

# EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

A Parish Council meeting was arranged and advertised, all members of the Parish Council summoned and members of the public invited to attend a Parish Council meeting via remote Zoom link at 8.00pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020.

Mr Michael Baker opened the meeting with all members of the Parish Council present, welcoming Ms Zaria Bettles, Cambridgeshire County Council Rights of Way Officer, and two members of the public.

- 231/2020-21     Apologies for absence – none all members present
- 232/2020-21     Declaration of financial or personal interest: to receive members' declarations as to personal and/or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item – none received
- 236/2020-21     Hartham Street – it was agreed to take this agenda item first as Ms Bettles was in attendance

The Rights of Way Officer had been invited as since the last meeting when further complaints had been made regarding the treacherous condition of Hartham Street considerable works had been carried out by the County Council laying planings for about three quarters of the length of Hartham Street to create a hard surface. Ms Bettles explained that the work had been overseen by a colleague and it is intended to complete the route to the bottom of the hill in November this year. Questions were asked as to how the route can be preserved in order to keep its condition, prohibit vehicles and also not waste further monies. Ms Bettles advised it was the intention to improve the gate and entrance at the Grafham end to prevent access and to keep the closure notice on the byway in force for the foreseeable future. It was also considered that as the route will not present a challenge it will not be of interest to off road vehicles. With regard to maintenance needs, hedges to be kept trimmed back to prevent 'tunnelling' when rain will drip and eventually damage the surface. It was also asked if Hartham Street could be redesignated a bridleway from a byway open to all traffic (boat) in order to stop motor vehicle use altogether. Ms Bettles agreed to look into this. Mr Baker thanked Zaria for arranging the work along Hartham Street as previously for some considerable time it was almost inaccessible for anyone at all to walk, and for her time this evening.

Before she left the clerk advised that complaints from a member of the public experiencing difficulties along footpath FP209/12 to Spaldwick where cows and calves were threatening walkers. This had been reported to Spaldwick Parish Council and although not removing the animals the correspondence had been minuted. Mr Burton said he would check into this as he owned this field. Ms Bettles said she would note and record this in case of any future problem and advise Spaldwick Parish Council.

Mr Baker then carried on with the agenda

*Mike Baker 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020*

- 233/2020-21 **Minutes** Minutes AGM 28/05/2020 signed as a correct record by Mike Baker following agreement; proposed and seconded by Clive Wood and Steve Thomason
- 234/2020-21 **Matters arising**  
 154/2019-20 Planning Consultation - The Meadow, The Lane - pending  
 166/2019-20 storm damage willow tree opposite Church – Mr Burton had discussed with MJC Treecare Services who had offered a reduction to leave tree as is; the clerk to request the revised VAT invoice for settlement  
 213/2019-20 footpath south AWA treatment works – nothing further from Easton United Charities but Mr Trussell reported the rubbish had been removed from the pond and the path is now easily walkable  
 223/2020-21 accounts year end 31/3/2020  
 The Certificate of Exemption signed at the last meeting has been submitted to PKF Littlejohn LLP and receipt has been acknowledged  
 The Notice of Public Rights & Publication of Annual Governance & Accountability Return (Exempt Authority) has been displayed and published on the website.  
 The internal auditor has signed the accounts which are now to be published on the Parish Council website
- 235/2020-21 Accounts to 30/06/2020 – the receipts and expenditure account had been circulated. No queries raised/
- 236/2020-21 Hartham Street - Rights of Way officer invited – see above to beginning of meeting
- 237/2020-21 Goosey Close Play Field – inspection and maintenance  
 HMG had permitted the opening of open spaces but not play areas until 4<sup>th</sup> July. The closure notice of the field had been removed and the clerk had purchased tape to zone off the play equipment to prohibit its use until re-opening allowed. Mr Wood reported he had retaped some of the equipment on two occasions as had the clerk when the tape has been torn off deliberately. Due to the considerable legislation involved until this could be complied with it was agreed to keep the play area out of use
- Annual inspection booked with Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. Forty eight hours advance notice to be given to enable Mr Wood to be advised.  
 Small spring tractor is derelict, suggestion to replace with similar piece using existing ground anchor. Quotation to be obtained.  
 Mr Burton to spray weeds and order replacement bark to spread around the area.

Play area edging – Mr Wood to ask Mr Messenger when he will be able to complete this.

238/2020-21 accounts for consideration for payment

|                        |                        |         |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Four Seasons           | verge cutting inv 1177 | £200.00 |
| M Buckley              | internal audit         | £30.00  |
| expenses               | bins/bags/tape 30/6/20 | £90.37  |
| West End DIY – C Nixon | paint                  | £31.97  |

MJC Treecare to be agreed

239/2020-21 **Correspondence**

Copy letter from Brian Davis to Countryside thanking for work carried out to Hartham Street

**Huntingdonshire District Council**  
*Senior Planning Policy Officer*  
 Developments in Neighbourhood Planning

*Community Resilience Manager*  
 Enquiry for details if food bank is in village

*Communications Executive*  
 Outline agreed changes and plans to re-open town centres.

*Business Grant Support*  
 reminder funds available Huntingdonshire District Council's Discretionary Business Grant scheme

*Electoral Registration Assistant*  
 Changes to the Electoral Register for June 2020

*Licensing Manager*  
 Consultation to run to 11/09/20 of review of policy due to renew January 2021

**Cambridgeshire County Council**  
*Integrated Highways Management Centre*  
 IHMC & Events Manager

all measures put in place to aid social distancing across the county onto <https://one.network> so as to be available to Members, Stakeholders and the Public.

Cambridgeshire County & Peterborough City Councils  
 Covid-19 Co-ordination Hub  
 Newsletters – highlights from the hubs

Covid-19 Communities Updates

*Mike Baker*  
 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Northamptonshire County Council  
Purchase order on behalf of CCC for contribution towards verge cutting

Acknowledgement of receipt of payment Business Services Insurance

Wicksteed Leisure purchase order acknowledgement

Accounts signed by internal auditor

AWA – Regional Engagement Manager  
Grafham Water reopening from 02/06/20

Highways England  
A14 Cambridge-Huntingdon  
Weekly closures and roadworks

**Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Acting Police and Crime Commissioner will hold group meetings for parish, town and city council representatives online, Huntingdonshire meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November

**240/2020-21 Matters for next meeting**

**Village matters**

To include restoration of pump, village roads - encroachment and obstructions of verges, outstanding enforcement officer's report

Reports have been made about small groups of people, some from outside the village, meeting and acting suspiciously giving cause for concern. Mr Baker to advise the authorities and report at the next meeting.

Mr Nixon is to paint the gates at both entrances to the village.

**241/2020-21 Date & time of next meeting – 8.00pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

*Mike Baker*  
6<sup>th</sup> August 2020