

LITTLE EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th March 2014, at 8.00pm in the Memorial Hall, Manor Road

Present - Councillors: S Gilbert (Chairman), John Willson, Chris Audritt, Doug Wyatt, Jackie Deane (Clerk) and 17 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence were given by Cllr Boulton and accepted by the Council. Cllrs Walsh and Smith also sent their apologies. Declarations of interest on agenda items were made by S Gilbert for the representative report on the Cricket Club, with a non-pecuniary interest as a family member is a member of the club.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
3. **Public Forum** – Residents raised objections to the Easton Park planning appeal, with the village becoming part of “Greater Dunmow”. There were concerns about the detrimental impact on the Eastons of a major road joining to Park Road. There were also concerns about the impact on the existing community and on how the new residents would get any sense of belonging with the town or the village. Parishioners were asking for advice on how they can participate in the planning appeal process and for information to help them with their comments.
4. **Planning Appeal APP/C1570/A/14/2213025 by LS Easton Park Investments Ltd**
A list of key points was agreed upon, including additional comments on ecological objections, recent appeal decisions and approvals and disagreement with the traffic assumptions. S Gilbert would be adding more detail on ecological and community sustainability, with J Willson and C Audritt looking into the traffic documents and R Boulton would be asked to give general comments. D Wyatt agreed to send the Clerk his comments on economic sustainability. The Clerk agreed to send in an additional letter to the inspector, confirming original points and adding key objections. A written response is due by 2nd April, with a public inquiry to follow.
5. **Approval of Great Dunmow planning application** – Action has been taken by a resident to “call in” the decision to approve the GD1 development. Councillors agreed that they would not support the action.
6. **Easton Park** forthcoming application – Working group notes had been circulated and it was agreed that it would be helpful to receive advice from other councils, having been through the public inquiry process and possibly using a planning consultant.
7. **Resignation of Roger Board and co-option of a new councillor** – Thanks were expressed for Roger’s contribution and the various duties that were taken on by him would be re-assigned in May. Councillors were advised that they can co-opt another councillor as soon as possible.
8. **Annual Parish Assembly, 23rd April** – It was agreed that councillors would send their reports to the Chairman for her annual summary speech. The Clerk was asked to speak with our local police representative to see if someone would be available to talk about speeding problems in the village. Information should be available on the forthcoming public inquiry and on the parish council website.
9. **Memorial Hall and Cricket Club** – The hall booking clerk has confirmed that only one fixture date is still under discussion. It is felt that the groups should try to work better together and that there was not an appetite for the hall committee to take on more responsibilities at this time. The agreement with the Cricket Club would be reviewed in May, with the hall trustees being interested in deleting the recently added paragraphs from the agreement.

10. **Playground and tree works** on recreation ground – It was agreed to accept a further quotation for the removal of an additional tree at a cost of £260.
11. **Clerk training** – it was agreed to renew the Clerk's CiLCA registration at a cost of £150, before the cost increases to £250. It was agreed that budgeted funds should be moved to allow a 2014-15 budget of £500 for training.
12. **Future meeting dates** – J Willson was asked to give his suggestions for reducing the number of agenda items at meetings. New dates were agreed up to May 2015.
13. **Representatives reports** - S Gilbert has inspected the tree works of pollarding and crown reduction that have been done on the recreation ground along with the removal of a lime tree from the play area, for safety reasons. She reported that some rolling and slitting of the playing field, to improve drainage. J Willson and C Audritt have met to progress the setting up of the website and asked for councillors to send a short biography, the prepared history page and an updated emergency plan, for the Clerk to add to a memory stick with documents and minutes, to be uploaded. The email address will be littleeastonpc.co.uk. Email addresses area available for future use but the Clerk's current email address would be given for initial contact. C Audritt and S Gilbert attended training courses.
14. **Clerk's report and correspondence** – A letter has been received from a Manor Road resident, with details to be sent to councillors. All other correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no matters arising.
15. **Planning** – Appeal on **UTT/13/1043/OP** Land west of Great Dunmow for up to 700 homes and commercial units – see item 4
Decisions: **UTT/13/3469/FUL** - Demolition of vacant store and erection of 1 No. dwelling with associated garaging and landscaping - Land Adj The Stag Inn, Duck Street – application withdrawn.
UTT/13/3439/FUL, UTT/13/3393/FUL - Removal of conditions 4 and 19 (the plans and particulars submitted shall include a scheme for the provision of a youth shelter to be installed on open space of the development.) from planning permission UTT/2507/11/OP. Approved, with £10,000 to be given to support youth services in Gt Dunmow.
16. **Finance** – A draft end of year and budget report was handed to all councillors. Balance at 1st March was £19,887.33. Payments were received from the Cricket Club £552.50, Memorial Hall car park rent £25 and Living Landscapes (as the project was closing) £25. Cheques agreed were: £ 46.20 A7J Lighting, £20 Broxted Village Hall, £712.40 J Deane, £212.40 Post office for HMRC, £377.29 SNH Garden Services, £2,094 Pleshey Tree Services, £150 SLCC (training).
17. **Items for the next agenda** – a future agenda should consider a Parish Plan.
18. **Next meeting** – Annual Parish Assembly followed by ordinary meeting, Wednesday, 23rd April, 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Meeting closed at 10.40pm