

**Minutes of the Meeting of Easton Parish Council held on
Monday 8th February 2016 at 7.30pm in Easton Village Hall.**

Present: Linda Ford (Chairman)
Jonathan Bailey
Mark Caton
Clare Chisholm
Mike Jobling
Peter Milliken
Catherine Moore, Locum Clerk

Also present: County and District Councillor Margaret Dewsbury and 3 members of the public were also in attendance.

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declaration of interest for items on the agenda and applications for dispensations

None.

3. Adjournment for Public Participation

The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

A member of the public reported that the self-closer on the gate at St Peter's Path had been damaged. It was confirmed that a quote had been obtained for a replacement and would be discussed later in the meeting.

The meeting was reconvened.

4. Co-option to Casual Vacancy

The Chairman reported that there had been no applications for the vacancy, and invited members of the public present to stand for the position of councillor. One member of the public expressed an interest but stated that he would confirm by the next meeting whether he wished to stand.

5. Reports

i) Police Community Support Officer

It was noted that two crimes had been recorded during January 2016.

It was reported that specialist traffic arrangements for diversions through Easton when the A47 was closed were being considered by the police. There had been a noticeable increase in the number of road traffic collisions resulting in diversions through the village, and the scale of housing development proposed could increase problems. The statistics were proving difficult to obtain, however there had been high volumes through the village at times. The Parish Council would be regularly updated and a formal plan drawn together.

ii) District and County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury

Councillor Dewsbury suggested that, in the absence of statistics, traffic counts could be arranged to provide evidence for diversion plans.

South Norfolk Council was offering grants of £400 for community celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, details to be forwarded.

The A47 Alliance was looking to prepare plans to deal with the pinch point from Tuddenham to Easton. The Waveney Valley Missing Link Group was focussing on

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joining up the Northern Distributor Road, with 13 route options available. Studies were being undertaken.

Costessey Town Council would be hosting a meeting for parish councils in relation to the Northern Distributor Road, an invitation would follow.

The worst of the proposed cuts at Norfolk County Council were expected not to go ahead, instead the authority was looking to raise the precept by 3.99%, with 2% of this for adult social care.

6. Minutes of the meeting held 11th January 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January were considered. The '???' in item 7 bullet points 2 and 4 was replaced with 'statutory'. With this amendment the minutes were **agreed**, proposed by Clare Chisholm, seconded by Peter Milliken, all in favour.

7. Matters arising from the minutes

Options for the netting for the MUGA were being considered.

Previous comments regarding gates by Mrs Hart were clarified to mean that access to the Jubilee Field was not desired, and objections should be raised on that basis.

The bus shelter had been drilled out and jet washed. The promised maintenance over the summer hadn't happened and had caused maintenance issues. The shelter was sinking badly which had been an issue since it had been built. It was **agreed** that Linda Ford would write to the Showground asking them to carry out the work as promised, and that an update would be given at the next meeting.

The College had been contacted regarding painting the bus shelters, this would be done in better weather, with a theme of 'Village Life'. It was **agreed** that Mike Jobling would follow this up in the spring.

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8. Planning

No planning applications had been received. It was confirmed that applications could only be considered if they were on the agenda, therefore extensions were requested to ensure that they reached a meeting.

i) South Norfolk Council Planning Meeting 3rd February 2016

Linda Ford and Peter Milliken had attended the meeting where the application for 890 houses had been considered. Peter spoke as the main objector, with Linda representing the Parish Council. The plans under consideration were the second option, and were approved, therefore the developers had two applications which had been passed and which they could choose from.

Peter briefed the Council on the options for appeal through judicial review, highlighting failures in process by South Norfolk Council. It was suggested that the involvement of Sport England at an earlier stage could have resulted in a very different looking approved development. Existing facilities were discussed, together with arrangements for community use of the College's facilities. The process and cost of judicial review was unknown, and it was suggested that there could be room to amend the look and feel of the development if a judicial review was upheld. It was **agreed** that Linda Ford would confirm whether the Council's legal insurance would cover the costs. It was **agreed** that Peter Milliken would circulate information regarding judicial review to councillors.

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9. Updates on ongoing issues

i) Neighbourhood Plan

A project report was circulated. Around 55 people had attended the workshop. A meeting of the Steering Group was scheduled for 17th March. A newsletter had been

d)	Mr Harrowven	Salary – Jubilee Playing Field	£40.00
e)	ABZAG	Neighbourhood Plan	£2,820.00
g)	Mrs Crickmore	Minutes January 2016	£30.00

The invoice for the land agent was presented (£4,229.00), noting that he was prepared to accept 50%. An itemised bill had been received which included work up to and including January. It was **agreed** that Linda Ford would circulate the bill for councillors to view, and that careful consideration would be given to the arrangements for the use of the land agent to ensure that costs did not spiral. It was **agreed** that the bill would be paid if all councillors gave consent by email, and that the land agent would be asked to send monthly bills and updates on costs.

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It was noted that Anglian Water would be reading the meter at the allotments, and sending a bill. The water supply would be classified as commercial from 2017, meaning that the supplier could be chosen. It was confirmed that a lock mechanism was used on the allotment tap to prevent public use.

13. Internal Auditor

It was noted that the council's internal auditor had resigned that position. Anne Barnes, retired Clerk to Cringleford Parish Council, had been approached and was willing to audit the accounts. It was **agreed** that Linda Ford would contact Mrs Barnes, and that the internal auditor would be appointed at the next meeting.

LF

14. Update on Easton land owners consortium meeting

The next meeting would look at the two outline applications that have received approval with a view to making a recommendation to the developers on the favoured option. Linda Ford offered to represent the Parish Council at the meeting. It was **agreed** that the preferred option would be to sell land directly to the developer to ensure that money was received on completion. It was **agreed** that Peter Milliken would put together facts and figures, and that Clare Chisholm would formulate wording, and that Linda Ford would attend the meeting, proposed by Clare Chishom, seconded by Jonathan Bailey, all in favour.

PM / CC

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15. Communication Policy

This would be discussed at the next meeting.

16. Correspondence

A letter had been received from Mrs Ditton regarding the repair of the road at the roundabout leading to the church. Peter Milliken confirmed that he had discussed this with Norfolk County Council Highways, who confirmed that the road is surface dressing and isn't unsafe. Traction is just as good with this type of surface, and ice would still form with other forms of surfacing. It was unlikely that funding would be available for non-essential works. It was **agreed** that Linda Ford would reply to Mrs Ditton.

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Mr Ditton had reported that the seat in the bus shelter on Dereham Road was broken. This had been left in situ with a note stating that it was broke, so that Norwich Highways Agency could come and inspect for repair.

Complaints had been received regarding dog fouling on St Peter's Path. It was confirmed that evidence was needed in order to pass this on to South Norfolk Council for action. It was suggested that an article could be put into The Grapevine reminding dog owners that they could be prosecuted for allowing their dog to foul the path, and

that other 'naming and shaming' activities could be considered.

A letter had been received from Mr Beckett asking why the planning application from 11th December 2015 had not been considered by the Council. He outlined his objections to the application. It was confirmed that the Council had not been notified of this application. It was **agreed** that Peter Milliken would reply stating that Mr Beckett would need to direct his comments to South Norfolk Council, and that he would also confirm with South Norfolk Council whether the Parish Council had been consulted.

PM

Mike Jobling reported that the drainage issues at Diocesan House had not been addressed, it was **agreed** that a letter would be sent asking them to clear the leaves as they were causing flooding in the neighbour's garden.

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17. Items for next month's agenda

- Broadland Meeting (Food Hub)
- Double yellow lines near Marlingford Road
- Multi Use Games Area
- Change of regular meeting date
- Letter to village groups

18. Dates to note

- 17th March – Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting 7.15pm

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be Monday 14th March 2016, 7.30pm, in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

CHAIRMAN