

MINUTES OF THE EASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 11 MAY 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present	Mrs Ford	Chairman
	Mr Milliken	Vice-Chairman
	Mr Bailey	
	Mr Barrow	
	Mrs Chisholm	
	Mrs Hart	
	Mr Jobling	
In attendance	Mr Witcombe	Parish Clerk
	Mrs Dewsbury	District & County Councillor

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the April monthly meeting were approved and signed as a true copy.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Bailey, Mrs Chisholm, Mrs Hart, Mr Jobling and Mr Milliken declared their interest in protesting against the building of 907 houses in Easton.

Police and Crime Report

Lou Provart advises that he has been appointed Local Policing Inspector for the area from Loddon to Wymondham to Easton. We would like him to visit us to rejuvenate lines of communication.

We have not heard from the police in Bowthorpe this month. Wymondham police advise that there have been 4 thefts other than from motor vehicles and 2 cases of violence against persons in Easton in April. The police advised that they were coming to the pop-in on 5 May but they did not arrive. We have reported to the police that travellers have been knocking on doors in Marlingford Way. The police have been using the village for pursuit practice in the mid-afternoon which is an inappropriate time.

Public Participation

Mr Perry read a report that he had prepared on recent PC activities and how they had been dealt with. Mr Pearson spoke about the problems that arose with his application for the elections that meant that he had been excluded. Veronica Green suggested that we do double sided photocopying to save money. She also suggested involving the residents in community projects – Mr Jobling will look at the insurance implications.

Planning Applications and Other Relevant Matters

2014/2611 Outline planning application Easton Village Growth Location:

They will be able to confirm by 22 May if it is going to the 3 June Planning Committee meeting, but it is looking unlikely. We are told that Richard Bacon MP would like to speak at the meeting.

The Clerk will arrange a meeting in about 2 weeks time to consider who would speak and what the PC should say at the meeting in the time allowed to us. We will also consider how to deal with the recent email from NCC Highways about the suitability of the Trod for wheelchair users etc which is relevant to the meeting. Mr Milliken will obtain independent advice on the Trod from Equal Lives and the NNAB. The Clerk will put a copy of this correspondence on the PC noticeboard, along with the plans from the SN website of the footpaths that could be provided over the Longwater Junction as commissioned by the Consortium.

Mr Barrow offered to photo all the car parks at the Showground during the Norfolk Show to prove whether any should be made available for development.

We would like Anne Barnes the ex-Clerk of Cringleford PC to come and talk to us about how they prepared their Neighbourhood Development Plan.

SN have advised the following planning decisions:

2015/0093 Parkers Close – Erection of semi-detached bungalow. Approved.

2014/2465 Land to the rear of 1 Keepers Cottage – Outline application for a new single detached dwelling. Refused.

Matt Philpot has asked for help in finding a site for an assault/obstacle course but the Clerk will advise him that this is unlikely in Easton.

The Clerk will reply to an email from Jim Rice, 26 Woodview Road about the difficulty of selling his house with the signs against development around the village. We are sympathetic, but residents have the right to put up signs.

2015/0286 The planning permission that was granted for the trees at the Diocesan House. On last Saturday 9 May trees were apparently being taken down on this site at a time when birds are nesting. The Clerk will tell the SN Tree Officer of this and ask him what he will do about it.

Matters Arising

Village Hall and New Village Hall

Mrs Ford will be our VH rep and Mr Barrow the Rep for the NVH, provided these organisations are happy with this. The VH accounts for 2013 remain outstanding.

The NVH Quiz Night was cancelled due to lack of entries, and the Plant Sale is this coming weekend.

Highway Matters, St Peter's Path and Bus shelters

Four residents from Lower Easton attended the meeting and spoke of the very difficult traffic problems in front of their houses on a daily basis. There is a video of it and they have conducted a traffic survey showing a maximum of 500 vehicles an hour in the busiest times. Richard Bacon MP has become involved and he is organising a meeting with NCC Highways. The PC fully support them on this issue.

We have graffiti on the back of the Wimpey bus shelter on Dereham Road. SN have just delivered our free graffiti kit to Mr Milliken, and Mrs Hart offered to be the first to use it and try and get the graffiti off.

There have been various sightings of the Rangers working in Easton but not on College Heights. The Clerk is trying to find out what they actually did here.

We will remind Highways yet again that we were told that the resurfacing of Dereham Road leading up to the Easton Roundabout was to be done in March.

We have found out that street lighting should be tested every 6 years. We will check how long the St Peter's Path lighting has been in place to see if it needs testing.

The Clerk will purchase a 35 litre metal dog bin to replace the broken one at the Bawburgh Road end of St Peter's Path.

SN advise that they are undertaking their Clean Sweep 2015 through the district in May, June and July and we think they have already been here for the first of these.

Jubilee Playing Field, other Play Areas and the Grass Cutting Contract

Mr Cordy has kindly agreed to continue to organise small jobs for the PC.

Allotments

We had 2 vacant plots. Mr Wright of Bawburgh Road has taken one, and our Mr Barrow is looking at the other.

The PC decided that Jenny Taylor should be asked to remove the window frames from plot 29B otherwise the PC will get a quote for it and charge her for it.

Mr Barrow offered to photo each plot at the time when it is taken.

Norfolk Showground Events

The Norfolk Showground are aware of the traffic problems at the Spring Fling event this year and are planning to improve it next time.

The PC were pleased with the new plan for the City of Norwich Half Marathon which would be extended so that it would only come along Dereham Road once, but we will ask that all stewards are fully aware of the change and they allow for the rights of the residents.

The 2015 Elections

The New PC were very pleased with the turnout at the election with so many people taking part in the democratic process. They are sure that the whole village would like to thank the previous PC for their efforts over the last 4 years and more.

Annual Parish Meeting

The ladies of the PC will be providing refreshments at half time for the Annual Parish Meeting on 8 June.

Correspondence

The Clerk will deal with an email from Nicola Secker, 29 Buxton Close who was angered by the note in the Grapevine about the rats in the field beyond Buxton Close.

Finance

The following cheques were signed after being authorised by Mrs Ford:

102141 Ribbonsdale Nurseries – Grass Cutting April	£659.20
102142 Russell Brandish – Internal Audit	£165.00
102143 A Williams Engineering – JPF metal work	£120.00
102144 Mr Cossey – Allotment Tap	£7.50
102145 Easton Village Hall – Rent	£49.50
102146 EMC Car Scheme – Donation	£250.00
102147 Mr Witcombe – Salary + Expenses April	£453.28
102148 Mr Harrowven – JPF May	£40.00
102149 Mr Ditton - Bus Shelters May	£40.00
102150 Mrs Cordy – Litter + College Heights May	£100.00

The PC were given details of the financial position at 30 April.

The half payment of the Precept of £7,702 and the full payment of the SN grant of £996 have been received. The VAT refund of £962.32 has now been received.

The Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015 has been checked by the Internal Auditor, Russell Brandish, and was signed off by Mrs Ford and the Clerk and can now be sent to the External Auditors, Mazars. We now have to consider what has to be displayed on the website by 1 July under the new Transparency Code

The forms for the change in the cheque signing have been received from Barclays and Santander and the signatories for all 4 accounts will be Mr Bailey, Mr Barrow and Mr Jobling.

Any other business

Mrs Hart will deal with weeds on the verge outside of the JPF.

Mr Jobling suggested that we consider the more important items on the agenda together towards the end of the meeting. Mr Bailey was keen on them being at the beginning!

Mr Bailey was concerned that the PA system and name tags should be used in future.

Mr Milliken will investigate having WiFi in the VH. The Clerk will look into increasing the number of Councillors from 7 to 9.

The meeting finished at 10.33pm.