

Easterton Parish Council Meeting

Monday 16th October 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Cllr B Myerscough, Cllr J Boyt, Cllr A Snook, Cllr A Colley, Cllr R Brooks
In attendance: S-J Bullock

1. **Election of chair for this meeting:** Cllr R Brooks was elected as chair for this meeting.
2. **Declaration of interests:** 0
3. **Apologies:** Cllr D Muns
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting to be adopted and signed by the residing chair:** The minutes of previous meeting were approved, signed, and adopted.
5. **Adjournment and welcome to the public.** (Max 3 mins per question, 20 minutes in total) for questions from residents in attendance. One resident in attendance requesting confirmation of Remembrance Service details.
6. **Planning applications:**
 - PL/2023/08577 Malthouse Cottage – crown reduction for sweet chestnut – No objection.
 - PL/2023/08471 28 High Street – Reduce Oak & Holly. Coppice Elm & Hazel trees – No objection.
 - PL/2023/08140 Downside, 24 High Street - Fell diseased Ash tree – No objection.
7. **Update from Wiltshire Councillor Dominic Muns** – No report
8. **Governance issues:**
 - 8.1 Co-opt new councillor – Unfortunately the potential councillor was unable to attend this meeting.
 - 8.2 Appoint councillor to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Service. Cllr B Myerscough will lay the wreath.
 - 8.3 Councillors to sign EROB grant.
9. **Correspondence & communications:**
 - 9.1 boomCast update – Cllr A Snook, nothing to report.
 - 9.2 Echoes update – Cllr J Boyt is intending to interview long term residents of Easterton for future editions of the Echoes.
 - 9.3 Residents' communication re: over-hanging branches on Oak Lane. Cllr A Snook will consult the parish steward to initiate resolution of this issue.
 - 9.4 Correspondence received re: dog waste bins, suggesting poo bag dispensers and additional bins be considered for Easterton. Councillors

discussed this and concluded that that responsible Easterton dog walkers carry waste bags on their walks so bag dispensers are not necessary, and it is not possible to have another serviced bin. Councillors resolved to relocate one poo bin from its current bin position to a more visible location closer to the bus stop on the B3098 subject to Wiltshire Council agreement and to ensure that they will continue to empty it.

10.Finance update:

- 10.1 Bank reconciliation & reports have been distributed to councillors at month end in line with financial regulations.
- 10.2 Request received for donation of £40.00 for Poppy Appeal/RBL – Approved.
- 10.3 Consider proposed budget. Councillors to review the supplied budget and discuss at next meeting.
- 10.4 Review ground maintenance (parish gardener) contract. Council is required to have three quotes prior to the start of each new contract as per the financial regulations. Clerk and Cllr A Snook to review contract details.
- 10.5 Closed item. Raise to SCP 18 approved for the clerk.

Payments to be ratified:

- 1) Water2Business (cemetery) invoice: 4063824307 £35.46
- 2) Phillips Electrical Engineers Ltd (defib) invoice: 1867 £175.00
- 3) Roadware (grit bin) invoice: 35521 £96.00

Payments to be approved:

- 1) Administration expenses (office supplies, miles, HWA) £73.03
- 2) Mark Goddard (7th instalment) Invoice:2829 £489.43
- 3) RoSPA inspection invoice: 75015 £102.60
- 4) David Owen payroll invoice: 35521 £96.00
- 5) Clerks' salary

11.Projects & activities updates:

- 11.1 Village statement update – Cllr A Colley to collate comments from councillors on Wiltshire Councils Local Plan.
- 11.2 Broadband update – Cllr A Colley has asked Wiltshire Council what position Easterton holds on the list for updating to full-fibre broadband, no response yet.
- 11.3 Discuss RoSPA report, Cllr A Snook has agreed to fix minor repairs. Clerk to email resident regarding overgrown hedge encroaching on to play area.
- 11.4 Allotments-Cllr J Boyt will draft an allotment lease agreement in consultation with Cllr R Brooks.
- 11.5 Environment & conservation – Cllr J Boyt – nothing to report.

- 11.6 First Aid training day – Cllr J Boyt, to check for availability of the village hall once Cllr A Colley has confirmed the availability of the first aid trainer. Councillors resolved to contribute fifty percent of the training cost.
- 11.7 Consider community Christmas Tree - still awaiting quotes.
- 11.8 Consider quotes for playground fence repairs. Two quotes ranging £2,000 to £3,000 received, third quote required.
- 11.9 Grit bin for Strawberry Fields – Cllr A Snook and Cllr R Brooks to review potential site for the grit bin.

12.Highways & byways issues:

- 12.1 Rights of Way updates – Cllr R Brooks, new owners of the field adjacent to footpath 14, have tided the field and cleared away all the detritus.
- 12.2 Parish gardener update – Cllr A Snook – nothing to report.
- 12.3 Parish steward update – Cllr A Snook – nothing to report.

13.Topics for the next meeting:

- 13.1 Local Plan comments

Meeting closed at: 21.17pm

Next meeting: 20th November 2023