

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EASTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER 2015 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Cllrs Ford (Chair) (LF), Milliken (Vice Chair) (PM), Bailey (JB), Caton (MC), Chisholm (CC), Hart (MH) and Jobling (MJ).

LF opened the meeting

1. Apologies

None

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and any requests for dispensation.

LF, MH and JB are allotment holders

JB campaigned against planning application 2014/2611

The meeting was suspended to at 7.32pm to allow the public to speak.

3. Adjournment for public participation

- A resident queried why not all residents had received a leaflet on the parish poll.
- A resident queried the status of the Freedom of Information request submitted in August.
- A resident requested updates on:
The presence of asbestos in the village
The existence of an old report on Marlingford Road site by Bristol planning investigators.
- The same resident also requested that the minutes be a full and comprehensive record of the meetings.

Meeting opened at 7.40pm

- LF advised that the parish poll notice put up had fulfilled all legal obligations and the Parish Council personally delivered as many individual leaflets as possible. LF advised the Parish Council has been advised not to include more information than the notice itself in case it could be construed as misleading.
- There was a brief debate on whether the 96 votes cast is representative of the village views and the general interest of the village on the issue.
- LF advised is still awaiting a communication from an outside source for the Freedom of Information request.
- LF advised that the clerk is not duty bound to record all contributions and uses a tried and tested structure.

4. To receive reports from: Police Community Support Officer and crime figures. The crime stats were shared.

No report received from Councillor Dewsbury

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 9th December 2015

The minutes had been previously circulated and were agreed with the following amendments:

Correct the date to 9th November

Allotment contract to state the contracts will not be renewed if the plot is neglected.

Proposed CC, seconded MC

6. To report matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda, for information only.

Nothing put forward.

7. To make recommendations on planning applications, note decisions and other planning matters.

- 2015/2606: 10 Dereham Road – proposed conservatory, carport, covered areas and alterations. No views or comments.
- 2014/24665: 1 Keepers Cottage - notice of appeal regarding application for a single detached dwelling to the rear. No further comments.
- 2014/2611: Amendments to the previous outline plan reducing site area in Easton with removal of Parish Council land.

Comments:

- Plans still showing a potential footpath through the Jubilee playing field which would need to be 1.8m wide to fulfil pedestrian and cycle path requirements, a sizeable proportion of the playing area. As custodians of the land, can this be allowed? MJ suggested allowing the corner of the playing field to be used as a link from the new development to the existing Woodview Road path. PM said this would not fulfil the safer neighbourhood design. JB suggested checking the covenant to see if changes are allowed before contemplating.
- Plans do not show a consistent 10m wide strip of vegetation to buffer old village from new development. Should be planted in advance.
- Increased housing density.
- Proposed pedestrian crossing by Premier Inn not appropriate due to their forthcoming second entrance.
- Sport England not been consulted as a statutory body.
- Houses near dairy may be affected to smells and flies.
- Discussions on who is responsible for financing the village hall.
- LF read a letter from Boyer stating the Consortium still wishes to work with the Parish Council.
- Deadline for submitting comments is 22nd December 2015. Following the discussion, the Parish Council will recommend a rejection.
 - **LF will speak to Chris Raine and Sport England and request written report**
 - **CC to draft statement for Cllrs**

8. To update (where available) about the following ongoing issues:

- Neighbourhood Plan. Project summary circulated to Cllrs. 50 people attended the community event on October 31st and 18 on 26th November. The third event has a preliminary date of 30th January. A newsletter will be issued to confirm and encourage maximum attendance. The first Steering Group meeting welcomed 14 residents. Discussed timescales – the Plan will take 12-18 months as a legal timeframe has to be followed. JB reiterated the purpose and remit of a neighbourhood plan to influence style, design etc of development rather than preventing development from occurring.
- Food Hub
No new information.
LF is awaiting further information and will seek an update from Margaret Dewsbury on the Food Hub and A47 duelling.
New relevant information will be posted online.

Resident commented that not all residents use the internet and requested further leaflets. CC said legally only minutes have to be provided within 28 days and that the Parish Council website and facebook page were additional rather than replacement communication.

Discussion on Grapevine contributions as due to timings not all Parish Council information is up to date. Discussion on timing of council meetings and possibility of holding on first rather than second Monday of the month?

Investigation for this proposed by MJ, seconded PM.
Request for new notice board. Proposed by PM, seconded MC.

- Planning application 2014/2611

An amended application has been submitted by the consortium removing Parish Council land from the development area and reducing the number of houses to 890. PM recapped the influence of policy EAS1 as earmarking the area for development.

Discussion on:

- No problems with access, drainage or utility use for the Parish Council land had been highlighted during investigations.
- theoretical covenant removal and associated costs.
- On density – fewer houses but within a smaller space therefore increased density.
- status of contaminated land. PM said SNDC/developers have processes they must follow.
- selling options: Sell to Consortium at current heads of terms. The Parish Council has put forward many alternative proposals which have been rejected.
- Sell to Rampton’s developer directly to abide by parish poll result and secure timescale of payment
- advantages and disadvantages of selling versus advantages and risks of retaining; cannot approach other developers due to planning permission status.
- risk of delaying decision.

MJ proposed “that the Parish Council should endeavour to negotiate and deal directly with the Consortium to enable a direct sale to developers involved.” Seconded MC. Vote 6:1 in favour.

LF will request a progress report on contaminated land from SNDC.

Moved to item 12 at resident’s request.

12. To report back from the Parish Poll

Results given and a statement read by LF:

39 Yes to negotiating most favourable terms with Rampton

57 No

Total number of valid votes cast = 96

Percentage of 1000 + eligible voters this represents = 9%.

Discussion on weight of poll results as well as responsibility to village for avoiding risk and securing financial and infrastructure benefits.

9. To receive progress reports and agree any further action required regarding:

- Parish Allotments

MH has contacted all holders to put together a “wish list” for the proposed site which was circulated amongst Cllrs. PM and MH added request for resituating to occur in Autumn.

There is a meeting on November 16th to negotiate the requests in the 106 agreement. PM proposed accepting the list, MJ seconded. All in favour.

An up to date waiting list request will be in the Grapevine.

- Defibrillator

£670 has been raised so far and is ring-fenced in the Parish Council account.

Sunil Nair gave a detailed status report and there will be an update in the Grapevine.

LF reported that the village hall committee are happy for fitting on the outside of the village hall.

PM and MH have applied for two defibrillators and if successful one could also be fitted at Rembrandts on Dereham Road. Further units including one at College Heights may be sought in the future.

Fundraising for purchase and maintenance is continuing.

The Easton Crafters Club, Rembrandts and hairdressers are fundraising. Thank you to all who have contributed so far.

LF to acknowledge receipt of Cllr Margaret Dewsbury's councillor contribution.

LF to acquire list of all Easton groups for Easton Crafters as requested.

LF to approach showground

10.10 Cllr Bailey apologised and left the meeting.

- Wifi

LF reported that the village hall committee are happy with the plan for Wifi but as the current quotes are high, more research will be done.

10. To update progress towards receiving quotes for ground maintenance and grass cutting within the Parish.

MH has given all the information to MJ who will be continuing with it.

Jubilee hedge has still not been cut – MH has given LF's contact details.

Possibility of seeing new contractors discussed.

11. To consider purchasing PPE for staff members as requested.

Jean Cordy has requested a high visibility jacket. She will research and advise the council.

Gloves will be made available to anybody working around glass. MJ will acquire some samples from Anglian Water.

12. Discussed earlier in the meeting.

13. Accounts

Deferred as there is presently no Clerk or Responsible Financial Officer. LF has the accounts for Cllrs to consider and set at January's meeting.

LF to take cheques for signing.

PM to confirm Neighbourhood Plan Consultant Shaun Vincent's payment schedule.

14. To consider correspondence received and agree a response or other action

- Bus shelter paint flaking off and it is still wet under foot.

PM to follow up offer of drilling holes for drainage. MC offered to complete if not.

JB to approach college or school as to whether they would be interested in the bus shelter as an art project.

- Correspondence:

Letter received regarding a football from Jubilee playing field breaking a resident's car windscreen.

Letter received requesting defibrillator fundraising to be available online. Is crowd funding a possibility?

Both items added to next meeting agenda for consideration.

15. Agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting.

Jubilee MUGA area

Fundraising guides for support with the defibrillator bid.

16. Dates to note

Neighbourhood Plan event – 30th January 2016. Date and time to be confirmed.

Next Parish Council meeting – Monday 11th January 2016.

Meeting closed.