

EYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th March 2014 at 7.30pm

Eydon Village Hall

Item

1. **Present:** Councillors, M Hawes (Chair), K Simmons (Vice Chair), R Collins, C Henson, K Lodge, N Stewart, Clerk Mr A Hartley in attendance.
2. **Apologies:** Councillor I Stewart (work commitments).
3. **Open Meeting: Members of public present:** Mrs C Turbett, Mr Harper, Mr D Kench, Mr B Taylor.

Mr Harper advised the Meeting of his strong opposition to the resolution passed during the Eydon Parish Council Meeting of March 2014 for the Parish Council to apply to South Northants Council for the Royal Oak public house to be registered as an Asset of Community Value under the current national initiative. Mr Harper also explained that he did not consider there had been sufficient consultation with him as the Royal Oak owner prior to that meeting. The Clerk outlined the procedure the Parish Council should follow should there be sufficient interest by Councillors for the matter to be revisited following Mr Harper's address.

Mr D Kench, further to correspondence to the Chair and Clerk prior to the meeting, raised the following:-

1. Parish Council share of Council Tax. The residents will this week have received their Council Tax demands from SNC and the increase in EPC charge of almost 20% may look a bit high to some especially when SNC has made no increase and NCC is only 2%. The PC might consider it good PR to write a short note in EVN to explain why and quantify that it would 'only' be an increase of £12.50 p.a. for a Band E property (24p a week). Although the precise figures can be seen on the website but not everyone can/will do that. It was referred to briefly in EVN a couple of months ago but the demand dropping through the letter box will have focused their minds on the figures.
2. NCC Enhancement Gangs. In many places in the village the grass verges are seriously overgrowing the footpaths which are gradually becoming narrower. On Hill View and much of Lime Avenue there is a blue brick kerb between the grass and the pavement. Similarly on the High Street from 20 – 26 there is a concrete channel. The blue brick kerbs are now lost beneath the grass and it would be a major improvement to cut the grass back to increase

the footpath widths to what they should be. This would also apply to the path up Hollow Way and the new footpath laid from The Green along to the kissing gate.

4. Declarations of interest: None declared.

5. Resolution to sign and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th February 2014. The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

6. Matters arising:

1. Registration of Assets of Community Value: The Clerk advised the Meeting that the appropriate form for the application to SNC for its consideration of the Royal Oak public house to be registered as an Asset of Community Value had been completed but not yet presented. This shall be deferred/declined pending potential developments subject to Mr Harper's concerns.

2. Annual Parish Assembly : The Clerk advised that the Police and District/County Councillors had been invited to attend the Assembly.

3. Annual Litter Pick: The Chair advised the Meeting that the litter pick had been well attended and had even extended beyond the Parish boundary in certain areas to ensure the whole neighbourhood had been left well kept.

4. Gulley maintenance: The Clerk confirmed that correspondence had been received from NCC Highways Dept stating a countywide audit of gullies etc for maintenance had recently been completed and all those in Eydon should now be on the records for routine work, this being scheduled as annually and during April for Eydon.

7. Problematic car parking along the highways within Eydon:

Recent correspondence received and similar fly-posters in Eydon voicing concerns of the safety implications and the impact to grass verges of irresponsible parking within the village was discussed. It was resolved that the Clerk would contact the Police to outline the problem and seek their advice on how best to deal with the issue. Additionally, mention would be made in Eydon Village News requesting residents and their visitors to park cars in reasonable locations.

8. Future superfast broadband availability within Eydon Parish:

It had been noted that residents in particular parts of Eydon may not be included in the current raft of superfast broadband installation, the schedule for their future inclusion in the system remained uncertain. It was resolved that the Clerk would contact the system installation company for clarification of these issues.

9. Village grass mowing contract 2014:

The Clerk advised the Meeting that he had spoken to Mr Scott of Scott's Landscapes regarding the anticipated cost of fulfilling the above contract. Mr Scott stated there would be a marginal increase in cost above the 2013 contract to cover the annual rate of inflation. The proposed costs would be confirmed in writing. The Parish Council resolved to continue with Scott's Landscapes for the 2014 season on this basis.

10. Interim Internal Audit:

The Parish Council noted the comments from the Interim Internal Report. (Previously circulated and held on file).

11. Standing Orders:

Consequential to comment from the recent Interim Internal Audit, the Parish Council considered updated Model Standing Orders, modified from those drafted by NALC in October 2013.

The Parish Council agreed further consideration and possible modification was required before adoption could be implemented, the Clerk and Cllrs would prepare the document for future re-submission at the earliest opportunity.

12. Financial Regulations:

Consequential to comment from the recent Interim Internal Audit and advice received from NCALC, the Parish Council noted the recommendation that the current Financial Regulations be updated to those currently in draft form with the NALC legal department.

13. Village Enhancement Gangs:

The Council considered the offer from Northants Highways for Eydon and resolved to be included on the 2014 schedule for the Village Enhancement Gangs. The drafted list of potential tasks included those suggested in item 3

above, additionally, re-seeding grass verges damaged by vehicles over the winter months. The Clerk is to respond to Northants Highways accordingly.

14. Reports

1. Eydon Village Hall: Cllr Collins had circulated the Minutes of the Village Hall Committee Meeting held on 20th February prior to the meeting. Cllr Collins shall ask for a copy of the recent structural survey report to be circulated to the Parish Council when available. Two quotes have been received for replacement/refurbishment of the Village Hall heating system.

2. Eydon Community Sports Field: Cllr Simmons had circulated Minutes of the ECSF Committee Meeting held on 18th February prior to the meeting. Nothing further was reported.

15. Finance:

1. Receipts :	NCC grass mowing grant	£163.38
	Sale of 2 Village Design Statement bks	£10.00

2. Payments agreed:

i. Texprep Newsletter printing (cheque no 300063)	£71.80
ii. J&M Humphris memorial stone repairs (£240.90 + £48.18 vat at 20%) (cheque no 300064)	£289.08
iii. Made in Eydon Knits c/o Sue Lodge (cheque no 300065) (Section 137 payment) (Eydon Jubilee Initiative Fund)	£75.00

3. Bank balances: noted as -

Current Account: End of Feb 2014	£ 3159.84
Business Premium Account: End of Jan 2014	£11973.70

4. Internal Control: The Internal Control Officer reported that the payment and accounting systems have been checked and are in order. Noted by the Parish Council.

16. Planning.

New applications received for consultation:

1. S/2014/0172/FUL: 3 Lime Avenue, Eydon
Single storey conservatory extension and conversion of garage to habitable room.
Parish Council response: No objection.
2. S/2014/0232/LDE : Brickhill Fisheries, Eydon Rd, Woodford Halse
Lawful development certificate for the use of a building as a single dwelling together with associated residential curtilage.
Parish Council response: Objection.

For additional consideration:

3. Slade Lays Farm, Eydon rd, Woodford Halse.
The Parish Council had been advised by the Planning Dept of Daventry District Council that the Planning Committee shall consider an enforcement matter regarding unauthorised land use at the above premises.
The Parish Council resolved that the Chairman, Cllr Hawes, would represent the Parish Council at the hearing and shall address the hearing with a prepared statement agreed by the Council. The statement is held on file.

17. Correspondence not covered above.

Received via e-mail. –

1. CPRE – Annual spring clean publicity – noted.

2. CPRE- Northants Spring Roadshow publicity - noted.
3. Police Ward activities update - noted.
4. NCALC Training course schedule for March/April - noted.
5. Letter from Ms Georgina Hall re bridge on bridleways FN24/AL7 and bridleway AL11 concerns - noted.
6. Letter from Mr Grindlay regarding bridleways FN24/AL7 – noted.
7. Northants Police – Volunteers advertisement – noted.
8. Notification of SNC hosting a Dementia Awareness session – noted.
9. Mr Denby regarding Parish Council activities and offer of assistance in preparing financial statement ahead of the Annual Parish Assembly – the Clerk instructed to write thanking Mr Denby and also advise him that the financial statement shall be prepared by the Parish Council.

Received via post

10. None.

18. Councillors' Comments.

None.

19. Next meeting : Eydon Village Hall at 7.30pm, Tuesday 8th April 2014

20. Meeting closed : 9.30pm