



Minutes of the of the Parish Council
Monday 15th July 2024
7.15 pm Eaton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs John Nelson (Chair), Simon Tong, Laura Harrison & Stuart Bridge
Borough Councillor Alan Hewson

Clerk: Terry Brown

Members of the Public: nine members

24/3057 Public Time

- /1** The Clerk confirmed that the Goadby Marwood footpath application had been sent.
- /2** Information was given to the meeting about the possible ownership of the land at Eaton currently hosting a disused caravan and the object of previous enforcement action by Melton BC.
see 24/3069/1

24/3058 Apologies for absence

County Cllr Bryan Lovegrove
Parish Cllrs Mark Greasley and Andrew Robertson

24/3059 To receive declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations

None

24/3060 Borough and County Councillor Time

Cllr Hewson reminded the meeting of the availability of Small Business grants from Melton BC.

24/3061 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the 10th June 2024

These were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chair.

24/3062 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)
See Public Time

/2 to review progress with the rabbit problem on the allotment

Cllr Tong reported on recent attempts to control the rabbit problem but concluded that a significant problem persisted.

The Clerk was asked to investigate and obtain quotes for fencing as a solution.

action Clerk

In addition:

/3 the Clerk was reminded of the need for action on a street light replacement at the junction of Waltham Lane, Eaton. action Clerk

- 24/3063 To receive the Clerk's report**
/1 to receive an update on Allotments
 The Clerk reported on a recent site check of the two allotments. In general a better standard was found but there are still areas of concern e.g. the western side plots at School Lane.
 But in particular a holder with two plots on Vicarage Lane had still shown no sign of working the plots consistently over the past three year period
 Therefore in view of a series of unheeded warnings the Council agreed that the plot holder should be served immediate notice to vacate both plots.
action Clerk
- 24/3064 Correspondence**
 Emails:
 12/6/2024 Melton BC re update on re Rural Area Liaison Forums
 5/7/2024 Melton BC re NOISILY APPEAL
 in addition:
 5/7/2024 Melton BC re Electoral Review
 6/7/2024 Irene Brans re footpaths
- 24/3065 Planning:**
/1 24/00621/FUL Eaton Grange Branston Road Eaton
Installation of a ground mounted 19.36kW solar PV system
 No objections
- 24/3066 Eaton**
 Cllr Skinner had previously reported the removal of a streetlight at the junction of Waltham Lane Eaton.
 see 24/3062/3
- 24/3067 Eastwell**
 No report
- 24/3068 Goadby Marwood**
 No report
- 24/3069 To consider matters for discussion and resolution**
/1 to consider action re a derelict caravan site in Eaton
 It was agreed that any future action depends on establishing the current ownership of the land.
 Cllr Bridge is to investigate. action Cllr Bridge
/2 to review grant funding for ECPA
 The Clerk confirmed that a grant of £1500 had been set for the ECPA in 2024/25 and to be paid immediately.
 Derek Janes for the ECPA submitted a revised 5 year plan for the ECPA which supported the ECPA request for future funding at £2500 each year.
 The Clerk outlined what individual grant requests meant in terms of the cost to a Band D Council Taxpayer in the Parish
 Councillors agreed that it was most likely that the Parish Council would have to step in to replace funding requirements that had previously been supported at either Borough or County Council level.
 The Clerk asked that the Parish Council adopt a more rigorous approach to the award of grants such that grants would only be considered at the latest at the December meeting when the next year's precept was decided.

A draft policy was circulated (see attached) for further consideration and resolution at the September meeting.

In addition:

The ECPA requested permission to erect a wooden pergola over the pétanque court. The Council had no objection subject to it meeting planning requirements if needed.

/3 to consider a Councillor responsibility for matters relevant to Eaton's status as a Conservation Village. (Councillor Bridge)

The Parish Council could not see any further benefit from this proposal other than what was already afforded to the Council as a Statutory Consultee to all planning applications.

/4 to discuss for discussion, the use of a contractor with a tractor mounted flail to cut overgrown areas of the villages that are not covered by LCC's village maintenance team. (Councillor Bridge)

Following the discussion at 24/3069/2 re the likelihood of an increased contribution from the Parish Council to maintenance in the Parish, it was agreed to delegate to Cllr Bridge a sum of £500 to be used as a trial. In doing so due care must be taken to respect property rights.

24/3070 Finance

/1 June 2024 payments were approved

Eon inv 124167	27	04/06/2024	113.40
Eastwell VH grant	28	04/06/2024	2,126.40
Burnt Oak inv 03309	29	10/06/2024	408.00
T Brown re bulbs	30	12/06/2024	135.99
T Brown re June salary	31	21/06/2024	409.48
Kemp plot 11 repayment	32	26/06/2024	15.00
SSE Energy inv 01061504	33	01/07/2024	124.06
T Brown re 1st qtr expenses	34	01/07/2024	143.90
Foxwise Accting inv 133541	35	02/07/2024	72.00
Burnt Oak inv 03350	36	02/07/2024	408.00

/2 Bank accounts at 4.7.2024 were reconciled to

Bank Reconciliation 4/7/24

HSBC Current	4144.45
HSBC Deposit	18485.77
Herbage Savings account	745.00
	23375.22

24/3071 To receive items for the next meeting

/1 to approve a Grants Policy

24/3072 Date of next meeting: **Monday 16th September at 7.15 pm** Goadby Marwood Village Hall

The meeting closed at 21.15 pm

Signed: _____

Chairman - Eaton Parish Council

GRANTS POLICY AND SECTION 137 - draft

Eaton Parish Council has a small grants scheme which offers grants to community groups. The amount of money available is set annually in the budget of the Council.

Grants awarded will be paid out from April 1st (e.g. April 1st, 2025) in the following year and therefore all grant applications must be received by November 30th (e.g. November 30th, 2024) latest to be included for discussion in the budget and precept agenda item at the December Parish Council meeting

Eligibility

Applications must be submitted from recognised "not for profit" community groups with a membership structure of at least 10 and a bank account in the name of the organisation. Applications will not be considered from individuals.

The Council will not support applications for revenue expenditure. Revenue expenditure covers day to day running expenses such as rates, gas, or electricity costs; grounds maintenance; salaries; or rent/hire costs.

The Council will consider applications for small scale capital expenditure such as purchase of special equipment.

Only one grant will be awarded to an organisation in any one year. The award of a grant in any one year is independent of any grant in following years to the same organisation.

Procedure

Applications for grants should be made to the Council via the Clerk. Applications sent directly to members of the Council will not be considered

The applicant/s must clearly state the purpose for which the grant is to be used. Successful applicants may use the grant only for the purpose stated on the application form. All applications must be accompanied with an up to date set of accounts and the organisation's current Constitution or Rules. A copy of the organisations latest bank statement may be requested.

For new groups, a business plan must be submitted in place of accounts, together with a projected income/expenditure and funding statement.

The application must include evidence of self-help – i.e. other funding sources or fundraising activities.

The Council may request the applicant/s to make a presentation outlining the project proposed and the benefits accruing to the community prior to the award of the grant.

After Receipt of Grant

Organisations awarded grants for specific capital expenditure must produce proof of expenditure within 12 months of receiving the grant. Any grant not spent within 12 months must be returned.

For an event or forming a new community group, must be returned if the event is not held or the group not formed.