

Easton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Easton Parish Council held at
Easton Village Hall, Marlingford Road, Easton on
Monday 7th October 2019 at 7.30pm

1. Chairs welcome

Action

Present Peter Milliken PM	Mike Jobling MJ
Jan Hudson JH	Mike Bowman MB
Mark Caton MCa	Gillian Landles GL
David Lewis DL	Mark Cordy MCo
Francis Woodcock - clerk FW	

There were 6 members of the public attending.

2. Apologies for absence: Ian Norman IN
3. There were no declarations of interest
4. The minutes of the meeting of 2nd September 2019 were approved – proposed Mca, seconded MB, agreed unanimously.
5. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda elsewhere
 - 5.1. Plans for teardrop roundabout – it was reported that the project had been suspended pending a review by Broadland DC and Highways
6. A presentation was given by Corrienne Peasgood, principal of Norwich City College, on progress so far on the merger with Easton College. It was reported that the merger date of the two colleges was still planned for 1st January 2020, once due diligence had been completed across the areas of finance, resourcing and administration, along with the legal requirements. A public consultation had taken place due to be published on 30th October 2019 which provided a positive response with helpful comments received from staff and students as the transition work is carried out on the disaggregation from Otley College.

There was a discussion with the Council on maintaining close ties and strong communication links and the Council raised its wish that work in the Village with Easton College's Employability Group would continue, as in previous years this had proven to be very successful. It was hoped that students will be able to help out again this November. The Council thanked Corrienne for attending.

7. Food Hub update

An update report was given by David Martin from the operator Condimentum:

- First processing of mustard is planned for December 2019 when the construction fit out is completed. Mint will be brought in for processing from the May 2020 harvest.

- Building the team - job adverts are being made ready to actively target the local community to hire food production and production planning staff, as well as a mechanical engineer which can hopefully be recruited from UEA.
- Landscaping and tree planting will be scheduled for autumn and they will be looking at fast growing trees such as Hybrid black poplars.
- With the milling tower construction clearly visible in its green to grey graded cladding, work is now underway to clad the main building facility. For information: work was underway along Church Lane to build up a bank as a barrier between the road and the trod. Buildings on the Food Enterprise Park were being constructed.

The Council thanked David Martin for attending.

Minutes from the latest Food Hub Liaison meeting taking place on Wednesday 16th September 2019 at Broadland DC offices will be posted in due course on the Parish website to view.

8. Report given by District and County councillor Margaret Dewsbury.

It was reported that County councillors had negotiated terms with Easton and Otley College to buy a 6.4 acre site, east of Bawburgh Road Easton so a new school could be built there. The Easton school would support 170 children with a range of special educational needs and would include an 18-place base for children with autism and learning difficulties. The purchase would be funded from the council's capital programme, which covers expenditure on longer term projects and infrastructure.

Grants would be available for VE day anniversary celebrations in 2020 and available to organisations wanting to plan events for next year's celebrations. At county level The Norfolk Development Foundation has grants available for up to £500 and South Norfolk District Council grants up to £200. Groups and organisations could contact Margaret for more details.

9. Adjournment for public participation

A member of the public raised the need for signs to remind dog owners to keep their dogs on leads on public footpaths adjacent to farmland

The idea of a Village Open Day was muted, given that there had been successful events in previous years.

10. For information : Updates

10.1 Trod damage (showground). It was reported that the contractor UIP who had caused the damage will undertake remedial works and use the same colour stone to ensure a full repair.

10.2 Church Lane road works. It was reported that snagging issues would be fixed. A request to have another pull-in incorporated into the planned works, plus an increase in the trod width would be made at the next FEP Liaison Group meeting.

Line painting for the new church car park would be undertaken by the Highways department.

10.3 Damage to parish hedge along Dereham Road. Agreement would be reached with the developer ESCO/Orbit as to an acceptable level of repair with costs recovered from the contractors UIP, who had caused the damage.

10.4 The SAM2 machines had now been re-sited and new batteries fitted. Details of the counts and speeds would be kept.

10.5 Parking restrictions: the need for reapplication of markings by the Highways department outside St Peter's Primary School was discussed. It was noted with disappointment that after the recent road works they had been not been repositioned in full correctly as before. Margaret Dewsbury together with the Parish Council had raised this with Highways to resolve.

10.6 Discussions with South Norfolk Council were nearing completion over the transfer of ownership of two open spaces to the parish council (designated as play areas by the district council) on St Peter's Drive and Cardinal Close. Part of the monies then made available from the Dereham Road housing development, would be made available to furnish these areas with play equipment. A total of £68,000 would be made available for both these sites and the Jubilee Playing Fields. GL agreed to act as a Playground Liaison with St Peter's Primary School for the project.

11. CLT update: The CLT board had not met since the last parish meeting. Discussions had continued with South Norfolk Council over the status of affordable housing within the S.106 agreement for the Dereham Road Housing Development. The CLT was in the process of reaching a formal decision as to whether it would take on designated affordable housing stock managed under council rules set with a housing provider or manage a number of discrete properties itself.

12. Planning Issues

12.1 Planning application 2019/1251 – Dereham Road Housing Development. For information: The Highways Dept had commented favourable on the application. A review of flood preventative measures was taking place and in the process of assessment, but feedback so far was positive.

12.2 Planning application 2019/1940 – Diocesan House 2 storey annexe. There was no news on the progression of the application. It was agreed that the clerk would make contact with Diocesan House to ask for a representative to attend a forthcoming parish council meeting. FW

12.2 2018/0533 Erection of retail unit on land adj to William Frost Way Costessey. It was reported that the application had been withdrawn.

12.3 2014/2611 Persimmon Homes Land Development for 907 dwellings North and South of Dereham Road + 2019/1963 Discharge of Conditions Revised Design Code for application 2014/2611. It was reported that PM/MCa together with the EPC's legal representatives would meet with South Norfolk Council/NPLaw to confirm the legal position of the district council in relation to their financial commitment to funding the new village hall which was stipulated as part of the original S.106 agreement for this development. The meeting would take place on the 16th October 2019 at South Norfolk Council offices.

The Parish Council took the decision to employ the firm of consultants, Azbag, to represent the Council in dealings with Persimmon and South Norfolk Council in relation to application 2019/1963 for the revised design code to this development. Proposed PM, seconded MCa, carried unanimously. A meeting would take place at South Norfolk Council offices on 24th October 2019.

13. Adjournment for public participation

14. Finance Sub Committee

- i. The financial position was reviewed and a schedule of year end reserves tabled that identified total funds of £70,981 containing a General Fund balance of £25,412. The increase in the General Fund had been a result of the second South Norfolk Council precept receipt, a refund of input VAT and payment of partnership fund monies by Norfolk County Council. It was agreed by the Council that general funds of up to £5,200 net of VAT be made available to Azbag to pay for the aforementioned consultancy work. Proposed MCa, seconded JH, carried unanimously.
- ii. A schedule of September payments was received -see below.
- iii. Minutes from the F&G meeting of the 18th September 2019 would be approved at their next meeting on 16th October 2019.

15. Correspondence received requiring action

A donations letter was received from Norfolk Citizens Advice. The clerk would respond and decline the request stating that the policy of the Council was to only consider donations from organisations solely representing Easton activities for its residents.

FW

16. Agenda items for forthcoming Parish meetings

- Persimmon update
- Trod/UIP/curbing issues for Dereham Road and Church Lane

17. Urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the council

The Lower Easton footbridge was now overgrown. DL to report on the NCC Highways issues website.

DL

The dog signs at the parks were in need of replacement with metal posts and signs. PM would obtain quotes and MCo would fit. **PM/MCo**

The need for curbing on the junction of Dog Lane/Church Lane was raised. MD suggested monies from the Highways Dept may be made available for this. PM would raise this with them. **PM**

There was a problem with overhanging trees obstructing the pavements along sections of the Dereham Road. The clerk would comment within Grapevine and produce an advisory letter to those residents required to evaluate the need to manage their boundaries. It was noted that a warning should be made that if the Council needed to carry out clearing works, it would seek reimbursement for the cost of this work from the owners of those properties. **FW**

18. Dates to note:

Finance + Governance Committee 16th October 2019, Easton Village Hall 7.30pm
Easton Council meeting, 4th November 2019, 7.30pm, Easton Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

September payments

F Woodcock Sep pay and expenses	742.72
J Cordy – Sep	100.00
CGM - Aug	219.56
Total payments	<u>1062.28</u>

Signed : Peter Milliken, Chair