway's England for coming to the meeting and being so frank and honest.

Highways England delegation left the meeting

5. Public Participation

Standing orders were suspended

A question was asked regarding the recent cycling event in the village and the issues of riders holding up the traffic through the village by riding $\frac{3}{4}$ riders abreast. The new bus service to Longwater and the doctor's surgery was discussed and it was felt that this was a benefit to the parish and it was remarked that until the buses were able to take disabled people they would pay for an accessible taxi to assist disabled parishioners.

Standing orders reinstated

6. Receive and approve minutes of meetings 4th September 2017

The parish minutes and confidential minutes were then duly approved by all councillors and everyone was in agreement with their contents and they were duly signed as a true record of the meetings

Proposed MC, Seconded JB All Agreed

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7. To receive a report District and County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury

Nothing received from the District and County Councillor just apologies.

8. To discuss access to Lower Easton

This was discussed in the Highways England presentation and the chair thanked all residents for giving their valued input.

9. To discuss Forming a Planning Committee for all planning issues

The chair asked for comments on the forming of a planning committee to ensure we adhered to the Neighbourhood Plan that had now been adopted. It was agreed that it would make sense to use the members of the NHP steering committee as they had 2 years' experience to deal with planning applications as they had the best knowledge. Councillor JB agreed to chair the planning committee and would look at who the members would be. It was agreed that the committee would be made up of 2 councillors and 3 members of the public. **Proposed PM, seconded JB All agreed**

10. Matters arising from the minutes not on the Agenda elsewhere, for information only.

The clerk brought to the attention of the council that the Easton College student scheme would be starting on Thursday and it was agreed that some of the jobs the students could undertake was as following.

Painting the bus shelter

The Allotments

Cleaning the Jubilee playing field equipment and Muga

College heights work and other jobs the college felt were applicable.

The clerk confirmed he is fully DBS checked and could undertake the work.

PM then asked when the data from the SAM 2 would be issued to the police as by doing this it would help the police to see the issues in the village on speeding.

11. Updates on ongoing issues:

- **Neighbourhood Plan**

Already adopted and no update needed so it was agreed to take off the agenda

- **Food Hub**

Nothing new to report and the parish council was waiting to see what happened in the future.

12. Progress Reports and any further action required

- **Parish Allotments**

2 enquires for people wanting to take up allotments and one of the taps on the site needed looking at MC to do this ASAP

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• College Heights

It was confirmed that the contractor had trimmed the offending path. A discussion ensued on whether the play equipment was actually owned by the Parish Council.

Clerk to check. The bush on Stearn close was again overgrown and the clerk to send the letter to the householder needed to be sent again. Finally the hedge on St Peters Path was brought up but this was the Highways department to deal with.

Clerk to contact Highways

• Planning Application 2014/2611

The process was ongoing and the papers were now with the legal teams but as this was not a normal building construction it was noted it could take a while to come through.

13. Update on grounds maintenance and grass cutting

This was to be dealt with under the finance committee later in the meeting

14. Finance

• To Approve Payments for Jan 2017

Alan Arber Clerk	£471.52
Mr Ditton	£40.00
Mr Harrowzden	£88.60
Mrs Cordy	£100
C Moore	£85.50 Locum Clerk
Gary Lake	£1145 Village Maintenance and College heights
Mark Caton	£8.78 Hi-Vis vests
A Water	£55.97 Allotment water supply
Diocese	£60.00 Allotment Rent
NPTS	£125 Training course
Easton Village Hall	£85.50 Village hall hire
D Harvey	£1000 Vat Repayment as agreed
Norton Legal	£1247.50 Vat repayment as agreed
Good Companion's	£50.00 Donation

All Payments agreed

It was also agreed also of the payments would be put on the website each month

• To receive and accept the minutes of the finance committee meeting 2nd August 2017

MC took the meeting through the minutes and the proposals for full council to be agreed.

The grass cutting contract had been discussed at length and it was found that at no point was a full schedule of when the cuts would take place in the final document. It was agreed this will be changed for next round of tenders.

Jubilee paying field was discussed and it was agreed that we will involve the school in any discussions on new equipment. Chair PM commented that he had a meeting with a play company on Tuesday to look at new equipment. All welcome to attend.

It was also agreed that the clerk could purchase a hop-up to assist him in his duties with the Sam machine.

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PM also agreed that he will deal with the issue of the post in Lower Easton to allow data capture for Highways England.

All proposals agreed and the minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed PM, Seconded MC all agreed.

15. To receive updates on the following items

- Training for clerk and councillor's
The clerk had started his Cilca course and a suitable date needed finding for JH to attend training.
- The awards for all scheme
The clerk was looking into this at present.
- Parish partnership scheme
Councillor Mark Cordy was looking at the Bus shelter option for this and was speaking to SNDC on this
- The Grapevine
The clerk will now do this as he is back from leave.
- Defibrillator Training
Deferred

16. To discuss Highways England multi council meeting

PM commented that we needed a larger voice in this as other parishes attend on mass but we are getting our points and ideas across. Highways England will attend the multi council meeting in late November

17. To discuss the western link Consultation

Chair PM commented the minutes of the last meeting were out but he felt it was just a time setting agenda for what they have in mind. It was felt that as yet no data had been provided again felt that the route on the map was just a drawing exercise and that any questions he asked had not been answered.

18. Public participation

Standing orders were suspended

No public participation

Standing orders reinstated

19. Correspondence received and response or action required

20. Outstanding Issues

Tap at Allotments

Gary Lake and the bushes on jubilee playing field and College Heights

21. Agenda Items for next meeting

Bus Shelter

Defibrillator Training

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22. AOB

Nothing reported

23. Dates to Notes

- Next Parish Council Meeting 6th November 2017
- Finance and Staffing committee meeting 1st November 2017

Meeting Closed 8.50pm

DRAFT