

**EASTON ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
HELD AT EASTON ROYAL VILLAGE HALL  
ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014  
AT 19.30

**PRESENT:**

Christopher Elliott (Chairman), Margaret Holden, Cedric Hollingsworth, Colin Sibun, Simon Riley, Graham Cooper and Hew Helps (Clerk). Tricia Duncan attended.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Mark de Pass

Members of the public: Pauline Archer (replacement Clerk), Teresa Herbert (Police), Nicola Coupe (School) and one member of the public.

**MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014 having now been circulated were approved and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

The Chairman confirmed the appointment of the New Clerk (Pauline Archer), it was noted that Beverley Turton had expressed an interest in taking over in the future. The current Clerk Hew Helps was thanked for all of his hard work and support.

**CLERKS REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING:**

- Requests received from The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust and from Splash Wiltshire for £25 each.

**ACTION:** All agreed

- A quotation has been received and circulated from Chris Wheeler Construction regarding chain-link fencing. This would be discussed later by C Sibun.

**PLANNING:**

It was noted that the following Applications had been approved:

14/03617/FUL Avon Cottage Amendment to 13/04966/FUL	Approved
14/03779/LBC Avon Cottage Amendment to 13/05067/LBC	Approved
14/03395/FUL Cobbetts, rear extension	Approved
14/03962/FUL The Old Post Office remove conservatory replace with single storey extension.	Approved

New Applications since last meeting:

14/05364/TCA Hook Cottage work to trees	Supported
14/05138/FUL Brights Cottage single storey extension	Approved

**Urgent Notice received:**

Little Folletts - the urgent removal of a dangerous beech tree at the front of Little Folletts, under the "dead, dangerous, and dying" rule.

The tree has now been removed.

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**REPORT FROM JERRY KUNKLER (WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR):**

Apologies received some items covered later by Margaret Holden.

**REPORT FROM EASTON ROYAL SCHOOL (Nicola Coupe)**

The school is expecting to receive 8 new pupils in September all of which are siblings. Taking into account those leaving in year 6, the overall numbers at the school from September 2014 should be 58 to 59.

The school taxi providing free transport to children in the catchment villages is being used by 8 children.

The school is participating in the village WW1 Country Fair.

The school is still interested in using the village playground for sporting activities, once the work to level it has been completed.

**REPORT FROM POLICE (Teresa Herbert)**

Crime within the East Villages has been very low. A number of incidents to property were noted.

The community speed watch programme has highlighted a substantial number of cars travelling at 40 plus mph. It was disappointing to note that both the school taxi and an off-duty policeman had been caught in the speed watch.

**ACTION:** A request for more police support in relation to speeding was noted. A further request was made for high visibility jackets to be provided to the team as none have been received to date. T Herbert agreed to chase.

**FINANCE:**

**Payments to be approved:**

DW Oliver Trees	1,344.00
HDT Helps	438.00
HDT Helps stationery	34.85
Bawden grass cutting	189.86
Bobby Van Trust	25.00
Splash Wiltshire	25.00
Bawden grass cutting	189.86
HDT Helps stationery	16.49

Proposed by Simon Riley and approved by Colin Sibun.

A discussion on finance took place on the proposed financial expenditure for the year. It was agreed that year-end should produce a surplus, after capital expenditure on the village green trees and car park, but would not allow for any further large capital projects.

**REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLOR PORTFOLIO**

Margaret Holden

- Attended three external meetings. One was a useful course for the collection of relevant data i.e. use of bus services or use of play areas etc.
- A public meeting at Tidworth Garrison, covering the integration of 4,300 troops to Wiltshire. Another meeting to take place in Salisbury on 30<sup>th</sup> July.
- Pewsey Area Board. Wiltshire Council consultation on changes to garden waste. A leaflet and questionnaire has been sent to all households. The cycle race of GB is to pass through Easton Royal on 12<sup>th</sup> September between 11.30 and 12.30.

**ACTION:** It was agreed that further information would be produced on the garden waste proposals from Wiltshire Council to appear on the village website and to be emailed to parishioners. M Holden.

Cedric Hollingsworth

- Still awaiting the Parish Steward to come and complete various repairs that have been identified.
- Wiltshire Council has been contacted to cut back the overgrown hedge (which the owner of the property has been asked by the Parish to clear) on the main road.
- 2 street lights not working; one in the village street and one near M Holden.
- Damage has been caused to the road leading up to the village hall parking area by the builders working on The Old Forge. This damage is disappointing considering that access was granted over this land by the Parish Council to enable the builders to work on the property. In addition, a detailed written specification was provided by the Parish Council highlighting the steps required to protect their land. The Parish Council feel strongly that this damage must be repaired and made good.

**ACTION:** All members agreed that a letter should be sent to Jerry Kunkler expressing concern at the lack of work completed by the Parish Steward over the last year. Cedric Hollingsworth to liaise with the builders and the owners of The Old Forge regarding the damage to the road and kerb and to establish what action will be taken.

Simon Riley

- The church's is running at a financial deficit with no likely improvement in the situation. This could have a serious impact on the church's future viability. The PCC are considering a number of options including a village meeting to highlight the situation. The continued support from the Parish Council for the cemetery grass cutting was much appreciated.

**ACTION:** All agreed that the cemetery support should continue.

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Colin Sibun

A Forward plan of major work was circulated.

- The work to the village car park and village green to is to start after September. There was a discussion about the cost required to level the green of £1,026.

**ACTION:** Colin Sibun to approach the school again to establish their likely use of the village green once work has been completed and whether they can pay a fee for using the facility.

- The quote for repairs to the fencing alongside the B3087 was discussed along with the quote of £3,764 from Chris Wheeler construction.

**ACTION:** All agreed that the quote was unaffordable and other measures to stabilise the fencing could be achieved. The purchase of wooden posts next to the concrete pillars was considered a viable option. It was proposed to remove the fencing from the front of the village hall. Graham Cooper agreed to provide assistance with erecting any wooden posts in the winter months.

- Play Area. Tricia Duncan asked for consideration to be given to improving the existing playground or creating a new playground in a different area of the village green. The Parish Council reiterated its support for such a project, but confirmed that it would need to be led by a team from within the village. The team would need to establish the level of support, the level of demand for such a facility and the ability to raise a large sum towards the cost. The possibility of a village questionnaire was discussed.

**ACTION:** It was agreed that Colin Sibun would discuss this further with Tricia Duncan.

Graham Cooper

- A discussion took place about the use of the village Betterment Fund and examples of previous projects were mentioned.

**ACTION:** Graham Cooper to give further thought to any projects and other members were encouraged to pass on any further ideas.

Christopher Elliott

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- Various papers had been reviewed including details of a meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014 between Christopher Elliott, Graham Cooper and Margaret Holden with Paul Millard (senior rights of way warden for West Wiltshire). Christopher Elliott put forward a plan for upgrading the footpaths next year, which was agreed. Further discussion took place with respect to the use of kissing gates rather than style and the various responsibilities that landowners and the Parish Council have in relation to clearing and maintenance of footpaths and the repairs of styles. The Parish Council intend to produce a map of the Parish highlighting the various footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and permissive paths. It is also proposed to prepare an "Easton Royal Village Code for Rights of Way" document setting out the responsibilities of Wiltshire Council and the Parish, landowners and walkers. A draft document was discussed.

**ACTION:** Christopher Elliott to liaise with the relevant landowners with a view to implementing the Code and set out a timetable in order to improve footpaths where necessary.

- Identify with landowners where to site the new kissing gates. The gates are to be provided by Wiltshire Council. Set up a working party of helpers to put in the kissing gates with the assistance from Wiltshire Council. It was agreed that any damage or replacement to the kissing gates would be the responsibility of the Wiltshire Council. A landowner would have the right to close the access, if necessary, until the gate is replaced or repaired.

### Chairman's Report

The Chairman highlighted some areas where villagers felt they were not being kept sufficiently informed about actions and, after discussion, the Parish Council resolved to do better in advertising its plans.

AOB

Nil

Date of next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Meeting closed 22.00