

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Easton and Letheringham Village Hall at 7:15pm
on Tuesday 13th November 2012.

Present: Cllr J Owen (Chair) Cllr T Smith (Vice-Chair) Cllr B Gibbon Cllr M Coney Cllr J McEvoy	In Attendance: Mrs. E Brown (Clerk) County Cllr P Bellfield District Cllr B Snell	Apologies Cllr B Boon PCSO Hassler <i>Cllr J Kerr</i>
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EPC030/12 To Receive Apologies Apologies received from Cllr Boon and PCSO Hassler. <i>Later apologies received from Cllr Kerr.</i>	
EPC031/12 Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of Interest.	
EPC032/12 Consideration of Dispensations There were no dispensations to consider.	
EPC033/12 To Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2012 The minutes were approved and signed as a true record. Proposer Cllr Smith, Seconder Cllr Gibbon.	
EPC034/12 To Approve the minutes of the planning meeting held on 8th October 2012 The minutes were approved and signed as a true record. Proposer Cllr Smith, Seconder Cllr Gibbon. <i>Cllr McEvoy arrived.</i> <i>Meeting adjourned for the Public Forum, County Cllr's Report and District Cllr's Report.</i>	
EPC035/12 Public Forum There were no questions from the public.	
EPC036/12 District Cllr Bob Snell Cllr Snell reported that <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Suffolk Coastal Development Framework is being examined by the Inspector. The expectation is that his report will ask for more houses to be built than currently planned. 2. Current Planning Applications. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Hacheston Solar Park: There have been many objections to this, most are concerned about the lack of an Environmental Impact Assessment. Currently the Planning Department are not changing their view that it is not required. Cllr Snell expects the application to be brought before the committee in January. b) Land South of the Old kennels: There is a delay in the construction of this due to the planning condition of having a Great crested newt survey. 3. Felixstowe is receiving investment from sources outside SCDC including a new pier (£15 million) and the sea front gardens (£2.2 million). No new user has been found for the Spa Pavilion so it is now on the open market. Over 100 new houses have been approved. 4. Police Crime Commissioner elections are being held on Thursday. 5. Ward boundaries are being reviewed which should lead to reduced costs for SCDC as the number of District Cllrs will reduce. 6. The White Horse at Easton has won a 'Best Dining Award'. 7. There are 2 possible further photovoltaic arrays in the district at Great Glemham and beside the A14 at Levington. Cllr Coney asked when the Committee reviewing the Ward boundaries would want them changed. Cllr Snell thought that the committee would probably want it completed by the next election.	
EPC037/12 County Cllr Peter Bellfield Cllr Bellfield reported that <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the County Council element of the Council Tax for 2012/14 will be frozen for the 3rd consecutive year. 2. Suffolk residents are being asked their views about the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service working more closely with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Service the aim is to reduce back office and top management staff therefore reducing costs whilst maintaining or improving service. See http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/your-council/decision-making/consultations/delivering-the-best-fire-service-to-you/ 	

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The current SCC and Mid-Suffolk DC partnership with BT for back office requirements ends in 2014. SCC are looking for other organisations to provide this service which include finance, ICT and HR services. 4. SCC need to reorganise the records and heritage functions, options are being investigated. 5. Care UK will be the new provider of SCC's residential care homes and 'day centres' for the elderly. Care UK will invest £60million into building 10 new homes providing approx. 150 more beds than currently available and most of the new beds will be suitable for dementia patients. The current 16 homes all need substantial investment which SCC cannot afford. 6. In the next 2 years SCC is budgeting to save £26 million. It is likely that savings will need to continue to be made beyond this as the government will reduce the central grant given to local authorities. It may be that SCC will need to find another £60 million in 4 years from 2014/15. <p>Cllr Smith asked about the Public Consultation that will be going ahead for Sizewell 'C'. Cllr Bellfield informed the meeting that SCDC have asked for input from SCC and that there is a joint working committee to help protect local interests. EDF Energy may improve the A12 between Wickham market and Friday Street if Sizewell 'C' is granted planning permission.</p> <p>Cllr Coney and Cllr McEvoy asked for more details about the care homes. Cllr Bellfield reassured the meeting that no current resident will be 'put out' during the building of the new homes. Cllr Bellfield also reiterated that all the current residential care homes needed substantial upgrading including the one at Wickham Market. Concerns were raised over the location of any new homes and the isolation that may occur for residents if they are not sited appropriately. Wickham Market was viewed as an ideal location due to the locality of amenities.</p> <p>Cllr McEvoy informed Cllr Bellfield that the Village Hall Management Committee have been told by Highways that they acknowledge there is an issue with the kerb and pavement outside the village hall but as yet they are unsure what to do about it. Cllr Bellfield offered to talk to them if necessary and felt that the 'safety budget' might be a possible source of funding for improvements.</p>	
<p><i>Meeting reconvened. Cllr Bellfield and Cllr Snell left to attend another Parish Council Meeting.</i></p>	
<p>EPC038/12 PCSO Christian Hassler (see attached report)</p> <p>PCSO Hassler was unable to attend but has sent his written report. The report included that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There had been no reported crimes in the parish of Easton from 11/09/12 to 13/11/12. 2. Residents should be pro active in ensuring that their heating oil is safe from thieves. 	
<p>EPC039/12 Clerk's Report on Matters Arising (See attached report)</p> <p>The Clerk reported on actions taken and matters arising.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth Bus – Jenni Carberry (Project Manager) has applied for a grant of up to £3,000 to bring the bus to Easton from April 2013. If this is not successful other sources of funding are available, Rachel Rowe (Locality Community Development Officer at SCC) can discuss this with the Council. A combination of grants, fund raising by the service users, precept money and community fund raising should be sufficient to pay for the bus. Decision – Parish Council to source funding for the youth bus for fortnightly sessions for 6 months from April 2013, during that time residents would be encouraged to take on the co-ordination of fund raising with help from the Clerk and the Youth bus service. 2. Village Assets – with Cllrs Owen, Coney and McEvoy the village assets were assessed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Cemetery. The paint on the gates is flaking in places however no maintenance is required this year. Trees in and near the cemetery to be assessed by a competent person – Cllr Coney to arrange. Clerk to ascertain who is responsible for emptying the bin. b) Village Green. The seat appeared safe, it would benefit from some wood preservative but this is not urgent. The sign appears to be secure. The socket cover at the base is damaged, Clerk to discuss with electrician. One bollard appears to be insecure and beginning to rot, Clerk to investigate possible repair/replacement. Capstones on the crinkle crinkle wall appear to be loose, Cllr Coney to contact owner of that section of the wall. c) Car Park. Cllrs felt that the wall would benefit from having the moss removed and the shrubbery in the car park cut back, Clerk to obtain quotes. d) Notice Board. This would benefit from being re varnished in the spring. e) Play Area. Equipment appears sound and is regularly assessed by Cllr Gibbon. The hole under the slide needs to be filled in, Cllr Gibbon to do/arrange. Clerk to contact Charsfield Parish Council to find out who they use for their annual inspection of the recreation ground equipment. A bin to be purchased, Cllr Owen to look into. Clerk to obtain quote for the cutting of the play area grass, management of the nettles and strimming of the grass around the play equipment. Clerk recommended a sign about safety to be purchased, Clerk to look into. Cllr Coney to arrange for the tree at the beginning of the footpath leading to the play area to be assessed by a competent person. 3. Following the Council's letter, the editor of the parish magazine has written that the PCC will allow advertisements to be put in the magazine from January. 	<p>Cllr Coney Clerk</p> <p>Clerk Clerk Cllr Coney Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Gibbon Clerk Cllr Owen Clerk Clerk Cllr Coney</p>

<p>4. Hedges from Pound Corner and up Framlingham Road have now been cut back.</p> <p>5. Cllr Owen and the Clerk still need to meet to discuss approaching the residents of the village regarding the purchase of more land for the cemetery.</p>	<p>Cllr Owen/ Clerk</p>
<p>EPC040/12 Finance (See attached reports)</p> <p>1. Clerk's Finance Report - The Clerk reported on the Council's current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance of accounts on 13th November 2012 was £14,461.96</p> <p>2. Authorisation of payments – Decision - Payments totalling £560.78 were authorised.</p>	
<p>EPC041/12 Planning Matters There were no planning applications.</p>	
<p>EPC042/12 Highways</p> <p>1. Council considered the SID reports (<i>Attached</i>). Decision – To inform the SNT Officer of the reports and ask for advice on how best to reduce the speed of vehicles near Pound Corner.</p> <p>2. Council discussed the letter received from the Headteacher of Easton Primary School (<i>Attached</i>). Decision – Clerk will respond informing the Headteacher that the Council would be pleased to work with the school over the issue of parking and to find out what the School are proposing to do that is different to previous suggestions.</p> <p>3. The Clerk informed the council of a telephone conversation she had had with Tony Buckingham of the Highways Department (<i>Summary attached</i>) and a discussion followed. Decision – Clerk to contact Highways to a) find out the cost of having a temporary flashing sign; b) find out the process required to have chevrons fitted at Pound Corner; c) whether it would be possible to have 'rumble strips' on the road; d) whether tall wooden bollards are acceptable along the edge of the new path by The Kennels and e) whether a railing at the end of the footpath leading to the play area would be a sensible safety measure.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC043/12 Village Review Council were informed of a possible grant that might help them to create a new footpath in the village. In the Village Review was a suggestion to extend the footpath from Pound Corner up to Harriers walk. Decision - Cllr Owen to look into the cost of creating a footpath along that section of Framlingham Road and the value of the possible grant.</p>	<p>Cllr Owen</p>
<p>EPC044/12 Easton Parish Council Website Content Council considered information from the Information Commissioner's Office regarding the publication of Council documents on the website. Decision – Cllr Smith with assistance from Cllr Gibbon to review the information provided and update the website as necessary.</p>	<p>Cllr Smith/ Cllr Gibbon</p>
<p>EPC045/12 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions Since the last meeting the Clerk has arranged for the payment of 2 invoices (Tree Surgeon and External auditor) totalling £174.00 and approved 2 additional inscriptions to memorials in the cemetery and 1 interment of ashes.</p>	
<p>EPC046/12 Officer's and Representative's Reports There was no 'World of Housing' report from Cllr Coney as he was unable to attend the event. There was no SALC Area Meeting Report as the next meeting is at the beginning of December.</p>	
<p>EPC047/12 Correspondence</p> <p>1. Following advice received from SALC the Clerk reassured the Council that it is handling information regarding the purchase of further land for the cemetery appropriately.</p> <p>2. The Clerk informed the Council that in preparation for next years budget she had contacted the residents of Ivy Cottage and Almond Tree Cottage to ascertain whether any noise reduction measures were required for the bottle banks. Both parties responded that they felt that no noise reduction measures were required. Cllr Owen to contact Mr Ransome to inform him that his kind offer of labour to build a noise barrier is no longer required by the Council. Council informed that there will be no more payments from SCDC for glass recycling. Clerk to contact SCS Ltd. regarding regular emptying of the bottle banks. Clerk to create a sign asking residents to not leave bottles in the vicinity and to show consideration to other residents by only using the bottle banks between the hours of 9am and 8pm.</p>	<p>Cllr Owen</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC048/12 Matters for the next meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Notice Board. 	
<p>EPC049/12 Date of next Meeting The date of the next public meeting is Tuesday 8th January 2013 at 7:15pm</p>	
<p><i>Meeting closed at 8.35pm</i></p>	
<p>Chairman: Date:</p>	

