

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF EASTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009**  
**at Easton Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllr T Smith, Chairman Cllr J Kerr  
Cllr M Coney Cllr J Duggan  
Mrs C Davis, Parish Clerk County Cllr P Bellfield  
District Cllr R Snell PCSO C Hassler  
3 members of the public

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm

1 **APOLOGIES:** Cllr P McEwan Cllr I Melton  
Cllr B Eklid

2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr Coney item 9, Cllr Duggan items 8 & 11, Cllr Smith item 11,  
Cllr Kerr item 12

3 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June were signed and approved  
as a true record. Proposed Cllr Kerr, seconded Cllr Coney.

As the County and District Councillors together with PCSO Hassler needed to  
leave early, the agenda was duly shuffled to accommodate the request. The  
minutes are recorded in the order of the agenda. The meeting was adjourned  
for the public's opportunity to speak after these reports.

15 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

- 15.1 Cllr Bellfield reported that following the recent election and subsequent  
AGM in June, he has taken the role of Chairman of the Pension Fund  
Committee and is also a member of the Transport & Highways  
Committee.
- 15.2 In his role on the Highways Committee, Cllr Bellfield intends to request  
the following two items be put on the agenda: Progress with the policy  
recommendations and to scrutinise the BT planning application for 2,000  
homes in Martlesham Heath with reference to the Highways proposals.
- 15.3 Cllr Bellfield reported on the costs awarded against the Boundary  
Committee regarding the recent LGR consultations.

14 **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

- 14.1 Cllr Snell further expanded on the BT application and voiced his concerns  
regarding the proposals regarding the 7 lane highway and traffic lights  
on the A12 and this matter will be discussed at length.
- 14.2 Cllr Snell also commented on the LGR situation.

- 14.3 County Councillor advised that there will be further consultation on the LDF regarding changes in proposed housing within Felixstowe and Martlesham Heath which will take place in September.
- 14.4 Cllr Snell gave his congratulations to Easton on winning the Suffolk Coastal Village of the Year award. He also advised that in a recent survey Suffolk Coastal was voted 7<sup>th</sup> best place to live in the country.
- 14.5 District Council continues to oppose the movement of cardiac care from Ipswich Hospital.
- 14.6 Clerk was asked to e-mail agendas as well as minutes to County and District Councillors in future. Clerk

The meeting was closed at 7.50 pm to give the public an opportunity to speak and as there was little of concern the meeting re-opened at 7.55 pm.

## 15 POLICE REPORT

- 16.1 PCSO Hasler reported that in the period 20<sup>th</sup> May to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 there had been no reported crimes in Easton.
- 16.2 The meeting was advised of Community Speed Watch, a new initiative from Suffolk Police allowing communities to be involved in speed checks. A number of villages would work together to purchase a speed gun, signs and fluorescent jackets and, together with PCSO Hasler, would monitor speed throughout the villages. The cost would be in the region of £100 per village.
- Council agreed to put this matter on a future agenda as there are a number of considerations to be made on this matter. Clerk
- 16.3 PCSO Hasler advised the meeting on the importance of keeping vehicles secured and items of value out of sight following a spate of car thefts recently throughout Suffolk.

## 4 FINANCE

- 4.1 Clerk presented the Financial Report for the period 18<sup>th</sup> June to 22<sup>nd</sup> July which was duly approved and signed. Approved Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Kerr.
- 4.2 Clerk was asked to circulate the financial reports in future. Clerk
- 4.2 Clerk to have a report of actual against budget to date for the next meeting. Clerk

## 5 CLERK'S REPORT

- 5.1 **Play Area** – A new agreement has been drafted between Mrs Gill Kerr & Easton Parish Council and following the answers to a couple of queries, this will be duly signed. The new agreement allows for erection of equipment on the land. Clerk

- Clerk has submitted a planning application but now has to provide a more in depth Design & Access Statement together with a Flood Risk Assessment. Clerk
- Clerk is looking into the cost of putting a polythene membrane and bark within the adventure trail section and to providing a picnic bench and litter bins. Clerk
- 5.2 **Village of the Year** – Suffolk Coastal wish to present the cup and cheque in September at a village event. The other winners will also be invited to receive their cheques. Councillors to e-mail the Clerk within the next couple of days with ideas. All
- 5.3 **Community Awards** – The deadline for applications is 26<sup>th</sup> July. Following discussions it was agreed the Clerk should put in an application for Cheryl Singleton, Headteacher at Easton School Clerk
- 6 **DOG NUISANCE**
- 6.1 Clerk had received various telephone calls and letters regarding this subject. In the case of aggressive dogs it was agreed this matter should be passed to the police. In the matter of dog fouling it was agreed to put up more signs on The Street and in the lane leading to the sewage works. It was also agreed to put another article in the Parish Magazine. Clerk
- 7 **PLANNING**
- 7.1 Planning permission for The Cockpit has been received with various conditions. The document will be circulated for Councillors information. Clerk
- 8 **CEMETERY**
- 8.1 there are currently approximately 35 spaces available for burial plus the Garden of Remembrance. The matter of more land needs to be addressed now as acquiring land could take some time. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to write formally to the adjoining landowner to find out if it may be possible to purchase a strip of land in the future. Clerk was also asked to investigate if there is any financial help available for such a purchase from District or County Councils. Clerk
- 8.2 A request for an additional inscription on a headstone for Mrs Woodhouse was approved.
- 9 **VILLAGE HALL**
- 9.1 The matter of repayment of VAT on works to the village hall was discussed and was suggested that to help with this repayment of £738.59, Council would not pay the grant or hiring fees for this year and that Village Hall would repay the remainder by the end of the financial year. Clerk to write to VHMC with this suggestion. Clerk

10 **BERYL WEBSTER MEMORIAL**

10.1 It was agreed that a memorial would be a fitting tribute to the contribution Mrs Webster had made to the village over the years. One suggestion was the picnic bench with an engraved plaque in her memory in the play area or a bench on the green. If Councillors have other suggestions, please e-mail the Clerk. All

11 **SCHOOL LANE**

11.1 Concerns have been raised regarding the speed of traffic in the lane mainly from vehicles associated with the Cricket Club. School Lane has the highest proportion of children in the village with 12 of primary school age. The Chairman has spoken with the Cricket Club regarding signage and it is hoped that the costs may be shared. Unfortunately signs that were there in the past have been stolen. Clerk to investigate costs of new and/or secondhand signs through Highways. Clerk

12 **RIVER DEBEN**

12.1 Cllr Melton had asked for this item to be put on the agenda but as he was not in attendance it will be carried forward to the next meeting. Clerk

13 **CORRESPONDENCE**

13.1 **Training** – The Monitoring Officer and SALC have offered three dates in September for training. Unfortunately none of these is convenient. Clerk to ask if it could be held over until October. Clerk

13.2 **Wildflower Area** – A request has been made for the hay from the cemetery to be passed to Charsfield. This was agreed.

13.3 **Local Development Framework** – Letter advising of further consultation. It was agreed this matter be put on the September agenda. Clerk

13.4 **Tree on Village Green** Clerk advised there is no TPO on the dying fir tree. However, permission to fell is required due to its size. Clerk to complete forms and church committee will organise felling. Clerk

17 **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING**

River Deben, Cemetery, Beryl Webster memorial, Community Speed Watch, LDF, School Lane speeding, Play Area.

18 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009 at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed at. 9.10 pm

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Chairman

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Date