

Little Easton Parish Council



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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting of the Little Easton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall commencing 7:30pm on Tuesday 24th MAY 2017

Present: Cllr Audritt Cllr Hindley Cllr Dodsley Cllr Rush Cllr Jones Cllr Wyatt
 Members of the public

17/27	ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS
	CHAIRMAN – Cllr Dodsley duly elected, Proposed Cllr Wyatt, Seconded Cllr Rush
	VICE CHAIR – Cllr Wyatt duly elected, Proposed Cllr Audritt, Seconded Cllr Jones
17/28	COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
	WAR MEMORIAL – Cllr Wyatt FOOTPATHS – Cllr Jones VILLAGE HALL – Cllr Rush PLAY AREA – Cllr Rush EMERGENCY PLANNING – Cllr Dodsley HIGHWOODS QUARRY – Cllr Jones and Cllr Hindley SPEEDWATCH – Cllr Wyatt
17/29	DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE
	Process duly completed, signed and witnessed
17/30	REVIEW REGISTRATION OF INTEREST AND RETURN OF EXPENSES
	Cllrs confirmed their review of registration, no expenses were claimed
17/31	APOLOGIES
	County Cllr Walsh
17/32	DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR MAY MEETING
	Cllr Hindley – Item 17/43 Representatives Report and Cllr Rush – Item 17/35 Finance
17/33	APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 26 APRIL 2017

	APPROVED – Proposed Cllr Audritt, Seconded Cllr Jones
	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION
	Great Dunmow Town Councillor Alex Armstrong introduced himself and his interest in supporting the Parish on the question of Easton Park. Comments on Easton Park held back for Agenda item
17/34	CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE
	Aon Insurance renewal pack received Received County Cllr Walsh report - to go on website Details required from Cllrs to enable bank account application to progress Essex Highways Winter Service offer of FREE salt, requires answer by mid JULY
17/35	FINANCE-RECEIVE MAY FINANCE STATEMENT & AGREE PAYMENTS
	APPROVED – Attached to these minutes
17/35.1	TRANSFER OF BANK ACCOUNT & ONLINE BANKING
	Move to TSB progressing, councillors to provide Clerk with relevant details
17/35.2	Aon INSURANCE ACCEPTANCE CONFIRMATION
	Cheque signed, insurance renewed
17/36	PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE REPORT
	LOG CABIN - Repair estimates being sought to enable Grant application submission to U.D.C. by deadline of JUNE 15. BASKETBALL HOOP – Surrounding ground overgrown, agreed to trim the area and possibly treat nettles but a more permanent solution is required Resident to be kept appraised of play area over-growth progress RESOLUTION – Cllr Rush and Clerk to submit Grant application before JUNE 15
17/37	WAR MEMORIAL MAINTENANCE UPDATE
	RESOLUTION – Parish council will meet cost of completing suggested works to remove existing planting and soil, to be replaced with landscape barrier, new soil and decorative rocks to create separated planting areas, if a UDC grant for 75% of the cost is not forthcoming. If a grant is forthcoming the council will meet the shortfall. Project total quoted Net cost - £660. CLERK to enquire of Land Registry for confirmation of Memorial ownership Groundworks contractor to continue cutting the memorial grass verge
17/38	COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH – TRAINING UPDATE
	Training completed, all went well, six members in the team, five of which are PC members, new members very welcome; group awaiting confirmation of road(s)

	they can carry out Speedwatch campaigns, they can only monitor and record speed for submission to the Police, they are not empowered to prosecute motorists
17/39	PLANNING – COMMENT ON APPLICATIONS & DECISIONS
	UTT/17/1252/HHF – 4 Yew Tree Arch, Rear extension & porch – NO OBJECTION
17/40	PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN
	No report, deferred to next meeting
17/41	MATTERS DEFERRED FROM LAST MEETING
	DUCK TREET – Spring water related/blocked ditch, standing water on Highway – CLERK to approach Highways
	LAUNDRY LANE – Blocked ditch, standing water on highway – CLERK to ACTION
	DERELICT COTTAGE – PC lacks power to act, CLERK to pursue matter with Empty Housing Officer
	AIRFIELD GRAVEL MOVEMENTS – Remain under review
	VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE – CLERK to confirm power to act and approach neighbouring parish, PH to provide power, local grower offered free supply of tree with council paying transport costs; members raised concerns of insurance, health & safety and need for risk assessment
17/42	QUARRY COMPLAINT
	Works boundary now extended to closest point to village, alarmingly no drainage pipework installed. Borehole analysis still not forthcoming, ECC are now applying pressure recognising this failing. Pre 7am vehicle movements contravening contracted timing.
	DERELICT COTTAGE – Ongoing problem, deferred to next Agenda AIRFIELD GRAVEL MOVEMENTS – possibly short term, deferred to next Agenda
17/43	REPRESENTATIVES REPORT
	CRICKET CLUB – Cricket Club agreement renewed and signed
	MEMORIAL HALL – Car park to be resurfaced with road planings Signage requested to advise users car park for Hall patrons – CLERK to ACTION
	UCT – Facing tough financial pressures due to 14.4% funding cut, council asked to consider small Grant support – deferred to JUNE agenda
	COMMUNITY EVENTS – Fund raising events such as quiz night, xmas party and summer sports – deferred to JUNE agenda
17/44	DRAFT LOCAL PLAN – EASTON PARK UPDATE
	PPWG report from Cllr Audritt – see APPENDIX A

	<p>IMPORTANT DATE – JUNE 22 at UDC offices when Dist Cllrs review Officers recommendations on Garden Settlement Site selection, parish council representation attending, members of the public urged to do likewise.</p> <p>PUBLIC CONSULTATION - Output from JUNE 22 process is open for public consultation between 12 JULY and 29 AUGUST.</p> <p>Mitigation and what could be the benefits for the community if Easton Park is selected should form part of the thinking.</p> <p>Seemingly any Heritage Assessment does not carry much influence in the decision process.</p> <p>The Residents Action Group are struggling to gain traction and engagement with the parish at present, produced a full colour leaflet for wide distribution, asked parish council for financial support – CLERK seeking power to act.</p> <p>CLERK to provide previous planning application campaign group mailing list to RAG.</p> <p>Facebook group established to help boost reach via social media, comment made that a website might prove useful too.</p> <p>CLERK asked to contact neighbouring parishes to forge links, engagement and ACTION.</p>
17/45	DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT
	None
17/46	DATE OF NEXT MEETING and CLOSE
	Wednesday 28 th JUNE
	Meeting CLOSED at 9:45pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

Payment List MAY 2017											
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	Cq. No.	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre	Ccode	Audit Box
23/05/17	I Brown	Expenses, Mileage 45p/M	N/A	101211	74159558	£9.00	£9.00	£0.00	Parish	Staff	4
23/05/17	I Brown	Salary	PAYE	101211	74159558	£306.32	£306.32	£0.00	Parish	Staff	4
23/05/17	MD Landscapes	Grass cutting	786	101212	74159558	£156.00	£130.00	£26.00	Parish	Grass	6
23/05/17	RJ's Plumbing & Heat	Mem hall boiler	2117	101213	74159558	£2,924.40	£2,437.00	£487.40	Parish	Maintenance	6
23/05/17	E.ON	Street light electricity	H14625EACE	101214	74159558	£72.66	£70.88	£1.78	Parish	Utilities	6
23/05/17	AON UK Ltd	Insurance	LC/M/001388	101215	74159558	£781.92	£781.92	£0.00	Parish	Admin	6
23/05/17	SNH Garden Services	Grass cutting	1923	101216	74159558	£306.00	£306.00	£0.00	Parish	Grass	6
23/05/17	A&J Lighting	Annualised maintenance	30524	101217	74159558	£23.10	£19.25	£3.85	Parish	Lighting	6
23/05/17	Jackie Deane	Handover hours & Expenses	N/A	101218	74159558	£598.73	£598.73	£0.00	Parish	Staff	4
		TOTAL				£5,178.13	£4,659.10	£519.03			
Account		Balance									
General Community 74159558		£23,187.41		Signed _____		Date _____					
Income				Minute Ref _____							
PARISH – 74159558											
PAYER	DESCRIPTION	METHOD	AMOUNT								
		TOTAL	£0.00								

Little Easton Parish Council

Planning Policy Working Group 17th May 2017

Were the Land Securities proposal for Easton Park New Town of up to 10000 houses be included in the New Local Plan it would totally change the heritage and rural character and appearance of not only Little Easton but also Great Dunmow and the whole of the area for generations to come.

This is not just about the proposal to build 3500 houses in Little Easton in this plan period it is about Land Securities avowed intention to build up to 10000 houses on Easton Park in future plan periods.

This would be a new town larger than Great Dunmow and as big as Cambourne and create an urban sprawl from Great Dunmow – through Woodlands Park, the new Barratts development on the Stortford Road to Easton Park New Town and on to Little Canfield, Takeley and Bishops Stortford.

The 3500 houses proposed in this plan period would be an isolated settlement accessed via the existing Quarry entrance road which, as the quarry will be working for another 15 years, will need to be rerouted around the quarry and mean a journey of at least a mile if not more from the entrance to the beginnings of the new settlement alongside the Gardens of Easton Lodge

Agenda Item 3 referring to Easton Park says in section 2

“to serve a new settlement of 10000 new homes as a minimum, two access points will be required”

and

“unless an additional access point onto the strategic highway network can be identified and delivered then access to Easton Park is a risk to scheme delivery”

At a recent meeting with Land Securities the Vectos Transport consultant, David Bird, representing Land Securities, confirmed absolutely and categorically that Park Road in Little Easton will never be used as an access road for construction or residents traffic for the development and Councillor Rolfe, who was at the meeting, agreed this was a key requirement of the proposal being considered.

The council will be well aware from bitter experience with developments such as Fritch Green that it is critical the developer provides infrastructure early in the construction period.

Land Securities said in our meeting that infrastructure for the 3500 houses would be provided 'by the end of the plan period'.

Early and mid term occupants of the site would be completely isolated.

There is no doubt that the actual provision of infrastructure would be determined by the overall intention to build the 10000 homes.

A key issue is the impact on the heritage of Little Easton and Agenda Item 7 details assessments of the various proposals.

If you have read it, which I hope you have, you cannot help but be concerned by what appear to be completely different criteria applied when comparing Easton Park with other proposal sites with key factors which are dismissed as unimportant in Little Easton then being classed as critical in other areas.

Three minutes is not enough time to address those concerns so Parish Councillor Andy Dodsley has emailed you all with a range of questions to which we would like replies as a matter of urgency.

It is critical that for the New Local Plan to pass scrutiny then the sites chosen should be the best and most suitable sites based on an open and unbiased approach.

If that approach is taken then we believe Easton Park, with the adverse effect it would have on the area for generations to come, should not be included in the New Local Plan.

Chris Audritt

Little Easton Parish Council