

LITTLE EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 11th September 2013 at 8pm in the Memorial Hall

Present: Sue Gilbert (Chairman), J Willson, Roger Board, Steve Oakey, Janina Jones, Jackie Deane (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from R Boulton, L Smith (UDC) and S Walsh (ECC). Declarations of interest were made by S Gilbert and J Jones for the Cricket Club item; S Gilbert for her husband's involvement in the Cricket Club and J Jones as a Trustee of the Memorial Hall.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
3. **Public Forum-** A group of residents were keen to raise their concerns directly with members of the Cricket Club. One resident in particular declined to address his questions to the Chairman and made accusations directly to 2 parish councillors. The Chairman asked the member of the public to leave and suspended the meeting at 8.20pm. The member of the public did not leave but the meeting was resumed at 8.25pm. Residents and village hall representatives raised various issues regarding the conduct of members of the Cricket Club. There were also concerns that the 10-year agreement between the Club and the Parish Council should be changed to include the Memorial Hall Committee. The Memorial Hall booking clerk said that she was now being properly notified of any changes to fixtures and there were currently no problems with communication between her and Club representatives.
A resident asked that consideration be given to requesting a reduction in the speed limit between Duck Street and Mill End.
A resident asked if the Parish would be liable to pay for the street lighting on the new by-pass.
4. **Cricket Club** – Two representatives were present to comment on complaints from Manor Road residents and the Memorial Hall Committee about use of the recreation ground and changes to fixtures dates. An apology was made about one incident involving a speeding car arriving for a recent cricket match. It was recognised that the additional wording of the agreement was intended to help communication between the Club and the Memorial Hall and residents' complaints were being taken seriously by the Club. The Club would discuss residents' comments at their forthcoming meeting.
5. **Unregistered land** – consideration of land registry of parcels of land in the parish – deferred until the next meeting, to be raised by R Boulton.
6. **Website** – The Clerk spent 2 hours with the website company discussing further information that is needed before it is launched.
7. **Representatives' reports** - J Jones reported a healthy income for the Memorial Hall. J Willson reported on the recent gravel pit site visit and updated councillors on recent Stop Stansted Expansion correspondence to the Airports Commission. S Gilbert reported two incidents of injury to children from the Parish; one on the playground where it was requested that action is taken to remedy the slippery safety surface and the second incident where a child had fallen into a damaged water meter hole on the grass verge. The Cricket Club has contacted the water company and the hole is covered with a brick while the utilities company looks into repairing it. S Gilbert asked the Clerk to make

enquiries with ECC Highways to see if the Rangers, following their advertisement in the Dunmow Broadcast, could help with ground clearance work on the Memorial Hall car-park, prior to the tree planting which is to take place on 9/11. She also drew councillors' attention to gaps in the fence surrounding the play area. The tree planting has been advertised in the parish magazine but without this help some of this tree planting will be difficult or impossible. The 'whips', once delivered, have a limited life. J Willson will be attending an SSE/Parish Council meeting on 19th September. Cllr Walsh (ECC) sent a report with an update on the high-speed broadband project and preparation for road gritting.

8. **Clerk's report and correspondence** – RCCE invitation to a tour of local affordable housing developments on Wednesday, 9th October 9.30am – 1.30pm. Correspondence was received from The Almshouses Trustees regarding a request to the Highways Department for a footpath.
9. **Planning:** No applications for comment.
Decisions - **UTT/13/1830/HHF** - Drake Cottage Duck Street, Proposed single storey side extension – Approved with conditions.
UTT/13/1451/OP - Outline application for the erection of 3 No. dwellings with all matters reserved except access - Land Adjacent to Elms, Glebe Lane – Refused.
Appeal decision – Land at Old Stag Cottage, Duck St - **APP/C1570/A/13/2190128 - dismissed** on grounds that “the serious harm that would be done to the character and appearance of the surroundings”.
UTT/13/1043/OP – Land West of Great Dunmow 600-700 dwellings and associated development – Refused.
10. **Finance** – Account balance at 1st September was £17,750.27
Cheques agreed – E-ON £22.55, MD Landscapes £234, A&J Lighting £43.62, Broadmead Leisure Ltd £84.00 (playground inspection), S Holden (Sports Day expenses), J Deane £301.38, Post Office (HMRC) £281.80
11. **Items for the next agenda** – Clerk's annual salary review, quotes for tree works.
12. **Next meeting** – Wednesday, 23rd October 2013 at 8pm in the Memorial Hall

Meeting closed at 9.25pm