

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

**held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall, New Road, Easton on the Hill.**

Present Cllr K Cox, Cllr A Davey (Chairman), Cllr J Garner, Cllr C Kaye, Cllr G Kendall, Cllr D Mitchell, Cllr J Stephenson and Cllr S Woodman (Vice Chairman) and Clerk: Mrs J Rice. Ward Cllr Simon Fairhall was also present.

There were no members of the public present.

<b>26/18</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> <b>To review draft policy on absences (herewith) and agree and note and accept, or not, apologies for absence sent to the Clerk.</b> The Clerk had received apologies from Cllr Lyons, Cllr Holwell and Cllr Tungate. The draft absence policy was discussed and it was agreed to receive the apologies and review the reasons, when given, however the default position would likely be not to accept the reasons initially until just before a six month non attendance period had been reached.	
<b>26/19</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. <b>Reminder to members to 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 is a legal requirement and will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business).</b> There were no declarations of interest made.	
<b>26/20</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> <b>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.</b> Ward Cllr S Fairhall explained the new reporting system for potholes and how they can be given more priority. He also talked about the consultation on the draft Local Plan and what the responses could include at this stage ie more generally about the boundaries, infrastructure ie health provision and the bigger picture of overlapping and nearby sites that would impact this area if all agreed together. He mentioned about a play equipment consultation and whether a large grant application is appropriate, plus how he is liaising with Cllr Kaye on community safety.	
<b>26/21</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b> <b>To confirm as accurate the record of the minutes of the last meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026, previously circulated. Chairman to sign.</b> The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.	
<b>26/22</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING from previous meeting. To note agreement for the grant received now, AGAR audit sent to external auditor and notice on rights displayed, (higher) insurance premium paid, invitations for CCTV group out.</b> These were noted.	
<b>26/23</b>	<b>GOVERNANCE, TRAINING AND FINANCE</b>	
	<b>23.1</b>	<b>To receive and note revised financial regs with agreed changes, and resolve.</b> The revised regulations were agreed.
	<b>23.2</b>	<b>To receive end of May finance report (herewith) and internal checks and resolve any queries, herewith.</b> The financial position was noted as 16% spent at 17% through the year, and with project budget included it is only 14% spent. Bank balance is 57.3k and general reserves are at 17K with a further 7k, currently unspecified, project money in the budget. It is noted that some larger budget lines will be overspent ie insurance and maintenance however street lighting will be less. The financial checks are to be done soon. <b>Action Cllr Kendall To resolve PO collection spend, £275 C/F.</b> It was agreed to bear this in mind during meetings (see item 29 below).
	<b>23.3</b>	<b>To agree any new training required, and feedback on training attended, including playground inspections and maintenance.</b> It was resolved not to spend money on this course at present. There were no other requests. Vice Chairmanship training is to come.
	<b>23.4</b>	<b>To agree draft IT policy, herewith, and data audit tba for Assertion 10.</b> The IT policy was agreed.
	<b>23.5</b>	<b>To note annual asset checks needed over the summer, as per the attached list/last year.</b> The asset checks list was shared out and checks to be done over the summer. <b>Action Cllrs</b>
	<b>23.6</b>	<b>To receive and note contract end Yu Energy pavilion electricity 13/7/26 and new rates and resolve.</b> The new rates and proposal by the Clerk was received and noted. It was resolved to accept the recommendation by Clear Utilities (the company affiliated to NCALC) and to accept the rates for a 2 year deal if annual cost estimated not above £800. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	<b>23.7</b>	<b>To resolve payment to SLCC or not – increased to £200 pa from £131 as not sharing between councils.</b>

Signed by Chairman

Date

		The Clerk explained that the service is not used very much compared to NCALC and so membership will not be renewed if it can be re-joined at any time as thought. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	23.8	<b>To note Chairman of staffing committee has requested feedback and quick response on Clerk's performance over the year 25/26 for appraisal purposes.</b> This was noted and served as a reminder for all to send in their comments on general performance. <b>Action Cllrs</b>
26/24	<b>CLERK CORRESPONDENCE /INFORMATION TO NOTE/DECISIONS:</b>	
		- <b>Electric vehicle consultation postcards being sent out to residents on future provision.</b> It was noted that not many people seemed to have received the consultation postcards, although it is just for the streets affected. It was resolved to share the consultation details more widely for residents to comment and request an alternative location if wanted. <b>Action Clerk</b>
26/25	<b>PLAYING FIELD, PAVILION, PLAY AREAS, WOODLAND AREA</b>	
	25.1	<b>Contractor, Health and Safety – to note list of work and agree expenditure of any new works and resolve any issues raised: emergency lighting issue, bonfire remains at Close track. To note working pattern arrangement, one long day, 3x2h.</b> The list of jobs was reviewed and work agreed, including clearance of the container, emerg lighting test still ongoing as no clear solution to testing all lights as yet. <b>Action Clerk, Cllrs S Woodman and K Cox and contractor plus Cllr Garner to remind KSFC.</b>
	25.2	<b>To receive and note Legionnaires scheme of control as required and agree responsible person, duty holder, deputy and any gaps and resolve training required. Calorifier temp. testing by another person needed, also schematic diagram tba.</b> It was resolved to include the Chairman as the Deputy Responsible person in the scheme of control and the rest was agreed. The schematic drawing is currently being done and the tesing is agreed with a Cllr <b>Action Clerk/Cllr Woodman</b>
	25.3	<b>To receive update on revised and final ACC and FC hire agreements and resolve any queries/agree action, plus meet with ACC to discuss future plans. To note cleaner ideas needed.</b> Cllr Kendall stated the agreements are improved and statutory declarations are to be signed to avoid any future claims. He will deal with the clubs directly to get agreed. <b>Action Cllr Kendall.</b>
	25.4	<b>To note requests by football club to purchase pool table plus toilet block for sale – currently locked/out of use.</b> It was resolved not to sell the pool table and not to buy the toilet block. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	25.5	<b>To note barrel placement on the Drift and to clarify PC role/responsibility.</b> The Clerk raised a potential issue for the Parish Council with accident claims as the barrels have now been placed further inside the track. Cllr Davey stated that as it is illegal to drive on the bridleway, and the defence for drivers is just that they have permission from the landowners, there can be no claim made to the Parish Council.
26/26	<b>REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES</b>	
	26.1	<b>Checkers reports/village maintenance/salt bins/defibrillators/traffic speed control measures</b> a. <b>To receive checker report from Cllr Kaye for May and resolve any maintenance needed. June checker is Cllr Kendall and July is Cllr Davey.</b> It was noted that Cllr Kaye had submitted her forms and action was taken and furthermore Cllr Kendall will do checks in June with Cllr Woodman. b. <b>To consider Community Speedwatch scheme and resolve action.</b> It was resolved to ask for volunteers for a CSW scheme. It was noted Cllr S Fairhall said that the scheme has been made easier to operate and do the training. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	26.2	<b>Parish Path Warden (Cllr Woodman) To receive any update.</b> There was no update.
	26.3	<b>Village Hall (Cllr Lyons) To note any update from the PC representative Trustee.</b> Cllr Lyons was not present but had said the recent meeting was about the gala.
	26.4	<b>Police Liaison Representative</b> a) <b>To hear update and resolve any action – see projects below – including reporting of illegal quad biking around the village and feedback on suspected drug dealing.</b> It was noted there had been contact made from the rural police officer however no follow up since and that all residents had been reminded to report all crimes/incidents to the police online.
26/27	<b>ALLOTMENTS</b>	
	27.1	<b>To note feedback on community plot and resolve future including bench maintenance.</b> It was resolved to accept the donation of a bench and maintain it as a tribute to ex Cllr Bates and that the community plot will now be allocated to someone on the waiting list. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	27.2	<b>To note feedback on rubbish clearance and tenant/plot allocation.</b> It was resolved that a date will be given to tenants when garden waste can be cleared by Cllr Cox and also metal to be moved to one pile for removal by the scrap man. <b>Action Cllr Cox and Clerk</b>
26/28	<b>COMMUNITY SUPPORT/ENGAGEMENT/ISSUES/VILLAGE GROUPS</b>	
		- -

Signed by Chairman

Date

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To suggest and agree any specific items for July's What's on the Hill and devise system for any new residents for welcome pack – one via Facebook. It was agreed to include items on Community Speedwatch, the survey, a CCTV group will be included (again). New residents were not discussed.</li> <li>- To note feedback from the gala parish council stall and resolve any action as a result. Cllr Kaye thanked Cllr Davey for his support doing a stall and reported that she had handed out crime prevention packs and got some feedback on the survey issues eg potholes, speeding/recent accident and a crossing suggestion.</li> </ul>
26/29	<b>TREES AND GREENS WORKING GROUP (INCL NATURE RECOVERY) Cllr Cox, Cllr Holwell, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Woodman, plus Cllr Tungate Climate and Action Champion. (Last tree survey Aug 2025)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To receive and note any feedback from the group. There was no update or proposals.</li> <li>- To discuss and agree a plan of action for the removal of the old Polish memorial at Spring Close (Cllr Cox). Cllr Cox asked why it was still there and it was thought to be time to remove and improve the spot. Another Cllr suggestion to plant a tree using PO collection monies with a plaque to commemorate the old menorial was well received and it was agreed to make enquiries with the Polish project/History Group. <b>Action Cllr Davey and Clerk</b></li> </ul>	
26/30	<b>PLANNING COMMITTEE (Cllr Kaye, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Woodman, Cllr Tungate)</b>	
	30.1	<b>To note latest feedback from the Planning Committee meeting/applications.</b> <a href="https://publicaccess.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/">https://publicaccess.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To receive and note feedback on any applications since last meeting. It was noted that there have not been any.</li> <li>2. To note Local Plan review consultation document and advice from Ward Cllr and D Moody re response – local issues to be fed back now before formal consultation later, no local sites inc. It was resolved that Cllrs will prepare a suitable response based on all the advice received. <b>Action Planning Committee/Cllr Kaye, Cllr Davey</b></li> </ol>
26/31	<b>PROJECTS</b>	
A/PLAN	31.1	<b>To receive and note feedback/update from sub-group on action plan from survey results.</b> It was noted that some initial ideas had come from the top issues reported, below.
ACTION PLAN	31.2	<b>To receive a proposal that the parish council take part in street defect reporting and that Councillors ensure that defects in their street are reported on the FixMyStreet app. and resolve.</b> It was resolved that Cllrs are to check defects in their road are reported and encourage residents to report using the new system with the advice from Cllr Fairhall. <b>Action Cllrs and Clerk</b>
A/PLAN	31.3	<b>To receive a proposal to set a date for a session to promote reporting by residents and resolve.</b> It was resolved to hold this training and a date will be set next month. <b>Action C/F</b>
ACTION	31.4	<b>To note a regular walkabout day with residents to bulk report issues around the village.</b> It was resolved to carry this forward too. <b>Action Clerk</b>
CCTV GROUP	31.5	<b>To note any interest in a CCTV task and finish group and agree terms of reference of a group and/or a way forward.</b> The Clerk reported that no residents had come forward and there is currently a potential membership of three. The suggested terms of reference will be circulated and residents asked again. <b>Action Clerk</b>
26/32	<b>ORDERS FOR PAYMENT</b> The following payments were authorised for payment and the invoices have all been examined, verified and certified by the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and were signed by the Chairman;	
	32.1	Clerk reimburse for expenses. (£26 home office, £8.49 microsoft, £6.46 ink plan starts July 2026, plus mileage £8.10) £42.59
	32.2	HMRC employer NI payment and employee tax/NI payment July. £151.25
	32.3	Street lighting bills as per contract, paid by direct debit. And Yu Energy for The Briers £134.78 and £25.01
	32.4	Yu energy bill pavilion electricity, paid by DD £73.32
	32.5	Village hall hire £25
	32.6	Clerk salary/hours payable 30/6/26 less tax and NI due £1043.41
	32.7	Multipay card monthly fee and Unity bank charges, monthly £3/£7
	32.8	T Cowling for Grounds Maintenance Contractor May £336
	32.9	K Cox Handiman for grass cutting in May £668.25
	32.10	H/s items purchased; hot/cold stickers, foam for tunnels, duck sign total £13.16, Ronseal for benches £7.93, dw sign £6.83, cement and nomore nails £31.22, bird spikes/glue £51.05. £110.19 incl vat £17.31
	32.11	Eon quarterly maintenance contract £201.60
	32.12	J Dewey for shower resealing £206.88 paid
	Rect	From Adidda Cricket Club 2m rent £250 recd 19 & 27/5/26

Signed by Chairman

Date

**26/33**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS** It was noted that the next meeting will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 7pm in the village hall and the next Planning Committee meeting is to be agreed, dependent on new applications, usually the same date.