

LITTLE EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th October 2016, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Chris Audritt (Chairman), Doug Wyatt (Vice-Chairman), Jess Rush, Chris Hindley, Andy Dodsley, Janina Jones, Martin Foley (UDC), John Davey (UDC), Jackie Deane (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Simon Walsh (ECC). There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.
2. Minutes of the last meeting were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
3. Draft Local Plan update – Notes were taken for a submission to UDC, with main points agreed:
 - 1) A new garden settlement should not be developer-led, should not be a “dormitory suburb” of a neighbouring town and would provide a community share of the financial investment.
 - 2) The need to protect all the natural and heritage assets within the parish, for example by creating a country park to protect Easton Lodge and Park Road as in the Land Securities’ 2008 prospectus
 - 3) The merits of a settlement to the north of the district with regard to transport links, housing demand and high quality employment opportunities
 - 4) The need for an independent assessment of the impact on Gt Dunmow
 - 5) Will UDC’s transport assessment state the actual cost of the investment already needed to improve Junction 8 of the M11 and the cost of extra investment to support traffic from a new town next to Gt Dunmow and another west of Braintree?
 - 6) Overstating airport jobs for local people and airport related housing need
 - 7) Easton Park sharing the gravel haul road and housing alongside a working quarry
 - 8) Direct impact on Park Road by traffic movements, setting of listed buildings, etc
 - 9) How do we get more people to commute to London? Constraints on the line capacity. Potential for the Government to fund a new railway line to Great Dunmow. Higher fares from Stansted than from other stations on the same line. Distance from Great Dunmow to a Stansted and Bishop’s Stortford in comparison with the distance from other potential settlement sites and a railway station
 - 10) Impact on landscape, views, bridleways and footpaths
 - 11) Cllr Foley will be willing to speak for the parish at the next working group meeting, on behalf of the parish
4. Public Forum – included in points above.
5. Assets of Community Value – all agreed to nominate the Gardens of Easton Lodge as a new asset, excluding the garden land of the neighbouring house.
6. Affordable housing – the potential for affordable housing in the village was discussed. Members did not support an approach to UDC for assistance in providing a new housing development of affordable housing for local people.
7. Charity donations – annual donations were agreed, with £75 to each of the following: Essex Air Ambulance, Uttlesford CAB, Little Easton Good Companions, Gardens of Easton Lodge plus The Five Parishes £100 to be split between the magazine and Little Easton Church and East Anglian Children’s Hospice £50.

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8. Community events – Christmas party, 4th December, 4.00pm to 9.00pm. Arrangements were discussed, including booking an entertainer and ticket prices £2.50 per person and £10 per family.
9. Representatives reports – Chris Audritt reported that hall bookings are higher than last year, a memorial plaque will be displayed outside the Memorial Hall and the committee's current project is to renew the hall flooring.
10. Clerk's report – the Clerk will attend a meeting at the UDC offices for a LGA peer review. Details were received from Highways regarding works on the Almshouses paths and an assessment of the unregulated stretch of Road in Duck Street. No new date has been arranged for Speedwatch training. Planning enforcement cases were discussed at the UDC parish forum, where it was agreed that explanations will be given on request for recent cases, prior to the restructuring of their department, where the only feedback from the enforcement officer was "not expedient to pursue".
11. Planning:
New applications for comment: UTT/16/2740/HHF - Wells Court Laundry Lane,
Construction of free-standing garden room within the garden of grade II listed dwelling – no objection.
12. Finance - the current account balance on 1st October 2016 was £20,102.35 which includes a credit for 2nd half precept £7,628. Monthly payments J Deane £387.53, E-on £34.16, MD Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd £156, A&J Lighting Solutions £23.10.
13. Items for the next agenda – budget and precept for the next financial year. The emergency plan will be put on the agenda for the new year, to be updated. Clerk update on Speedwatch training.
14. Date of the next meeting of the Council – Wednesday, 23rd November 2016 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 10.20pm