

EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council meeting was advertised and held on 25th June 2015 in St Peter's Church, Easton.

Apologies: none, all members i.e. Michael Baker, chair, Richard Burton, Stephen Thomason, Philip Trussell and Clive Wood present

Members Interests: to receive from members declarations as to personal and/or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item. Mr Burton declared an interest in the agenda item concerning the hedge cutting of the playing field.

Minutes: the minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 13th May 2015 were read, approved and signed as correct.

Matters arising: *Hedgerow and gate Stonely Road* – Steve Thomason had emailed the owners Lisa and Dean Wilde of the barn asking about the proposal to remove the steel wire across the footpath entrance and erect a gate and also about the courses of brickwork which have been put in on the barn site. He had received a reply stating it had not been possible to fit the gate because Michael Picton had cleaned out the ditches and not left enough room for easy access for walkers beside the gate. With regard to the brickwork it was stated that HDC had advised planning permission was probably not necessary as there is no footing and the property has equestrian rights. It was agreed that Steve would reply suggesting a safety rail/fence be added in to allow people to walk safely to the side of the gate, request a copy of the application to the Rights of Way officer for the gate and ask for clarification of 'equestrian rights'. It was also suggested there may be a requirement for a change of use for the site and he would also state this.

Cherry Orchard Lane – surface work to entrance. As this work has been carried out the clerk was instructed to write to the Rights of Way officer pointing out this is against the preferred wishes which were to keep Cherry Orchard Lane as a natural green lane. It was further agreed that it be requested that the bollards are to be kept in place.

A14 improvement scheme – the letter had been sent to the Highways Agency regarding the concern at the lack of acceleration and deceleration lanes. A reply had been received stating no improvements have been identified at the present time but this may be given consideration when the review to 2025 is undertaken.

Hartham Street – Mr Thomason reported he continues to be in contact with Simeon Carroll, the Rights of Way officer and Hartham Street is in reasonable condition but is still closed at this time.

Easton United Charities - Mr Baker reported the Trustees will be holding a public meeting on 3rd September to appoint the new trustees. A notice will be circulated to each house in advance giving further details.

Playing Field *new equipment* - Mr Burton reported Fenland Leisure had given a date of 13th July for the installation of the new small swing. He also reported that parts of the climbing frame need replacement and he is to enquire about having this repaired at the same time.

Hedge cutting - the hedge is in need of cutting back, Mr Burton gave a price quotation of £40.00 for carrying out this work. He had declared an interest in this matter. It was agreed to ask Mr Burton to carry out this work. Mr Burton said he would also spray the weeds near the A14 junction.

Local Transparency Code: Mr Thomason reported he had created a website for the Parish Council using the free BT facility. He suggested the other village committees may care to use this to incorporate information about their events and it was agreed the user password would be given to the Easton Social & Fund Raising Committee and the Easton United Charities if required.

Accounts: the bank mandate, removing Charles Nixon as a signatory and adding Richard Burton had been completed and submitted to Barclays Bank plc. A letter confirming that this amendment has been approved has been received.

the clerk presented the receipts and expenditure account for the first quarter to 30th June 2015

invoices received and approved for payment from:

Four Seasons Landscaping (Highways Act 1980 s.11)	invoice 874	verge cutting	£200.00
Martin Buckley		internal audit fee	£30.00
Suffolk Acre Services		renewal of insurance premium 1 st June 2015-31 st May 2016	£206.26

A discount for renewing the insurance for three and five years was offered. It was agreed that the discount for a three year term represented the best value and the policy was renewed on this basis.

Correspondence: **Neighbourhood Watch**
email received from Brian Davis detailing thefts which had taken place locally, including in Easton and reminding everyone to continue to note any suspicious vehicles or persons and report to the police on 101

Cambridgeshire County Council

Local Infrastructure & Street Management - notification of the contribution towards verge cutting remains at £130.71 – claim to be submitted.

CFT Community Engagement Officer - no decision or update regarding the local 400 bus service at this time.

Highways Agency

A14 update notification of meeting 29th June
2015 to be held at Marriott Hotel, Huntingdon

Office of the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner

Rebecca Avery Outreach Worker Commissioner's Newsletter and contact link to website.

Matters for next meeting: traffic speed reduction - Mr Trussell to investigate options for this

Date and time of next meeting: to be 6th August 2015
Meeting closed at 9.45pm