

Minutes of the meeting of Easton on the Hill Parish Council (PC)

held on 12th October 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 R Holwell, Cllr J Lyons, Cllr D Mitchell and Cllr H Tungate. Plus Ward Cllr S Fairhall and Clerk: Mrs J Rice.

There were 5 members of the public present (1 arrived at 19:05).

26/70	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	To receive apologies sent to the Clerk and to note reason where given and accept, or not, according to the attendance policy. There were apologies received from Cllr Kendall, Cllr Stephenson and Cllr Woodman. Apologies were noted and reasons not formally accepted.	
26/71	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 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). There were no declarations of interest stated for any items on the agenda.	
26/72	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. One member of the public spoke for others to represent their views on the recent installation of EV charging points in Church St. They asked for the help of the Parish Council to seek responses to 4 key areas of concern about the process, from all parties involved, to establish the "right infrastructure in the right place", as they are not against the EV principle itself. Concern was also expressed about their value for money/cost spent per resident. The Chairman thanked them for coming and said it would be discussed at the agenda item later on.	
26/73	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
	To confirm as accurate the record of the minutes of the last meeting held on 14th September 2026, previously circulated. Chairman to sign. The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.	
26/74	GOVERNANCE, TRAINING AND FINANCE	
	74.1	To receive end of September finance report (herewith) and internal financial checks and resolve any queries, herewith. The financial position was received and noted. The Clerk explained the basic budget is running slightly underspent and the project budget is well underspent, as discussed previously. She further stated the bank balance at 47.2K includes 11.8k earmarked reserves (including 6.5k unidentified projects) and forecasted approx.. 14.5k general reserves, depending on future budget spend. Internal finance checks are in progress. Action Cllr J Lyons and previous months still outstanding.
	74.2	To agree any new training required (details circulated), and feedback on any training or meetings attended – Cluster meeting, ENMRF Liaison and NCALC conference. There were no training requests. Feedback was given from the Cluster meeting and the ENMRF meeting and from NCALC will follow next month. Action Cllr Woodman.
	74.3	To receive any (including annual summer asset checks completed and resolve any actions needed. It was resolved that all outstanding asset reports will be completed by the next meeting. Action Cllrs on list
	74.4	To consider and resolve budget/project requests for inclusion in next year's budget and arrange a finance draft budget setting meeting. There were 3 ideas proposed - Health and Well-being to fully utilise the equipment installed at the playing field, public transport provision (as highlighted by the recent survey) and a rolling programme to maintain and replace benches around the village. These will be further investigated, costed and included in the draft budget. Action Cllrs
	74.5	To note vacancy notice now up for recruitment from village (as no bi-election requested) and to consider and approach possible residents for the post. This was noted. Action All

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	74.6	To resolve wreath purchase and attendance at Remembrance Day service. This was agreed. Action Clerk and Cllrs attending
	74.7	To note chased up still for waste contract invoice “unpaid” and resolve any more action. The Clerk explained this long-term issue that has not been cancelled by the company and auto generated reminders still appear but no escalation. This was noted with no further action.
	74.8	To note Stapletons Solicitors not now in existence and deeds/papers to be returned for storage with Clerk. This was noted.
	74.9	To consider moving meetings to pavilion May to September and changing day/dates and resolve changes (Cllr Cox). Cllr Cox proposed moving meetings to a Wednesday and at the pavilion instead, from May to September, to mainly support business (pub), save hire costs (from less village hall bookings) and for Cllrs to see the pavilion. Some concerns were raised but the majority of votes cast were in favour. It was resolved to try it from January 2027 to enable the changes to be done. Action Clerk It was agreed to move item 26/77 to this point. See below.
26/75	REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS	
	75.1	Checkers reports/village maintenance /salt bins/defibrillators/traffic speed control measures a. To receive checker reports from Cllrs and resolve any maintenance needed. October checker is Cllr Stephenson. There were no new checker reports submitted. b. Traffic - to note any feedback from enquiry to emergency services re parked cars in congested streets. Cllr Davey will follow up on the enquiry he made. Action Cllr Davey c. To note latest data sent and reply received that not eligible for police checks. It was stated that the police again confirmed that the data does not support speed checks.
	75.2	Parish Path Warden (Cllr Woodman) To receive details on the job description and resolve any activity needed. This will be C/F.
	75.3	Village Hall (Cllr Lyons) To note any update from the PC representative Trustee. Cllr Lyons reported from the recent and planned activities, and that a new chair is still needed.
	75.4	Police Liaison Representative (PLR) - To appoint a new PLR. Need to register with NCALC. It was resolved that Cllr Cox will be the new PLR. Action Clerk and Cllr Cox - To hear feedback from meeting with Lee Baron, MP, re policing issues. It was noted that this meeting is on 6/11 and feedback will follow at the next council meeting. - To receive and note any more updates – new PCSO TBC. There was no more update.
26/76	PLAYING FIELD, PAVILION, PLAY AREAS, WOODLAND AREA	
	76.1	Contractor, Health and Safety – to receive and note list of work, herewith, and agree expenditure of any new works and resolve any issues raised and outstanding jobs, including fire risk assessment and action plan. The list of work was received and noted, with no concerns raised, except new non-slip mats that were purchased. It was agreed to get locals involved in the GMC idea to paint the rather tatty breeze blocks at the back of the pavilion on the Drift. Action Clerk, Cllr Cox
	76.2	To resolve a meeting with ACC cricket club to discuss the hire agreement and decide rent amount for 26/27, plus other hire agreement issues. To note water usage twice amount of last year. It was noted that the new agreement sent to the club has not been signed, and the new rent amount now needs to be decided and communicated. It was resolved that Cllr Cox will speak to them about their plans and report back. Action Cllr Cox
	76.3	To resolve “checker” of pavilion/field on 9/11/26 as GMC not available. Cllr Davey will do a quick visual check of the pavilion and the equipment. Action Cllr Davey
	76.4	To note position regarding Football Club hire agreement and resolve any action. It was noted that it is unclear where the signed copy of the new agreement is, and also some issues were raised to do with non compliance, which have been pointed out. Action Cllr Kendall, Clerk
	76.5	To consider a new bench alongside the play area and resolve action. (Cllr Davey). It was resolved to install a new bench alongside the play area as a more comfortable option and use the spare concrete ends and buy new slats, to a value of £250. Action Cllr Cox, Holwell, Davey
	76.6	To discuss playing field improvements, new mower, roller and perimeter fence and resolve applying for a grant, costs TBC.(Cllr Cox) Cllr Cox explained that stock fencing is needed to

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		prevent rabbit damage and balls disappearing, also overall pitch improvements for hiring clubs and a new outfield mower, totalling approx. 50k. It is not anticipated this will cost the Parish Council anything, but hopefully come from Sport England and Football Association grants, similar to KC Active at Kingscliffe, and to be investigated. Action Cllr Cox, Ward Cllr S Fairhall
26/77	CLERK CORRESPONDENCE /INFORMATION TO NOTE/DECISIONS:	
	To note update re EV charger installation and response from NNC, plus subsequent complaint for information, circulated. The issue was discussed and the residents present were assured that the Parish Council supports their concerns. It was resolved to meet with them and then approach NNC Exececutive Member for Highways and Travel, Chris McGiffen. Action Cllr Davey	
26/78	PROJECTS	
A/ PLAN	78.1	To receive and note feedback/update from sub-group on new action plan from survey results. The budget will suggest some projects and shape the action plan in time.
	78.2	To hear any feedback from promoting street defect reporting and walkabout day to report issues and note and resolve Highways walkabout on 17/11/26 list – use “pothole language”. The resident reporting help session was set for 24/11/26 at 12 noon and a suitable route to take, with NNC, to point out issues will be compiled. Action Cllr Davey, Cllr Garner, Cllr Cox
CCTV	78.3	To discuss and agree CCTV group and terms of reference, herewith, and members. To receive and note update and funding requirements. The CCTV working group terms of reference were agreed, with Cllr Woodman as the new member. Cllr Cox gave an update on investigations so far, and suggestions to put cameras on roads into the village, but with grant funding due to high costs. Action CCTV WG to continue and report back.
	78.4	To receive details of flags and costs to be purchased for “Polish remembrance” and resolve. Details were received and agreed. Action Cllr Woodman and Clerk
	78.5	To note Community Funding 26/27 open for applications upto 5k, circulated. Deadline 26/10/26. This was noted however thought too tight a timescale.
	78.6	To consider switch of email provider and resolve investigation work; new hosting bill for Jan-Dec 2027 received/due. (Cllr Woodman). It was resolved that investigations could start, taking into account the integral website address contract. Action Cllr Woodman
26/79	ALLOTMENTS	
	79.1	To note update on allotments and notice board £46 cost update and hedge trimming needed. An update was received and noted, a contact given for the hedge work and costs agreed. Action Clerk
26/80	COMMUNITY SUPPORT/ENGAGEMENT/ISSUES/VILLAGE GROUPS	
	To suggest and agree any specific items for November’s What’s on the Hill. Cllr vacancy, pothole reporting help session, allotment vacancies will be included. Action Clerk To resolve if need updates on EOTH village chat Facebook page. It was agreed that sharing some items to the chat page will be useful and reach more people. Action Clerk To note Town and Parish Council Forum on 20/10/26, 7-9pm and resolve attendance. It was agreed that hopefully the Chairman or Clerk will attend.	
26/81	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) To receive and note any feedback from the group. Due to time, some of these items will be carried forward to November. - To receive update on quotes for pond clearance and resolve. C/F - To note grass cutting contract changes sent, herewith. C/F - To hear feedback from CAN Champion focus group and note new date 23/11/26 at 7pm. C/F - To note date for Poplar trees removal on 26/10/26 and associated method statement. This was noted. - To note minor maintenance needed of PC owned greens and resolve working party or contractors. It was agreed the branch will be removed. Action Cllr Cox	
26/82	PLANNING COMMITTEE (Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Stephenson, Cllr Woodman, Cllr Tungate)	
	82.1	To note latest feedback from the Planning Committee meeting/applications. There was no meeting due to a lack of availability of enough members.
	82.2	To decide applications in the absence of planning committee quoracy.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

		No responses/decisions were made on the following due to a lack of committee/time. 26/02666/HFUL erection of garden studio incidental to existing dwelling house at Clock House, 50 Church St. 26/02754/HFUL replacement windows, doors and rooflights at 48 Church St.	
	82.3	To resolve another member of the committee or dissolve. It was decided to dissolve the committee.	
26/83	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT To agree payments to be made as follows. The invoices have all been examined, verified and certified by the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and are to be signed by the Chairman; The payments were all agreed and invoices signed by the Chairman.		
	83.1	Clerk reimburse for expenses. (£26 home office, £8.49 microsoft, plus mileage £21.60)	£56.09
	83.2	HMRC employer NI payment and employee tax/NI payment for October 2026.	£165.22
	83.3	Valda Street lighting bill as per contract, paid by direct debit. And Yu Energy for The Briers	£277.93
	83.4	Smartest Energy pavilion elec paid by DD	£56.21
	83.5	Village hall hire September	£25
	83.6	Clerk salary/hours payable 31/10/26 less tax and NI	£1066.32
	83.7	Multipay card monthly fee and Unity bank charges, monthly	£3/£7
	83.8	T Cowling for Grounds Maintenance Contractor September, 5w	£336
	83.9	K Cox Handiman for grass cutting etc in September	£605.25
	83.10	Materials for pavilion, mop bucket, mats, signs and Pro Plumbing for shower	£200 paid, plus tbc
	83.11	NCALC training	£63.60
	83.12	M MacLeod for pavilion deep clean, previously agreed	£120 paid Oct
	83.13	Supplier TBC - servicing parts for PC mower	£70
recpt	83.14	Pich/pavilion hire payment received from Ketton Sports FC	£3600
recpt	83.15	From BSH and CL Towell for recycling cans	£294
26/84	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS It was noted that the next full council meeting is on Monday 9 th November 2026 at 7pm in the village hall.		

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____