

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Easton and Letheringham Village Hall at 7:15pm
on Tuesday 14th January 2014.

Present: Cllr Owen (Chair) Cllr Gibbon Cllr Smith Cllr Boon Cllr Coney Cllr Kerr (delayed) Cllr Hollins	In Attendance: Mrs E Brown (<i>Clerk</i>) County Cllr Peter Bellfield (Agenda items 1-8 and 13) District Cllr Bob Snell (Agenda Items 1-8 and 13) PCSO Vincent (Agenda items 1-8) 4 residents (for various parts of the meeting)	Apologies PCSO Hassler
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EPC001/14 Chairman's Welcome The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
EPC002/14 Co-Option of New Parish Councillor Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Easton resident Adrian Hollins to the parish council. Cllr Hollins signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took his place at the table.	
EPC003/14 Public Forum Council received a report from the E.A.S.T.on! Campaign representative. Points made included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The publishing of a map showing accidents in Easton during the last 4 years • The media (press, TV and radio), the local MP, the County Council (Cllr and Highways Dept), Police (SNT), Parish Council and residents have been made aware of the issue. • SCC (Cllr & Highways), Police, Parish Council and E.A.S.T. have met and agreed that there is an issue that needs resolving. SCC Highways are to provide suggestions for measures that could be taken. SCC Cllr may be able to help with financing any suggested measures. The Police will carry out speed data collection in the village. • SCC Highways and the Police will be present at a meeting for residents on 4th March. • Speeding in Easton is an SNT priority following the SNT meeting on January 8th. • The differences between a 20mph speed limit and 20mph speed zone. A 20mph speed zone includes traffic calming measures e.g. speed bumps, road narrowing sections, these can only be installed with street lighting. A 20mph speed limit has new signage throughout but no traffic calming. For a 20 mph speed limit to be considered in a village it requires resident support and evidence that it meets the Department of Transport guidelines. • The Department of Transport suggest a 20mph speed limit should be considered in a village if <i>"it affects people's quality of life...is a built up village street primarily residential, and where pedestrian and cyclist movement is high.</i> 	
EPC004/14 To Receive Apologies PCSO Hassler sent his apologies (<i>PCSO Vincent attended instead</i>)	
EPC005/14 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Owen declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 12 (Planning application DC/13/3727/FUL). • Cllr Hollins declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 13 (School Field Development) • Cllrs Boon, Smith and Gibbon have previously been given a dispensation for agenda item 13 (School Field Development) 	
EPC006/14 To Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2013 The minutes were approved and signed as a true record-Proposer Cllr Smith, Seconder Cllr Boon.	
<i>Meeting adjourned for the District and County Cllr's Reports and Police Report.</i>	
EPC007/14 County Cllr Peter Bellfield Cllr Bellfield reported that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council had already heard about SCC involvement with regard to Easton's speeding issues. • SCC continue to need to make savings. Currently these are from 'back office' areas and not 'front line' services. The new waste incinerator is reducing landfill tax and large tomato green houses will be heated by it. Household recycling centres, Highways, Social work, Trading standards and School crossing patrols are not having their budgets cut this year. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC are encouraging over 1,500 families to claim the free school meals that they are entitled to so that their schools can access an extra £900pa for each child in the scheme. • When the SCC care homes were sold 10 new ones were part of the deal, 9 of which have now received planning permission. • SCC has received £300k from central government to set up 80 apprenticeship schemes. • SCC continue to discuss with Norfolk CC about amalgamating areas to reduce costs currently the pension fund is under discussion. Partnership with Essex CC is also being considered. • Currently there is some surplus in his locality budget. <p>Following questions Cllr Bellfield added</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways gritting is dependent on weather forecasts not current weather conditions. 	
<p><i>Cllr Kerr arrived whilst Cllr Bellfield was speaking.</i></p>	
<p>EPC008/14 District Cllr Bob Snell (see attached report)</p> <p>Cllr Snell reported that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Councillors have a Community Enabling Fund of £4,000 each to help support their local communities. • A legal challenge by NANT(No to Adastral New Town) to parts of the Core Strategy has begun. • SCDC will soon receive recommendations from a working party regarding their new office space now that the Melton Hill office is no longer fit for purpose. • The Boundary Committee will imminently react to SCDC's suggestions regarding adjusting wards. • SCDC responded well to recent flooding emergencies, even so a report on the defence system's future adequacy will be heard at its next meeting. • The Annual District Council Meeting will now be held on 29th May. 	
<p>EPC009/14 PCSO Edward Vincent (see attached report)</p> <p>PCSO Vincent reported that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no reported crimes in Easton between 1/11/2013 and 31/12/2013. • The next SNT meeting is on 09/04/2013 at 2pm at Saxmundham Market Hall. • The Mobile Police station is available to visit Easton, Council to suggest time and date. • Following the meeting with Campaign E.A.S.T.on and other parties PCSO's will be surveying speed in the village and forwarding this information to police officers who are able to issue speeding tickets. <p>Decision – Clerk to request Mobile Police station to make a visit at approx 11am for 90mins preferably on a Saturday (otherwise midweek), residents to be informed via the parish magazine.</p>	Clerk
<p><i>PCSO Vincent left the meeting. Meeting re-opened.</i></p>	
<p>EPC010/14 School Field Development (Cllr Hollins left the meeting for this agenda item)</p> <p>Points noted and discussed were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC have a policy to not provide parking for parents at its schools due to difficulties where this has previously been tried. • SCC do allow car parks next to schools if they are owned and maintained by another party. • Planned car park size is insufficient for the number of children travelling by car to school and although may reduce issues on The Street, it is unlikely to remove them. • Drop off/pick up zone is inappropriate as children must be collected from the playground. • There is sufficient land for a larger car park and if it is required should EPC consider it. • Foot way access to the new development is important due to the dangers of The Street between the new road and School Lane. • Enclosing the school with the new development would prevent the school expanding and may affect the schools viability in the future. • The new development is clearly visible as Easton is entered from Wickham Market or Hacheston Lane and mature tree and/or hedge screening is required to reduce its impact. • If the Highway Authority insist on street lighting for safety reasons then this should be special down lighting in order to maintain the darkness of the village and allow residents to view the beauty of the night sky. • The letter from H&M did not adequately answer Council's questions. • The number of new dwellings would significantly increase the number of traffic movements in the village. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H&M's refusal to consider moving the new road to between the school and the houses. <p>Decision – Clerk to write to H&M asking how they propose to resolve the car park issue considering SCC's policy, to include bullet points 3, 4, 5 & 7 above. Council will next discuss this at a planning meeting for the application which they believe has now been lodged with SCDC.</p>	Clerk
<p><i>Cllrs Bellfield and Snell left the meeting.</i></p>	
<p>EPC011/14 Clerk's Report on Matters Arising from the Minutes.</p> <p>Bollards: There has been a delay due to the quote being for an incorrect specification of horizontal barrier and concerns about being able to get a mower into the play area field. Cllr Owen to obtain quote for correct specification.</p> <p>Dog Bin: The bin is in place, the clerk has yet to receive an invoice.</p> <p>Youth Bus: This costs £130 per session with 4-6 children attending. Cllr Coney has been unsuccessful in securing any further funding. Cllr Snell to be approached regarding accessing the Community Enabling Fund.</p> <p>Village Assets: Clerk to continue looking into the replacement costs of the village assets.</p>	<p>Cllr Owen</p> <p>Cllr Coney</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC012/14 Cemetery</p> <p>3 residents are prepared to help maintain the cemetery grounds. Council felt this was insufficient and therefore some work will need to be carried out by a contractor. Sheep were suggested, which historically have been used for cemetery maintenance in other locations. Decision - Cllr Boon to meet with residents to discuss how much work a contractor will be required to do. Clerk to provide names of possible contractors.</p>	Cllr Boon. Clerk
<p>EPC013/14 Finance (See attached reports)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 31st December 2013 was £16,198.80. Authorisation of payments – Decision - Payments totalling £1,085.81 were authorised. Proposer Cllr Owen, Seconder Cllr Boon. 2014-2015 Budget – The Clerk circulated a revised draft budget for council's consideration. Points noted and discussed were as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemetery to have £500 to cover contractors costs. A resident has offered to cut the football pitch and play area for the benefit of the community. Therefore minimal amount budgeted for general maintenance of the area. (Play equipment maintenance has been budgeted for.) Council to donate to charities CAB and Home Start (£25 each). Money to continue to be set aside for the purchase of land to extend the cemetery. <p>Decision – Budget approved, Precept for 2014-2015 set at £7,100. Clerk to complete paperwork.</p>	Clerk
<p>EPC014/14 Planning Matters</p> <p>Council considered 2 planning applications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DC/13/3727/FUL. Continued conversion of Cart Lodge to dwelling, retaining additional front dormer window and dual access layout/brick piers as amendments to previously approved scheme (C12/1997) at King's Lodge, The Street, Easton. Decision – Council to support the retention of the additional front dormer window, Council to object to the changes to access due to believing that planning conditions 7 and 8 from scheme C12/1997 should remain as the access layout/brick piers reduce the visibility and hinder access to/from the highway this has highways safety implications. Clerk to write to SCDC. DC/13/3377/FUL. Demolition and reconstruction of existing farmhouse and outbuildings at The Old Kennels, Framlingham Road, Easton. Decision – Following discussion, Council to support the application. <p>The following tree works decisions were received:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> DC/13/3148/TCA. The Stables, Easton. Permission Granted. DC/13/3212/TCA. Wall View, Easton. Permission Granted. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC015/14 Highways, Road Safety and Related Topics.</p> <p>Points noted and discussed were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highways will probably suggest signs to alleviate issues at Pound Corner. At the SNT Priority meeting (attended by over 20 residents) on 08/01/2014 issues in Easton relating to speeding traffic and safety was set as a priority for the next 3 months, speed in the village will be monitored. Council to prioritise various highways issues in the village (e.g. parking on the bend near the village hall – which Highways accept as an issue) and discuss with SCC Highways 	

<p>one at a time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned site visit with SCC highways and Council currently on hold. Information regarding 20mph speed limit/speed zone provided earlier by E.A.S.T.on! Campaign representative. Police prefer traffic calming measures, however many of these require street lighting for safety. Traffic calming measures discussed. Rumble strips do not require street lighting though noise may be an issue. Poor quality of surface at Pound Corner. None of the recent accidents in Easton have led to prosecutions/drivers admitting liability. Recent speed recording devices detected 11% of drivers coming into the village from Framlingham could have been prosecuted for speeding and 5% of drivers from Wickham Market direction. <p>Decision – Council to Support the E.A.S.T.on! Campaign as much as possible.</p>	
<p>EPC016/14 Litter Pick</p> <p>Decision – Litter Pick to be held Saturday 22nd March 2014. Residents to be informed via Parish Magazine, Clerk to inform SCDC.</p>	<p>Clerk Clerk</p>
<p>EPC017/14 Notice Board</p> <p>The number of notices on the board was discussed following a request from a resident. Decision - Council notices to be on the left of the board with minutes from meetings on the back, notices relating to regular events at the village hall to be on the right, leaving the central area for all other notices. To be reviewed in 6 months.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC018/14 Clerk's Report on Urgent Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk and Chair of EPC have been liaising with other parties regarding the number of vehicle incidents along The Street over the past few weeks/months. A resident made requests to Council regarding footpaths. Resident has been informed that footpath matters are dealt with by SCC not EPC. 	
<p>EPC019/14 Officer's and Representatives Reports</p> <p>No report's received.</p>	
<p>EPC020/14 Correspondence</p> <p>Correspondence received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donation requests from Headway Ipswich and East Suffolk and Disability Advice Service. Introductory letter from Superintendent Paul Sharp, East Policing Commander, Suffolk Constabulary. Volunteer request for a Village Recorder for Easton from Suffolk Local History Society. (Request to be circulated via parish magazine.) 	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>EPC021/14 Matters for the next meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Evening to start at 6:45pm in order for Cllrs to be present whilst the E.A.S.T.on! Campaign co-ordinate a 30 minute meeting with residents, police and highways representatives. Annual review/risk assessment of financial matters and standing orders. Review of documents sent to cllrs prior to meetings. 	
<p>EPC022/14 Dates of Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The date of the next EPC meeting is Tuesday 4th March 2014 at 6:45pm. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 24th March 2014 at 7.30pm. The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th May 2014 at 7:15pm. 	
<p><i>Meeting closed at 9.35pm approx.</i></p>	
<p>Chairman: Date:</p>	