

EASTON ROYAL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT EASTON ROYAL VILLAGE HALL
ON TUESDAY 24th February 2015
AT 19.30

PRESENT:

Christopher Elliott (Chairman), Graham Cooper, Colin Sibun and Pauline Archer (Clerk)

Members of the public: Jerry Kunkler (Wiltshire Councillor), Beck Stubbs (Easton Royal Academy) and Michael Ford (Parishioner)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Margaret Holden, Cedric Hollinsworth, Simon Riley and Mark de Pass

TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Christopher Elliott, Simon Riley and Graham Cooper declared an interest in Planning Application 14/10771/FUL resubmission 14/09221/FUL Follets. None of these Councillors took part in the Parish Council decision.

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2014 having now been circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman.

REPORT FROM COMMUNITY POLICE

Apologies received from Teresa Herbert. The Police report having been circulated and the report on the parking in the village street was noted.

ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

No specific questions were raised. Colin Sibun requested that the Parish Council agree to the purchase of grass seed so that a Parishioner can continue with the hard work of maintaining the bank outside the Village Hall.

All agreed.

CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING.

All noted.

-The Clerk was requested to follow up with the Post Office regarding the missing Post Box. The Parish Council is keen to have the Box returned as soon as possible.

-It was confirmed that Mark de Pass was intending to attend the drop in session on 3rd March for Pylon project including Easton Royal

-The Clerk will follow up with the requirements of the "Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities" once it has been approved through Parliament in March 2015.

Jerry Kunkler arrives following the completion of Wiltshire Council budget meetings.

REPORT FROM JERRY KUNKLER WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Jerry Kunkler apologised for his delay, following the completion of the Wiltshire Council Budget meeting. He confirmed that Wiltshire Council had agreed £30m of savings over the next year, from current spending of around £900m. This will result in the freezing of council tax bills. Some 100 areas of savings have been identified, one of which is the proposed charging for Garden Waste bins. The charge is proposed at £40 per year.

The proposed 20mph speed limit through Easton Royal Village Street is to be discussed further at the Area Board in May.

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A discussion took place on the adopted Wiltshire Core Strategy whereby Easton Royal is designated as a “Small Village”. This means that any development needs to show that it meets a “specific need” and also makes reference to services provided within a village i.e. transport, shop pub etc.

Jerry Kunkler suggested that Easton Royal consider putting in place a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Pewsey Parish have submitted their plan which is currently being reviewed. Wootton Rivers are starting the process of one.

Christopher Elliott requested that Jerry Kunkler passes on to Wiltshire Council the great work and support that has been received from Paul Millard Senior Rights of Way officer. Many footpaths and gates (with the help of volunteers) have been transformed by this work completed within the village.

Jerry Kunkler was requested to provide further advice on the likelihood of the Area Board supporting a grant of £600 to provide more kissing gates.

Jerry Kunkler was thanked for attending and he left the meeting.

Beck Stubbs arrived and was welcomed to the meeting. She apologised for the delay due to a late event at the school.

REPORT FROM EASTON ROYAL ACADEMY

Beck Stubbs confirmed her recent appointment as Principle at the school. She stated that a new teacher was being appointed to allow the school to move to three classes from the current two. The new teacher will have a sports specialisation. She confirmed the importance of the school being able to use the Village Green for sporting activities. A proposed timetable of the beginning of June was considered realistic.

The school will also have an emphasis on being “Healthy” and the idea of more children walking to school was seen as a positive. Christopher Elliott suggested that the improved footpaths and gates which run parallel to the village street could be an option for walking to school.

Beck Stubbs acknowledged the difficult parking issues and welcomed Mr Ford’s recent attendance at the school and discussion with the children. She was pleased to receive positive comments from close neighbours.

Beck Stubbs was thanked for attending and she left the meeting.

PLANNING:

Existing Applications outcomes:

14/10795/TCA	The Barn Fell Cypress	Approved
14/11052/FUL	8 Burbage Road single storey extension	Approved

New Applications since last meeting:

14/00442/TCA	Grey Gables works to trees*	Approved
14/10771/FUL resubmission 14/09221/FUL	Follets 3 New Dwellings and annex conversion	Parish Council email sent 4 th December 2014 and 2 nd February 2015

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*Consideration was given to the felling of a large beech tree at the front of Grey Gables. On the basis that the Applicant had consulted with all immediate neighbours, and it was accepted that the tree had little space given its proximity to the house, approval was given.

FINANCE:

Payments made:

Brennans work to cricket pitch*	£180.0
Community First donation	£20.0
Career support donation	£20.0
Brennans 50% share of car park*	£1,398.0
Clerks salary	£438.0

*(invoice dated 27th January 2014 from Brennans). Colin Sibun stated that he would have preferred for some of this payment to have been delayed to ensure that the final works to the Village Green had been completed.

The Clerk was requested to ensure that all members of the Parish Council were fully aware of payments to be made prior to raising a cheque.

Payments to be approved:

Subscription renewal to the Campaign to Protect Rural England CPRE	£36.0
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Proposed by Christopher Elliott and agreed by Graham Cooper

A quote from Bawdens for 9 grass cutting and hedge cutting around the children's play area has been received. The grass cutting was £841.14 (before VAT) and hedge cutting £108.15 (before VAT). Colin Sibun confirmed that he would like the hedge cutting to be removed and he would organise this with volunteers.

The Clerk is to request a revised quote without the hedge cutting. It was agreed to arrange a meeting with Bawdens in order to discuss in more detail the proposed additional cuts required after the works by Brennans have been completed.

REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLOR PORTFOLIO

Mark de Pass

No external meetings to report

Margaret Holden

Margaret Holden had attended two PCAP meetings and the Pewsey Area Board meetings. All minutes from these meetings have been circulated to Councillors.

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Cedric Hollinsworth

Portfolio report circulated and noted. Further information regarding the 20mph limit in the village street had subsequently been received and the likelihood of this going forward looked encouraging.

Graham Cooper

Nothing to report (see comments below)

Colin Sibun

Portfolio report circulated and noted.

In particular Christopher Elliott thanked Colin Sibun, Graham Cooper and volunteers, for replacing the fence posts on the Village Green alongside the road. Thanks were given to Graham Cooper for generously donating the fence posts.

It was noted that the target date for the Village Green to be suitable for use by the school has now been put back to the 1st June and is subject to the completion of the work by Brennans.

The issue of public liability insurance covering the school was raised. Clerk to review.

Simon Riley

Church report circulated and noted.

Christopher Elliott

6 Kissing gates have now been completed. A further 2 (bridle gates) are planned in March.

Footpath directional signs have been put in place together with details on "Permissive Paths".

The Parish Council remains grateful for the support given by Wiltshire Council and in particular Paul Millard's team.

The Parish Council are pleased to have received a £300 donation from Pewsey Running Club in support of the upgrading of footpaths and gates within Easton Royal. Christopher Elliott has written to thank them for their donation.

More road planings are due to be received this year to continue with the improvements in footpaths identified.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The council went into closed sessions to discuss the confidential item and all members of the public were asked to leave.

A discussion took place about a sensitive planning issue and the Chairman agreed to write to the parties involved suggesting a compromise.

DATES OF MEETINGS

The Clerk to confirm with all members of the Parish Council that the next two dates Tuesday 14th April and the Annual Parish Meeting on 17th May 2015 were suitable.

Meeting Closed at 21.10