

LITTLE EASTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 24th April 2013 at 8.00pm in the
Memorial Hall

Present: Sue Gilbert (Chairman), Janina Jones (Vice-Chairman), J Willson Board, Steve Oakey, R Boulton, Jackie Deane (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies** for absence were received from R Board, N Holden (public), L Smith (UDC) and S Walsh (ECC). R Boulton declared a pecuniary interest in UTT/13/0815/HHF. S Gilbert declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Cricket Club item.
2. **Public Forum** – There were no comments from the public.
3. **Minutes** of the last meeting were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
4. **Cricket Club Agreement** – Additional wording to the 10 year agreement was agreed and had been signed by the Cricket Club representatives prior to the Parish Council meeting. It was suggested that the Memorial Hall Committee might also be asked to sign but it was pointed out that the agreement was between the 2 parties. A copy of the agreement has been prepared for the Hall Committee to keep. There was a short debate regarding the wording not being specific enough to fully meet the intentions of the Parish Council but it was agreed (4 for and 1 against) that it should be signed for this year and reviewed again next year.
5. **Website Update** – Progress has been held up due to the lack of content being received and S Oakey again requested information from each councillor and from the Clerk.
6. **Easton Park Update** – Land Securities has submitted an application for 600-700 home and it was agreed that the details will be discussed at a Planning Meeting, attended by all councillors, on 14th May. Wording for a brief questionnaire for all Little Easton residents was discussed and the Clerk agreed to circulate wording and prepare an A5 leaflet, with a tear-off slip to include contact details for further information. J Jones agreed to print the leaflets and 2 members of the public have offered to help councillors with the distribution.
7. **Assets of Community Value** – Further information was received at the Parish Forum on the implications of identifying an asset in the village, and the need for an intention to purchase the asset, should it come up for sale. Councillors agreed that no more assets should be put forward at this stage.
8. **Insurance Renewal** - The Clerk has received a revised quotation to include the new zip wire and village beacon. She has asked N Holden to check values of the other play equipment and consider revising down the insured values. Councillors agreed to renew at £840.50 or a lower figure if lower insured values for the other equipment would be appropriate. Renewal is due on 1st June and the policy now includes a higher Fidelity Guarantee as standard.
9. **Finance – Annual Return** – A financial report had been circulated prior to the meeting and R Board reported at the last meeting that he was satisfied with the standard of financial records. The Chairman signed in agreement of the financial

statements on the Annual Return. Councillors agreed that K Davidson should be asked to carry out the internal audit again this year.

10. **Representatives' Reports** - S Gilbert reported that 4 meetings had taken place between Great Dunmow Town Council and Little Easton Parish Council to discuss potential S106 agreements and a list of benefits that could be granted to the village should the Land Securities planning application be approved. A further meeting has been arranged for Monday 13th May, with S Gilbert, J Jones and R Board to attend, with other parish councillors if they were available. The Clerk would be unable to attend as she has another meeting.
11. **Clerk's report and correspondence** - Essex County Council will shortly be carrying out speed checks to validate the application for 2 vehicle activated signs in Duck Street and Mill End. Peter Snow, UDC Electoral Officer, has reported that the Electoral Boundary Review decided not to take on the UDC recommendation for a boundary change around the site of Woodlands Park Sector 4 as no properties have yet been built. The District Council has noted the Parish Council's request for a Community Governance Review and Mr Snow will contact the Clerk when the time comes for it to be considered. Notification has been received of a consultation on the new Statement of Community Involvement from 25th March to 6th May. Councillors were asked to send the Clerk any comments. Correspondence has been circulated from SSE regarding a night flights consultation and details of an RCCE meeting on affordable housing at to be held in Thaxted on 29th May.
12. **Finance:** Balance carried forward on 1st April was £11,504.75. The first half-Precept and the VAT refund have been credited to the current account. Cheques agreed - £120.51 (EALC affiliation fees), J Deane £301.38 (April) and £301.38 (May), E-On £22.55, MD Landscapes £234.00, A&J Lighting £20.52 (street lights) and R Board £6.05 (printing expenses). An invoice is pending for approximately £85 for N Holden (SNH Garden Services) for grounds maintenance and expenses. It was agreed that a cheque should be paid on receipt of his invoice.
13. **Planning: UTT/13/0815/HHF**, Warwick House, Easton Lodge, conversion and extension of building to form ancillary accommodation or for short-term lets – no objection. R Boulton made no comment.
UTT/13/0869/HHF - Single storey side and rear extensions along with pitched roof over flat roof, Bushwood House, Duck Street – no objection
Decisions made: UTT/13/0033/FUL, Easton Lodge Park Road Erection of temporary visitor centre - approved with conditions
UTT/13/0060/HHF, repositioning of cart lodge, Gardeners Cottage Easton Lodge Park Road – approved with conditions.
14. **Items for next agenda** – To consider registering unregistered land such as the site of the war memorial and adjacent to the Memorial Hall.
15. **Date of the next meetings:** Planning meeting – Tuesday, 14th May, 8pm in the Garden Room at Easton Farm, AGM Wednesday 12th June at 8pm in the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 10.40pm