

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010**  
**in Easton Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllr T Smith, Chairman  
Cllr J Owen  
Cllr J Duggan  
Mrs C Davis, Parish Clerk

Cllr M Coney  
Cllr J McEvoy  
PCSO C Hassler

4 members of the public

Meeting opened at 7.00 pm

**1 APOLOGIES**

Cllr J Kerr    Cllr B Eklid    District Cllr R Snell    County Cllr P Bellfield

**2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Duggan	Affordable Housing	Personal & Prejudicial
Cllr Duggan	Cemetery	Personal & Prejudicial
Cllr Owen	Easton Farm Park	Personal

**3 MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of the meeting dated 6<sup>th</sup> July were signed as a true Record.  
Proposed Cllr Duggan, seconded Cllr Smith

4 **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**    None

5 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT** None

**6 POLICE REPORT**

6.1 PCSO Hassler reported that since 4<sup>th</sup> July there had been two reported crimes in, one being fraud by false representation and the other criminal damage to a motor vehicle.

6.2 Crime prevention advice was given to guard against distraction burglaries. This will be published in the Parish magazine and on the website.  
Clerk

**7 FINANCE**

7.1 Clerk presented the financial statement to date which was accepted.  
Proposed Cllr Owen, seconded Cllr Coney and unanimously agreed.

7.2 Clerk distributed the Actual v Budget figures for the year to date.

**8 PHYSICAL LIMITS BOUNDARIES**

8.1 After much discussion on individual areas of change it was unanimously

- agreed to accept the proposals. Clerk to respond by 8<sup>th</sup> October. Clerk
- 8.2 Clerk to publish the proposals on the notice board and website in order that villagers may contact SCDC directly if they wish. Clerk
- 9 **CLERK'S REPORT**
- 9.1 **Play Area** – Clerk reported that she had received an excellent report from the Lottery Fund – Awards for All and they were delighted with the way their grant money had been spent. There is £1475 remaining in the play area fund which is earmarked to purchase signage, another bench and to have the entrance enhanced. Clerk to arrange. Clerk
- There has been a request to install a compost bin for grass cuttings. However, after discussion it was unanimously agreed not to go ahead as it would incur costs not only for building the bin but also to have an amendment to the lease.
- Cllr Owen volunteered to carry out the weekly checks on the equipment and to keep a record. JO
- 9.2 **Cemetery** – Clerk & Cllr Coney have surveyed the cemetery and estimate that there are 27 burial plots plus 5 already purchased still available together with 45 cremation plots plus 3 already purchased. Over the last ten years there have been 11 burials and 11 cremations, some of which have used existing graves.
- Clerk has received notification from Mrs Hammond's land agent that she would be willing to sell a parcel of land alongside the current Cemetery and of the same dimensions. The cost would be £21,400 (equating to £36,000 per acre) plus Mrs Hammond's professional costs and a possible compensation claim from the current tenant farmer. Cllr Smith reported that the parcel of land would amount to approximately 3/5<sup>ths</sup> of an acre and premium agricultural land is currently estimated at £9,000 per acre. Therefore it would be expected that 3/5ths of an acre would cost £5,490. After much discussion on the subject Clerk was asked to carry out the following actions:
- Contact the land agent to try to negotiate the price
  - Ask if it would be possible to lease the land with the assurance of purchase at the end of a 10 year period
  - Meet with Mrs Hammond to explain Council's position
  - Explore the possibility of funding
- 9.3 **Cemetery Gates** – Cllr Smith had received a quote to gritblast and powder coat the gates for the sum of £150 - £200. Clerk had received an offer from a resident to rub down and paint the gates. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to accept this offer. Clerk to action. Clerk
- 9.4 **Cemetery Memorial** – Council unanimously agreed to a memorial and relevant wording for Mr Gordon Mayhew. Clerk to action. Clerk

- 9.5 **Dog Fouling Bin** – Clerk apologised that she is still to arrange for the bin to be moved from outside the village hall to the end of the Four Bridges footpath. Clerk also apologised that she had misunderstood the cost for a new bin. Clerk
- 9.6 **Affordable Housing** - Clerk advised that the letter and questionnaire have now been finalised. It was agreed that a sub-committee would meet with Sunila Osborne of Suffolk ACRE to discuss timings, distribution of questionnaires, etc. Cllrs Coney, Duggan and Owen agreed to carry out this task and report back to future meetings. MC/JD/JO
- 9.8 **Car Park Wall** – Clerk had investigated making an insurance claim for the damage repair. However, Justin Cattermole has kindly offered to carry out the work for the sum of £20 plus materials. After discussion the meeting unanimously agreed to accept his offer. Clerk to action. Clerk
- 9.9 **Emergency Plan** – Clerk had produced a draft of the plan and it was agreed that a sub-committee continue the work on this and report back to future meetings. Cllrs Smith and McEvoy and the Clerk agreed carry out this task TS/JM/Clerk
- 10 **CAR PARK**
- 10.1 Quotes have been received for the hire of a digger and roller at a cost of £65 per day (£225 per week) and £50 per day (£90 per week) respectively plus delivery and collection charges. Also 2.5” or smaller road planings/crushed concrete at a cost of £13 per tonne. It was agreed that approximately 35 tonnes would be needed. It was unanimously agreed to carry out the work and to arrange a work party for this purpose. Cllr Smith was asked to organise this and inform Council and the Clerk when a date is agreed. Clerk to then ensure the village the school are notified of the closure of the car park in the short term. TS/Clerk
- 11 **BOTTLE BANK**
- 11.1 Council have looked at various sites to move the bottle bank, none of which are considered very suitable. This together with the small amount of income received from this facility, Council agreed that the bottle bank should be moved. Clerk to notify residents via the parish magazine and website, also advising the nearest recycling centres. Clerk
- 12 **VILLAGE HALL/PRE SCHOOL**
- 12.1 Cllr McEvoy reported, as acting Chair of the VHMC, that they had recently met with Pre-School and had been informed that unfortunately SCC funding has been withdrawn for a new building at Easton Farm Park. Pre-School are currently running their sessions at the Village Hall over 4½ days a week. They have also been offered funds to enhance their facilities but this would mean having a lease. This would be in contravention of the original conveyance on the village Hall. In anticipation of the pre-school moving the VHMC were actively encouraging more use of the hall by residents.

In order to come up with a proposal that might suit both parties, VHMC intend to carry out a survey of all inhabitants of Easton & Letheringham on usage of the hall. Easton Parish Council, as Custodian Trustee, unanimously endorsed this action.

### 13 **EASTON HUNT KENNELS – NOISE ISSUES**

- 13.1 Clerk has received further letters of complaint regarding the increased noise levels over the past year. The residents emphasised that they are not anti-hunt nor do they wish to see the Kennels closed but do require help in finding a suitable solution to the problem. After discussion Clerk was asked to contact Clive Pink, Environmental Health Officer and the Chairman of the Hunt to discuss a plan of action with timescales. Clerk also to liaise with the residents.

Clerk

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm for the public to speak.  
Meeting reopened at 9.45 pm

### 14 **EASTON FARM PARK – NOISE ISSUES**

- 14.1 Clerk and Councillors had received a number of complaints regarding noise on 22<sup>nd</sup> August when there was a motorcycle display. There had also been a smaller number of complaints regarding the pony club meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September. After much discussion Clerk was requested to write to Easton Farm Park asking that they enforce the sound levels according to their licence and perhaps to visit areas of the village during events to ascertain whether there is a problem. Clerk also to suggest that a noise meter may be useful for this purpose. Clerk also to request that seven days notice be given for all events where PA systems will be used. Clerk was also instructed to contact Clive Pink, Environmental Health asking for information on the decibel level permitted for such events. Council also feels that Environmental Health must take some responsibility for ensuring that performers are aware of the acceptable levels.

Clerk

### 15 **PLANNING**

- 15.1 Permissions have been granted for a two storey extension at 2 Framlingham Road and also for Easton Farm Park to include an additional building in their permission C05/2375 and for this to be in perpetuity.

### 16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 16.1 Local Councillor Magazine – offer of a grant towards purchase of marquee for village events. Agreed not to take up the offer.
- 16.2 SCDC are carrying out a review of properties on the register of historic buildings at risk. If anyone is aware of such a building in the village please inform the Clerk.
- 16.3 Council completed the survey on Public Services.

All

17 **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Matters arising from this meeting.  
Condition of village pavements.

18 **MEETING DATES**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Budget meeting  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Meeting closed at 10.25 pm