



Minutes of the of the Parish Council
Monday 15th January 2024
7.15 pm Eastwell Village Hall

Present: Cllrs John Nelson (Chair), Simon Tong, Laura Harrison , Mark Greasley & Stuart Bridge

Clerk: Terry Brown
Members of the Public: 2

24/2985 Public Time

Derek Janes updated the meeting on plans to improve access to the Park and the meeting agreed to support the work with grant aid to a maximum value of £500.

24/2986 Apologies for absence

Parish Cllr Bob Skinner & County Cllr Bryan Lovegrove

24/2987 To receive declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations

None

24/2988 Borough and County Councillor Time

None

24/2989 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the 11th December 2023

These were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chair.

24/2990 To consider matters arising

/1 to consider progress with MVAS

The Clerk update Councillors on recent (limited!) developments

/2 to consider further action on the 2024 Forbidden Festival and the Vale Group Parishes invite.

Cllr Tong gave a detailed report on his recent meetings with the Vale Parishes Group in discussions of the forthcoming festivals in the Vale. The Festivals will be significant e.g. 25000 campers and 10000 tickets issued.

Meetings had been attended by the Police Commissioner and there is the prospect of a considerably increased police presence around future festivals to cope with the possible traffic and social disorder problems.

The meetings will raise concerns with Melton BC on the validity of any planning permission attached and sought by these events.

Also Cllr Tong reported on the concerns and implications of recent actions by Belvoir Estate in the long term letting of their larger properties (31 to date and counting) for residential homes to various country wide Social Services.

/3 to review progress on a triennial tree survey

Following the removal of the fallen tree on School Allotments this is in progress and the Clerk is to report back to the next meeting. action Clerk

In addition:

- /4 to confirm permissions for parking on School allotments.**
After receiving further comments from an interested parishioner Councillors considered the various options that could be available to meet the requirements for both parties.

There was some discussion of the legal cost implications of any change made

Any decision was deferred to the next meeting when more information would be made available.

24/2991 To receive the Clerk's report

- /1 to consider a renaming of the Parish Council** (to Eaton Eastwell & Goadby Marwood Parish Council)
Councillors considered this to worth consideration and the Clerk is to bring further information to the next meeting. action Clerk
- /2 to note changes to Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (see attached)**
The meeting noted the Clerk's advice on the implications of the change.
- /3** Cllr Bridge asked for clarification on progress with the LED conversion of the remaining action for lights in Eaton. The Clerk would report back to the next meeting on the cost difference between the quote received for this work against costs of conversion to lights elsewhere. action Clerk

24/2992 Correspondence

Emails: None

24/2993 Planning:

- /1 23/00991/FUL Sheriff Lodge Manor Lane Eastwell
Single storey self-build unit to be used as an agricultural workers dwelling.**
Councillors noted the significant local support to the application but did not consider the circumstances sufficient for it to be considered as an agricultural dwelling and therefore would object to the application. action Clerk

In addition:

- /2 23/01065/FUL Eastwell Hall Stables 2 Hall Lane Eastwell
Change of use of agricultural land to car park (3 spaces)**
No comments
- /3 23/01119/LBC Primrose Barn Eastwell Road Scalford
Installation of solar panels on SE and SW facing roof areas.**
No comment
- /4 23/01147/FULHH The Shambles 8 Chapel Street Eaton
Revision of previously improved and implemented garage. New build double garage with room over. Porch to main entrance**
No comment

24/2994 Eaton

- /1** Cllr Bridge updated the meeting on progress made for Leics CC to repair the damaged guard rails on Waltham Lane Eaton with the work due for completion by 27th February.

Also he reported on progress made with his efforts working with Leics Highways to divert heavy lorries way from unsuitable routes in the Parish.

24/2995 Eastwell

None

24/2996 Goadby Marwood

/1 November 23/2964/1 -to discuss action re Priory Agriculture's approach to bridleways on the periphery of the Goadby Marwood towards Eastwell (Cllr Greasley)

further progress re site visit with Ellen Senior (Access Officer, Safe and Sustainable Travel)

Cllr Greasley reported on a site visit with the Leics Officer ,also attended by Cllr Bridge and that the Officer could see the merit in the complaint.

Cllr Greasley is to collect support letters from residents prior to the Parish Council then making a formal request for a Modification Order.

action Cllr Greasley

24/2997 To consider matters for discussion and resolution

/1 to consider renewing access points currently with stiles. (Cllr Bridge)

Discussion was deferred to the March 2024 meeting

/2 to discuss the current website provision (Cllr Nelson)

The Clerk will prepare a report on options for website and email provision for consideration at the March meeting. action Clerk

/3 to discuss the employment of a "Yardman" (Cllr Nelson)

Discussion was deferred to the March 2024 meeting

24/2998 Finance

/1 December payments were approved (see attached)

/2 Bank accounts at 6.1.2024 were reconciled to

Current a/c £6757.50

Deposit a/c £11325.98

24/2999 To receive items for the next meeting

/1 to review progress on a triennial tree survey

/2 to review progress with Street sign maintenance (Cllr Bridge)

/3 to consider renewing access points currently with stiles. (Cllr Bridge)

/4 to consider a bulb planting program

/5 to review the grass cutting contract (Cllr Bridge)

24/3000 Date of next scheduled meeting: Monday 11th March at 7.15 pm Eaton Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21.20 pm

Signed: _____

Chairman - Eaton Parish Council

Payments to 6.1.24

SSE inv 87006	73	06/12/2023	123.78
T Brown 3rd qtr 23 expense	74	13/12/2023	227.50
T Brown SLCC 24 subs	75	13/12/2023	62.00
Goadby Marwood VH	76	14/12/2023	2500.00
T Brown Dec 23 salary	77	20/12/2023	307.48
Bank charges		21/12/2023	5.80
Foxwise Accting inv 132201	78	22/12/2023	54.00

Cash book balance	18,082.59
uncleared credits	0.00
uncleared payments	0.00
	18,082.59

Operating	16,492.59
Herbage	470
Allotment Deposits	1120

Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023

NALC has issued the following guidance:

We have issued legal briefing L02-23 to take into account the Government's amendment to the Local Government Act 1894 in the form of a new section 19A (as inserted by section 82 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023), which will come into force on 26 December (England only). NALC is recommending councils follow the Government's position, which will mean that councils are not prohibited from using powers, other than in the 1894 Act, for spending money on works to property relating to affairs of the church or held for an ecclesiastical charity. LTN 31E (local council general powers) has been reissued to remove references to the prohibitions that will not apply further to section 19A coming into force. And legal briefing L01-18 has been withdrawn.

So what does this mean in practice?

NALC are now saying that councils can use specific powers to fund works - for example, repairs to clocks fixed to church property (Parish Councils Act 1957 s2) and the maintenance of open churchyards (Local Government Act 1972 s214). In addition, councils can use general powers (Local Government Act 1972 s137 and general power of competence) to fund works where council does not have a specific power. Requests to support a church or ecclesiastical charity need to be considered the same as any other funding request. The usual limitations on s137 expenditure apply.