

Minutes of the ExtraOrdinary meeting of Easton on the Hill Parish Council

held on 4th August 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall, New Road, Easton on the Hill.

Present: Cllr K Cox, Cllr A Davey, Cllr R Holwell, Cllr J Garner, Cllr G Kendall, Cllr J Lyons, Cllr D Mitchell and Cllr S Woodman.

Clerk: Mrs J Rice and 6 members of the public

25/50	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllr C Kaye and Cllr J Stephenson. Cllr T McAllister was not present.	
25/51	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Reminder to members to complete and update their register if necessary. (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). Cllr Woodman declared a personal interest in item 56.1 (4). There were no other interests in items declared.	
25/52	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	Arrangements will be made for the public to join the meeting. A max of 15 minutes will be permitted for members of the public to address the meeting on any item on the agenda. In addition; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairman to remind Councillors of one of the Seven Nolan Principles of Public Life. Chairman to remind members and the public of specific rules/Standing Orders. <p>The members of public from the Adidda cricket club expressed their desire to apply for a grant for club facility improvements and get support and permission from the Parish Council. It was noted that there is an agenda item to discuss this later on.</p> <p>The Chairmain reminded Councillors of the Nolan principle of "objectivity" in all that they do, by making decision impartially, fairly and on merit. The Chairman also reminded Councillors of the standing order of only one person speaking at once and only once on an item.</p>	
25/53	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
	To confirm as correct the record of the minutes of the last meeting held on 14th July 2025, previously circulated. Chairman to sign. <p>The July minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. Cllr K Cox said that the amended minutes from June had not been uploaded to the website and there was also a piece of out of date information regarding the playing field working group against one Councillor on the website. In addition he asked why he was excluded from the whole agenda item on Trees and Greens at the July meeting and it was explained that there was a misunderstanding as he left the room at the beginning of the item and did not make clear his interest was only in the second point. Action Cllrs to be clear about the items with pecuniary interests/Clerk to update</p>	
25/54	MATTERS ARISING from previous meeting. There was none.	
25/55	PLAYING FIELD/PLAY AREA/PAVILION/WOODLAND	
	55.1	To discuss tin can fund raising appeal for playing field, who to monitor/control and resolve a way forward. (Report from Cllr Cox) C/F. <p>Cllr Cox put forward an idea about collecting aluminium tin cans that are then exchanged for cash as a fundraiser for the playing field. It was resolved to look further at the requirements regarding waste licences, amounts/resources needed and if any other council had done similar.</p> <p>Action Cllr Kendall/Clerk</p>
	55.2	To receive and note update on BandM waste contract suspended/outstanding £s and resolve action, note bin collected. C/F <p>The Clerk explained she spoke to the company and they were going to send details regarding the outstanding account balance and situation according to them but nothing has been received still. It was resolved to continue not to pay due to lack of service and await their response.</p>
	55.3	To note request from cricket club to meet to discuss grant applications, plus the need for a new mower at a cost of 6-8k, for grass cutting. To note hire agreement terms (attached) re replacing equipment. Resolve action. C/F <p>The request was received and noted. It was agreed that a new mower/equipment used by the Parish Council would be a PC grant application and anything specifically for Adidda would be theirs to apply for. It was stated that the main mower has not been used for the wicket so a contribution from the</p>

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

		club is not applicable. It was agreed that Cllr Garner and Cllr Cox will meet to discuss requirements and their proposal for developing the club and report back. The Clerk pointed out that Cllr Cox has a contract for work with the cricket club and may have a conflict of interest. An application for a new PC mower will be considered after this meeting. Action Cllr Garner and Cllr Cox Cllr Mitchell mentioned some damage to a roller which he said was owned by his father. It was explained that it was donated by the old cricket club, without that information and assumed owned by the PC.
25/56	PLANNING COMMITTEE (Cllr Kaye, Cllr McAllister, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Woodman)	
	56.1	<p>To note latest feedback from the Planning Committee meeting/applications. https://publicaccess.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/ The latest applications' status was noted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See attached minutes from the last meeting(if any)and updates/responses sent since ; there were no minutes. 2. NE/25/00585/TCA Tree work in a conservation area, Yew, reduce by 2m at 15 Church St. Response sent. Permission given. 3. NE/25/00551/TPO Horse Chestnut remove lower limbs, crown lift at Paddock, Park Walk. Response sent. Permission given. 4. NE/25/00728/TCA 1 x Holly remove at The Malting, 16 High St. Clerk sent support. Decision still outstanding.
25/57	REPORTS	FROM REPRESENTATIVES
	57.1	<p>Checkers reports/village maintenance C/F</p> <p>a) To receive checker reports from Councillor Woodman/Kendall for June and address any issues raised. Note Cllr Kendall in July and Cllr Davey in August. Cllr Woodman reported no issues with the checks done in June. Cllr Kendall reported the abandoned car. Cllr Davey and Cllr Kendall will do the Spring Close and defib checks (with Cllr Woodman) in August. Action Cllrs on rota</p> <p>b) To note report made to insurance and police of damaged village sign and resolve any required action on claim and installation. The Clerk updated the council on the insurance company lack of acceptable service and that quotes are outstanding for installing new posts and sign. A list of NNC contractors will be sent. It was resolved to carry it forward as not urgent. Action Cllr Garner</p> <p>c) To note abandoned cars report made to police/road traffic incident dept. and resolve action. The Clerk had reported the damaged car left in High St/West St to NNC and to the police and has chased the police. It was noted that the PCSO is away at present. Other options will be explored to escalate this with the given incident number. Action Cllr Kendall/Clerk/all Cllrs It was noted that there are also 2 cars with a SORN left near The Close play area on PC land. It was resolved to leave a note asking them to contact the Clerk. Action Cllr Cox</p> <p>d) To note report of flytipping at back of the Crescent, C/F, now cleared. The Clerk had had a report from a resident with concerns over behaviour there and reported it to Amplus (was Longhurst) who have dealt with it.</p> <p>e) To note any new reports of village maintenance and resolve any action/expenditure, including hedge to Close play area. It was resolved to trim the hedge using volunteers (Councillors) and a risk assessment will be drawn up for the activity. Action Clerk/Cllr Woodman/Cllr Lyons/Cllr Mitchell</p> <p>f) To discuss - and resolve if appropriate - a Cllr to monitor potholes, see information. (C/F Cllr Cox) Cllr Cox suggested a Councillor be responsible for checking the standard of work of the potholes repaired by NNC. It was agreed that Cllrs do not feel equipped to do this. The Clerk suggested the Kier Transportation meetings might be a good opportunity to raise the issue, and residents are to continue to report issues via fixmystreet. Action Cllr Davey to attend meeting.</p> <p>g) To receive and note any update from Parish Path warden. It was reported that the scheme has re-started after the elections and Cllr Woodman has been restated as the warden and has received information which was circulated to all about reporting issues with any public footpaths and bridleways. Action Cllr Woodman/Cllrs</p>

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	57.2	Village Hall (Cllr Lyons) 1) To receive and note any update from Cllr Lyons, new Trustee rep. Cllr J Lyons reported from the latest meeting on the upcoming Chairman vacancy, hiring rates, internal works and other joinery works, so may need to check hall availability. Action Clerk
	57.3	Police Liaison Representative (Cllr Kaye) 1) To note update from police meeting attended by Cllr Kaye and matters arising, including invite from PCSO to PLR/Parish re any concerns and decide response. The Clerk gave an update from Cllr Kaye from the meeting attended and the contact and information being established and more will be updated in September. It was noted that contact with the PCSO has also been made separately.
	57.4	Traffic Working Group (Cllr Woodman) C/F 1) To receive update from working group/Cllr Woodman on device data. Cllr Woodman's report was received and the data noted. It will be shared with residents, as levels of speeding over 40 mph are relatively low. Action Clerk 2) To note concerns raised by resident at meeting and feedback from round table meeting re speed limit change. Resolve any action as a result. The notes from the meeting were received and noted and the A43 is noted for a speed limit review. It was noted the resident petition has over 250 signatories and will be used to follow up with the MP. Action Clerk 3) To consider Road Safety grant for other measures (eg dragons teeth/other) and resolve action. It was resolved not to pursue this at present due to a perceived lack of effectiveness. 4) To consider and resolve concerns raised by resident re Close speeding and signs for play area. (NNC say PC directional sign only) It was noted that a resident has expressed concerns over speeding around the play area/The Close and a Go Slow sign has been removed. It was resolved to support a new directional sign if a suitable pole can be used. Action Cllr Woodman and Cllr Lyons
25/58	ALLOTMENTS	
	58.1	To receive and note updated report (herewith) from Clerk, including clarity/agreement of padlock use for all tenants and forfeiting of plot/wait list. C/F The report was received and noted, with the update that the Allotment Manager post is now vacant. It was resolved to advertise it to residents first. It was further agreed to let tenants continue with a padlock system for those that feel they need the protection and that new signs will be put up about dogs on leads and allotment holders only allowed on site. Action Clerk
25/59	TREES AND GREENS WORKING GROUP (INCL NATURE RECOVERY) (Cllr Cox, Cllr Holwell, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Woodman) a) To agree summer tree survey at cost of £300, quote received. C/F It was resolved to accept this quote and ask the contractor to do the survey. Action Clerk b) To note free trees offer, deadline to respond is 28/8/25 and decide if need/want. It was resolved not to apply at this stage as there is nowhere to plant them plus cost to maintain.	
25/60	COMMUNITY SUPPORT/ENGAGEMENT/ISSUES/VILLAGE GROUPS - To suggest and agree any specific items for September's What's on the Hill It was resolved to include the Allotment Mgr vacancy and data from the MVAs and resident petition, plus problem cars.	
25/61	CLERK CORRESPONDENCE /INFORMATION TO NOTE: C/F - To note communication re track behind houses on the Crescent and PC position clarified. C/F It was clarified that the track from the play area left to the end is not PC responsibility to maintain. Residents can do themselves as it is common land. - To note request from NNC bus services re no parking at bus stop and resolve response. C/F It was resolved to agree to the layby being re-instated for bus services and no parking. - To discuss layby Westfields/The Crescent. Cllr Cox. C/F Cllr Cox suggested asking if the layby could be converted for parking, to alleviate the parking situation. Action Clerk - To note letter from resident/child regarding new playing field equipment and resolve further action. It was noted that the Clerk has responded thanking them and that the request would be noted for any future plans. - To note scam emails warning, especially gov.uk emails and QR code scams. In WOTH. This was noted. - To note NCALC conference date is Saturday 4/10/25 and agree attendance. This will be considered by all.	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To note grants workshops available 22/8/25 in Corby and 28/8/25 Oundle. It was resolved that Cllr Garner can attend one of these. - To note and decide candidate in election for NNC Code of Conduct representative. Circulated. The candidates' summaries were received and noted and the preferred choice will be circulated for agreeing offline. Action Cllr Davey/all 		
25/62	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT To agree payments to be made as follows; £s including VAT, claimed back The following payments were authorised. Cllr Cox did not vote.		
	62.1	Clerk reimburse for HP ink plan shared with other PC £9.57	£9.57
	62.2	Clerk reimburse for Microsoft package plus home office allowance, plus mileage	£8.49, £26, £5.40
	62.3	Yu energy contract bills by direct debit for streetlighting, pavilion, water	£312.53, 17.44, £45.64 (pavilion) and £19.97 (Briers)
	62.4	Village hall hire	£36
	62.5	Multipay card monthly fee and Unity bank charges, monthly	£3/£6
	62.6	Handiman Grounds Maintenance Contractor invoice for July, labour and materials (K Cox)	£277.51
	62.7	Handiman Grass Cutting contract (K Cox)	£405
	62.8	Addida Cricket Club reimburse for works x 4m	£400
	62.9	PKF Littlejohn External Auditor	£378
	62.10	Eon for replacement, faulty old streetlight	£350 plus vat
	62.11	Ispi Trade and Zoro paid with Lloyds card - Clips and board for fixtures notice, prev agreed	£12.58/63.54
	62.12	Clerk contractual back pay for national pay award of 3.2% for 5m	£181.60
	62.13	Vision ICT for extra email for allotment manager	£12
	62.14	HMRC employee NI and tax - deducted from salary	£113.91
25/63	RECEIPTS	Hire charges for Cricket Club for July due in advance	£350 paid 30/7/25
25/64	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS It was noted that the date of the next full council meeting is on Monday 8 th September 2025 at 7pm in the village hall and the next Planning Committee meeting is to be agreed, dependent on new applications.		

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