



Draft Minutes of the of the Parish Council Meeting
Monday 9th December 2024
7.15 pm Eaton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs John Nelson (Chair), Simon Tong, Stuart Bridge & Andrew Robertson
Clerk: Terry Brown
Members of the Public: six members

24/3090 Public Time

/1 Following on from the November meeting representatives of the Eastwell History Group gave further extensive details of their progress to transform the Lord Granby locomotive from a locked away museum object into something that will inform and be enjoyed the local community also visitors to the Vale of Belvoir.



Questions were raised about current and future funding activities and how the current non ownership of the engine could affect the future viability of the scheme.

Councillors agreed that the project represented an important development for the Parish in many ways apart from potential tourism and therefore that it should be grant aided.

A grant of £4000 was to be resolved in the main meeting to be paid in two tranches with the first half payable 1/4/2025 and the second 1/4/2026.

/2 The Parish Council received comments about the progress of planning application 11/00273/FUL and Councillors asked to be kept informed of further developments.

/3 Sue Bradley asked for support from the Parish Council for the fund raising to pursue a very large grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration of the St Denys Church stonework.

Councillors readily agreed and the Clerk is to write in support. action Clerk

/4 A question was asked about the possibility and advantage of taking the St Denys Church clock into the Parish Council asset register. The Clerk is to investigate and report back. action Clerk

/5 Derek Janes for the ECPA reported a grant of £1000 is to be received from UKSPF / REPF Community Grant Fund via Melton BC to buy gazebos for use in park fund raising events.

24/3091 Apologies for absence
Parish Cllrs Laura Harrison & Mark Greasley
County Cllr Bryan Lovegrove

24/3092 To receive declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations
None

- 24/3093 Borough and County Councillor Time**
No reports
- 24/3094 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the 11th November 2024**
These were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chair.
- 24/3095 To consider matters arising**
- /1 to consider progress with Goadby Marwood action re Priory Agriculture's approach to bridleways on the periphery of the Goadby Marwood towards Eastwell (Cllr Greasley)**
The Clerk reported that no further response had been received from Leics CC
- /2 to report progress on a replacement of streetlight on Elm Lane, Eaton**
The Clerk reported that the quotes for the work would be ready for the next meeting.
- 24/3096 To receive the Clerk's report**
- /1 to report on recent decisions of the Herbage Charity**
The Clerk gave a brief report on two recent meetings of the Trustees and the actions that had been taken following for which no funds had been spent.
- /2 to report on the purchase of Christmas trees**
The purchases were confirmed.
- /3 to update the Council on a concern of the Scalford Road, Eastwell crossroads**
The Clerk reported on the response received to the letter sent to Leics CC. Councillors expressed their disappointment and asked the Clerk to respond making use of an example of the dangers at this point recently received from a Parishioner (see emails). action Clerk
- /4 to confirm details of the 2025 meetings**
The Clerk confirmed that these were now posted on the website.
- /5 to confirm a Councillor email**
Cllr Robertson confirmed his email at andrewsrobertson@me.com
- 24/3097 Correspondence**
Emails:
- | | |
|------------|--|
| 27/11/2024 | Stephen Burt Stephen.Burt@leics.gov.uk re Eastwell Crossroads |
| 30/11/2024 | Helen Smith re planning application 11/00273/FUL |
| 9/12/2024 | Matthew Popow re Eastwell Crossroads accident |
- 24/3098 Planning:**
- /1 24/01094/FUL Cranyke Farm Eastwell Road Scalford Change of use of outbuildings to short term holiday let accommodation. Regularisation of development of the carport and outbuilding.**
The Clerk was asked to report back concerns about the potential for traffic problems that might arise because of the road layout at this development. action Clerk
- 24/3099 Eaton**
See 24/3095/2
- 24/3100 Eastwell**
See 24/3096/3
- 24/3101 Goadby Marwood**
No report

24/3102 To consider matters for discussion and resolution**/1 to consider an Eaton Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk outlined the possible advantages for Eaton to consider such, the grants available for the work and the procedures to be followed in arriving at a final draft to then be submitted for a Parish referendum.

Also the meeting noted the take-up of such Plans by neighbouring parishes.

After a lengthy discussion Councillors decided such a Plan merited further investigation and asked the Clerk to arrange for a neighbouring parish with a Made Plan to join the next meeting to pass on their experiences. action Clerk

/2 to review the Clerk's contract

Councillors considered a schedule showing the hours allocated to the Clerk's tasks and agreed that the workload merited an increase in hours paid of a third to 10 hours a week, noting the impact on Budgets.

/3 to discuss and finalise the 2025-26 Budget and Precept

Two quotes for the repainting of the villages telephone boxes had been received and the Council agreed to accept one quote of £2000.

Following the discussion at the November meeting revisions to the draft included an allowance of £2000 to repaint the telephone boxes and £1000 for maintenance activities such as hedge cutting.

It was resolved to ask for a 2025/6 precept of £30000 which would maintain operating reserves at the lower end of the expected 50% to 200% range of Precept.

With a 2025/26 Tax base of £335.03 this Precept would impose a £84.98 charge as the Parish Council element of the Council Tax for a Band D ratepayer i.e. £1.63 per week.

The Chair and Clerk then signed the 2025/26 Melton BC Precept demand

- see attached

/4 to agree the 2025 Allotment invoices

These were agreed with one amendment

24/3103**Finance**

/1 The following December 2024 payments were approved

Bank charges		21/11/2024	5.00
T Brown re Nov 24 salary	64	23/11/2024	562.64
Glasdon re Eaton bin	65	23/11/2024	153.82
T Brown re hedgehog signs	66	26/11/2024	136.73
Eaton VH re tree	67	26/11/2024	70.00
Burnt Oak re inv 03588	68	29/11/2024	204.00

/2 Bank accounts at 1.12.2024 were reconciled to

Bank Reconciliation 1/12/24

HSBC Current	1070.63
HSBC Deposit	16580.80
	17651.43
Herbage Savings account	820.00

24/3104 To resolve to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of matters to be discussed.
The Council resolved to go into private session to discuss a confidential commercial matter.

24/3105 To receive items for the next meeting.

24/3106 Date of next meeting: Monday 9th January 13th at 7.15 pm Eaton Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21.35 pm

Signed: _____

Chairman - Eaton Parish Council

Budget and Precept 2025/26 - Eaton Parish Council						
		2024-25			2025/26	
		Budget	30.10.24	to 31.3.25		
Income	Precept	26000	26000	26000	30000	
	Allotments	935	45	935	935	
	VAT reclaim	2437	2453	2453	2600	
	Cemetery	475	180	300	475	
	Bank interest	36	165	221	200	
	Misc	275	275	275	275	
			30158	29118	30184	34485
Expenditure	Admin	630	555	755	* 995	
	Banking	100	11	50	50	
	Payroll processing	277	80	200	* 200	
	IT	223	223	223	223	
	Hire	140	299	140	140	
	Audit	370	352	352	* 352	
	Insurance	428	528	408	* 408	
	Electricity	2000	852	1450	1500	
	Lighting	400	197	400	400	
	Mowing	3675	3264	4082	* 4082	
	Salaries	6859	3685	6807	* 8357	
	Subs	350	395	395	400	
	Training	100	0	190	500	
	Trees	3000	1120	1120	1500	
	Utilities/ST	525	220	220	* 220	
	Maintenance	3000	440	2000	4500	
	Traffic	2500	5052	5052	500	
	Repairs	2500	337	337	500	
	Allotments	1000	473	473	935	
	Elections	0	0	0	0	
	Lights conversion	2000	2696	3696	2500	
	Grants	2500	4626	4626	2000	
	ECPA	1500	1500	1500	1500	
	Church	0		304	304	
	Notice boards				2000	
			34077	26905	34780	34066
	Income - Expenditure			2213	-4596	419
			18349	13753	14172	

draft