

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Easton on the Hill Parish Council on Wednesday 12th August at 7.00pm

Present; Cllrs P Bates, A Cutforth, T Nicol, J Rawlinson, D Sharpe, S Woodman
Members of public; 2; Mrs D Davenport and Mr K Cox

20/121	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	To receive and note apologies accepted by the Clerk. The clerk confirmed that apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Hanson and Cllr Dow
20/122	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business). There were no declarations of interest made.
20/123	PUBLIC TIME. Arrangements were made for the public to join the meeting remotely or join by telephone call if they wish. A maximum of 15 minutes was permitted for members of the public to address the meeting remotely on any item on the agenda. The Chairman reminded the public of the Public Speaking at Council and Committee Meetings Policy statement. Mr Cox wanted it acknowledged how pleasing it is how much has been done so far in terms of obtaining the grants and progressing recommendations. He wanted clarification on how many non-councillors would be on the proposed Playing Field Improvements Committee and that the original idea had been that there would be 6 non-councillors and 4 councillor members however the clerk had taken advice on this and it was recommended that a council function that is delegated to a committee should still retain potential control over the decision making. Mr Cox asked also what the quorum should be and that was later agreed as 4 members, at least 3 being councillors.
20/124	PLAYING FIELD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
	124.1 To receive details of a new playing field improvements committee, as recommended by the Village Plan Working Party, to be set up with delegated powers of decision making and expenditure of grants and to implement the old PFWP recommendations as stipulated by the Augean grant funding agreement now that a provisional grant of 39k has been awarded. It will also continue with other grant applications for more funds if possible, to continue beyond the Augean grant spending, until such time as a Playing Field Association can be considered. The pros and cons of a separate committee with delegated powers were discussed and views of the VPWP passed on to all council members. There were views expressed over the balance of councillors and non-councillors however a variety of members and users was accepted as the best way forward and one that also maintained that the council still had a responsibility to implement views of residents and previous decisions made by the council. The 50/50 split seemed to meet both objectives.
	124.2 To resolve to agree to a playing field committee or to an alternative if this is not preferable. A vote was taken as to whether a PFIC should be set up (with basic terms above and full terms yet to be decided) and it was unanimously voted in favour of doing so, with delegated powers to make decisions and spend grant money as per the terms of reference. Councillor committee members were agreed as Cllr Cutforth, Cllr Woodman, Cllr Sharpe, Cllr Bates and Councillor Dow.
	124.3 To receive outline and draft terms of reference for a playing field committee, if agreed above, review content and resolve to accept them. ToR to follow. Councillors received and noted the draft terms of reference. These were discussed and unanimously agreed subject to some changes; numbers of voting councillors and non-councillors to be changed to 5 and 5, to a maximum of 10. Voting non councillor members of the committee to be agreed by the councillor members and these to include a representative from the cricket club and where possible a user of the equipment and area. Future membership of any working parties and sub committees to be managed as appropriate and necessary. Action clerk to amend and circulate to council and VPWP to be agreed at the planned first committee meeting on 19 th August 2020.

20/125	WOODLAND AREA	
		<p>To receive details of an application to an Envirogrant of up to 1k and resolve to apply for the grant as described.</p> <p>The clerk explained another grant that could be applied for and some work had been done on this by the VPWP, with the recommendation of a woodland trail/area next to the playing fields and SSSI site that needs clearing. It had also been mentioned by the old playing field working party as a good idea. The application would include initial clearing of the area of scrub, bushes and some trees and creating paths and a central glade area for a removable, sensory fire pit for scouts, disabled and autistic groups etc to benefit, plus in the future an investigation table, log benches, bird boxes and an information/wildlife spotting board.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to send off an application as above.</p> <p>Action Clerk and Jeff Davies/separate working party to fill out and submit after first PFIC meeting.</p>
20/126	GYM EQUIPMENT PURCHASE	
	126.1	<p>To receive update on the purchase of gym equipment, as agreed by the ward councillor fund, and resolve to allow the playing field committee to continue with the purchase and location up to £2650, taking into account installation costs and boards to display instructions as required.</p> <p>The clerk reported that at the VPWP meeting it was agreed to meet with a rep from an outdoor gym equipment company to get their advice on popular pieces of equipment but also that it was sensible to create a working party to look at the detail involved in the purchase of equipment and its location. The councillors all agreed that this is included in the terms of reference of the new PFIC and dealt with accordingly as above.</p>
	126.2	<p>If playing field committee not agreed, resolve to allow the village plan working party or an alternative to purchase and locate gym equipment up to the value of £2650 as above.</p> <p>Not applicable – see above.</p>