

**EASTON ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014

At 2100

In the Village Hall

**PRESENT:** M de Pass, C Hollinsworth, M Holden, C Elliott, C Sibun, S Riley

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** G Cooper

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN** Chaired by the Parish Clerk

C Elliott proposed that there should be a more frequent change in the Chair to Parish Council with the possible rotation on a yearly basis. Concern was raised on the point of continuity and that with the change in accountability and delegation from Wiltshire Council. The role of chair is now more demanding and that the job, becoming more onerous, should be shared across the Councillors. Councillors are elected for 4 years and their role has also become more onerous. All Councillors should be prepared to take on more than in the past.

Proposed by C Hollinsworth that C Elliott be elected as Chairman for one year and M Holden be prepared to be Chair the following year and C Hollinsworth the third year. It was agreed that, although the Chair would change the portfolios would remain with those who have agreed to take them on. M Holden would be prepared to attend both Area Board and PCAP to provide continuity.

**Chairman C Elliott proposed by C Hollinsworth seconded by M De Pass. Agreed**

**Vice Chair M Holden proposed by M De Pass seconded by S Riley. Agreed**

**C Elliott took the Chair**

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 having been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING**

C Sibun distributed a Forward Plan template. This is designed to produce a list of projects with priorities, costings and identify the lead and will be reviewed and updated at every Council Meeting

Priority	Major Tasks	Time frame	Funding	Lead	Comments
1	Tree Felling at Village Hall	May -14	Done	HH	In Hand
2	Recreation Ground Car Park	Aug -14	Done	CH	Planning granted
	Removal of wicket and level Recreation Ground	Aug -14	Done	CS	Linked to Village events and car park
Urgent	Repair of Fencing B3087			HH to get quotation	Chris Wheeler Construction
3	Village Betterment Fund		£300	GC	Per annum
?	Provision of Defibrillators				
?	Children's play area				
?	Implementation of 20mph speed limit	2015-2016			

The allocation for village betterment in the Parish Council budget of £300 per annum could be used to support items in the Easton Royal Future Plan, although it will take time to build a sufficient reserve to have value. Last year the fund was used to assist the Orchard Project. The betterment portfolio lead on the Parish Council, Graham Cooper, was asked to consider this when making his suggestions.

Two projects were discussed in more detail, viz: the renewal of the Children’s Play Area and the provision of defibrillators in the village. After discussion, the following policy was adopted by the Parish Council for the Play Area:

- It was acknowledged that the play area, whilst currently well maintained and perfectly adequate, now fell below the standard seen in many other villages. It was also known that the Village Hall Committee would welcome a rebuild on an adjacent site, since it would allow them to open up the area around the new main entrance of the Hall. Research showed that it would cost £20-£30k to rebuild the play area, a sum beyond the resources available directly to the Parish Council.
- The Parish Council will support any renewal of the Play Area and, as owners of the land and the existing structures, will give permission for it to happen once firm plans were visible and approved.
- The Parish Council would not initiate the project itself, but would support any scheme that arose from within the village.

The Parish Council adopted a similar policy for the provision of Defibrillators. The initiative should come from elsewhere in the village and the Parish Council would support this. Funding is available from the Area Board (currently £500).

**CLERK’S REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING TOGETHER WITH CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter received from Victim Support and St John Ambulance with thanks for generous donation
- 1 Tonne Salt Bag Scheme renewal offer. This is not required this year but it is an annual option
- Refund received from Wiltshire Council of £95 – overpayment on Planning Application for Car park
- myEngolve. Notice about a meeting to provide training on the use of this Survey platform available to the community. M Holden will attend

**PLANNING:** The following applications were approved at the meeting, C Sibun proposed and C Hollinsworth seconded. Approved

**Existing Applications outcomes**

14/01402/OUT Manor Farm Erection of agricultural workers dwelling	<b>Withdrawn</b>
14/02660/TCA Easton Heights Work on Trees in a Cons Area	<b>No Objection</b>
14/03423/TCA Village Hall Work on Trees in a Cons Area	<b>Approved</b>
14/02794/FUL Village Hall Car Park	<b>Approved</b>

**New Applications since last meeting**

14/03617/FUL Avon Cottage Amendment to 13/04966/FUL	<b>Supported</b>
14/03779/LBC Avon Cottage Amendment to 13/05067/LBC	<b>Supported</b>
14/03395/FUL Cobbetts, Rear Extension	<b>Supported</b>
14/03962/FUL. The Old Post Office Remove conservatory Replace with single storey extension	<b>Supported</b>
14/03964/LBC. The Old Post Office Remove conservatory Replace with single storey extension	<b>Supported</b>

**FINANCE:** Proposed by C Hollinsworth and seconded by C Sibun, the following Payments were approved:

WALC	Annual Subscription	92.09
LCR	Annual Subscription	17.00
Easton Royal Village Hall - Hall Hire		72.00
Community First Insurance		309.40
Bawden		189.86
Transfer from Treasurer's Account to Notice Account		500.00
Petty Cash for stamps etc.		50.00

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

- M De Pass raised the issue of non-attendance at meetings. Concern was raised that the extra meetings put pressure on the principle that non-attendance at more than three meetings would lead to automatic removal of the councillor. This will be considered at the next meeting.
- A number of suggestions for the post of Parish Clerk were received
- C Elliott congratulated the councillors on their portfolio work.
- C Elliott proposed a vote of thanks to Mark DePass for his outstanding tenure as Chairman for the past 16 years.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014

The meeting closed at 2155.