

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Highlights of meeting 10th January 2012

Community Speedwatch – After discussion it was agreed not to pursue the idea of community speedwatch as it would be hard to sustain. However, it was agreed to look into the cost of flashing '30' signs and the Suffolk Safety camera advisory system.

Finance - Charitable donations of £25 each were made to Citizens Advice Bureau, Suffolk Accident Rescue and the Disability Advice Service, all locally based charities. The 2011 external audit had given a 'clean bill of health' and the financial statement was agreed and signed. There was an in depth discussion on the budget for 2012/13 and the final amount agreed sees an increase of £398 which equates to £2.65 per annum or 5.1p per week per household. Council agreed to make savings by reducing the number of grass cuts throughout the village, by reducing the grant to the village hall and by taking a fixed price for five years on the insurance. The Clerk had also agreed not to take a salary increase this year. However Council has budgeted for £375 to bring the amount for the Jubilee celebration to £500 and a further £1,000 towards the future cost of purchasing land to extend the cemetery.

Highways - Council has been advised that Highways are hoping to re-surface the section of road at Pound Corner before reinstating the white lines. If funding is not available they will just repaint the lines. A work order has been raised to reset the collapsed gully at Pound Corner and the gullies have been jetted. Minor repairs will be carried out to pavements through the village but unfortunately they will not be totally resurfaced. The footpath between the Kennels and the Play Area will be re-surfaced before the end of March although no kerbing work will take place.

Highways were asked to consider moving the 30mph sign going towards Wickham Market or to erect signs warning of a bend just after the Hacheston Lane junction but do not feel this to be necessary. They advise that there is insufficient development to warrant this and that the bend is in character with the rest of the road and so not unexpected to drivers.

They have, however, proposed to remove the single bend signs at the Framlingham Road/Borretts Lane bend and replace them with double bend signs at that junction and the Framlingham Road/Stud Farm bend.

Kennels - Council had received an update from Mr Ackland-Snow advising that most of the exterior alterations at the Kennels are now finished so the hounds can be moved during the day. However there is still more work to do inside the river barn so the hounds can be housed overnight. Hopefully there has been improvement with the level of inconvenience to the neighbouring residents. Apparently the Hunt is still putting together planning applications for the existing site and the proposed new site. Council were also advised that the Huntsman has resigned and a replacement is being sought.

Council had been asked whether the situation is now resolved and the Kennels would remain in the village. Unfortunately Council is not in a position to answer this situation and the enquiry has been passed to Mr Ackland-Snow.

Queen's Jubilee - Preparations are now underway for this celebration and it will take the form of a 1950's street party with a traditional tea, games, tug-of-war, a 'hats off to the Queen' competition and much more. The venue should be confirmed shortly and invitations and posters will be published together with requests for residents to provide a plate of food if they are able to do so.

Parish Plan - The questionnaire to update the Parish Plan for the next five years is almost complete and will be delivered shortly.

Out of Hours Doctor's Service - Harmoni is replanning the out of hours medical care in the area proposing to have fewer Primary Care Centres but these to be within 30 minutes driving time of the patient's home. It is planned to close Wickham Market and Aldeburgh and open a new centre at Saxmundham in February 2012. It was felt that insufficient consultation has been taken on this matter and Council agreed to support Wickham Market Partnership in asking for a deferment to April 2012 to allow meaningful consultation of patients.

If you wish to make any comments or ask any questions relating to Council matters, please contact the Clerk on 746162 or pc@easton.suffolk.gov.uk Monday – Friday 10.00 – 5.00

HEALTH SMART
In conjunction with NHS Suffolk

Are you aged between 40 and 74 years?

Would you like a free health check?

Health Smart is offering free health check for people in this age group to highlight those deemed most at risk of developing cardiovascular disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and kidney disease.

The check takes 20 minutes and will consist of:

- Straightforward questions on health and diet, exercise habits and family medical history
- Height and weight measurements
- A simple finger-prick blood test for cholesterol and glucose levels
- A personal assessment, setting out the individual's level of risk and what they can do to reduce this

If you are interested please contact the Clerk on 746162 or pc@easton.suffolk.gov.uk If there is sufficient interest arrangements will be made for Health Smart to visit the village.