

# Easton on the Hill Parish Council

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## JOIN YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND MAKE EASTON MORE AMAZING!

Dear Neighbour,

As a parish council we have identified the need for improvements at the playing field and so have set up a group called the Playing Field Improvement Committee to find ways to improve the facilities for all of us. Maybe you took part in the original village survey, or the “focus groups”? We’d like to share with you the vision we have for this village asset; what we’ve done so far; what’s happening next; and most importantly, how you can be a part of it.

Our vision is to create an attractive area we can all use (regardless of age!) for a range of sports and activities; with facilities to play, keep fit, and enjoy the fresh air with our friends and neighbours. Our purpose is to make this happen. This will include more equipment, a woodland area, a bike/scooter track, and even a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA).

So far, we have been able to secure a number of grants:

- A grant from the ENC Community Facilities fund to instal the perimeter path;
- A Ward Councillor’s Member Empowerment Fund award to instal two pieces of fitness equipment;
- A £39,000 grant from Augean which will fund three phases of work: demolition of the old changing room building; re-develop the car park and associated fencing; and purchase some new play equipment.

To get the grants, we have needed generous third party contributions, and we are very grateful to Richardson’s Estate Agents of Stamford, our local Howdens branch, and a couple of private individuals for their donations.



The Cricket Club has been making great use of their rebate from the Covid Relief Fund. They have refurbished the practice nets, installed a fence along the Drift side of the field between the new path and the hedgerow, and purchased new sight screens. With the Parish Council having successfully obtained formal legal title to the site, residents are now being consulted on whether a formal lease of the land, along the same lines as current usage, should be issued to the club.

To move the project on and really bring our ambition to life, our small team needs your help. We will continue to identify funding sources and apply for grants. Our priority focus is to apply for more fitness and play park equipment, fencing for the play park, and improving the woodland area. Most grants require “match funding” – which means for every £1 we raise, we can attract £1 of grant money.

Our initial target is £25,000 – and that’s where you come in. If we can raise just this much in the village, we’ll aim to (at least!) double it with grants. The more we raise, the more funders will know we care, unlocking even more support. Our village Playing Field is a great asset, but it hasn’t been used to its full potential for many years. The notable exception to this is the Cricket Club, which has been in continuous residence for a phenomenal four decades!

**Every pound makes a massive difference. If you can help:**

- Simply go to our Just Giving page:-  
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eothparishcouncilplayingfieldimprovementscommittee>
- Make a BACS transfer to the Parish Council’s bank account number 20407337 and sort code 60-83-01
- Or send a cheque, payable to Easton on the Hill Parish Council, to the Clerk (whose address is at the top of the page)

This project is exciting and ambitious, and it will make Easton’s thriving community an even better place to live. We want to provide the best life experience for all our neighbours – and we’d love you to get involved. If you are as enthusiastic as we are about breathing new life into our wonderful Playing Field, we’re open to ideas for fundraising, as well as suggestions about the future of the site. We’ll keep the community informed as we progress – watch out for regular updates.

**Come and be a part of something brilliant: our shared backyard - the Easton on the Hill Playing Field Improvement Project. There are no boundaries to what we can achieve together!**

**Please get in touch via Jenny Rice, Clerk to the Parish Council**

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