

Minutes of the Eggington Parish Council
Meeting No. 188 – held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 7:30 pm

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr Rob Jefferis
Councillors: John Westbury, John Symonds, Peter Moore, Peter Ellyard and Richard Gorton.

CLERK: [Cllr Westbury, with assistance from Charlotte Gurney and Rebecca Downie]

PARISHIONERS: Charlotte Gurney

Public Statements: None

1. **To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Versallion was unable to attend.
2. **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations:** None were made.
3. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting 187:** these were proposed by Cllr Jefferis and Seconded by Cllr Ellyard. With all agreement, they were duly signed.
4. **Matters arising from those Minutes:** Cllr Westbury reported that he'd spoken to Mr D Dyer who had apologised for letting it grow out, and agreed to get the hedge outside Woodbine Cottage cut back when their gardener next appeared.
5. **Financial Report:** Acting as Clerk/RFO, Cllr Westbury reported that the current situation was:

Community Account	£ 3,153.01
Bus. Saver Account	£ 12,297.62
Total	£ 15,426.63

There was one Invoice to be paid (Eggington Village Hall, hire of) £24.00

Cllr Westbury went on to explain that, in order to expedite payments from Eggington Community Benefit Fund to those who were in receipt of grants from the fund, that Central Bedfordshire Council (who hold the funds) had transferred the sum of £10,633.45 to EPC's Community Account, and that these monies were then passed on to the recipients/or used to make payment to suppliers where the Grant recipients did not have their own bank account. This involved no loss or gain to the Parish Council.

This having been explained, the Accounts were submitted: Proposed by Cllr Gorton and Seconded by Cllr Jefferis, they were unanimously accepted and adopted.

Before moving to the next item on the Agenda, Cllr Westbury brought up the subject of the s.137 grant for the year. Following discussion, it was agreed that St Michael's Church PCC should be the beneficiary of this (discretionary) grant, to assist with their considerable expenditure to underpin the vestry which, due to shrinkage of the clay in the churchyard, appeared to be falling away from the body of the building. This was agreed by all, and Cllr Westbury was asked to arrange the payment.

6. **Planning and Development:** it was noted that at that time, no decision had been made on the modified application by Mr M Jones for Claridges Farm.
It was also noted that the application for Rosedale's rear extension had been withdrawn.
7. **Adoption of New Model Standing Orders:** Cllr Westbury (Acting as Clerk) pointed out that a new set of Model Standing Orders was now available, and wondered whether it would be appropriate to issue these to Councillors when the new Council sits for the first time in May 2019. They would then come in alongside the new Code of Conduct which would have to be agreed by all Councillors. It was agreed that this item be added to the Agenda for Meeting 190, due in May.
8. **Updates from Cllrs on Village Matters:** Cllr Moore commented on the Pampas grass which is overhanging the footpath outside White House Cottage. He agreed to speak to the owners, Mr Lay & Ms Downes about cutting it back.
Cllr Westbury reported that, as Clerk, he'd been contacted by the Brunton family following the interment of their mother Mrs Betty Brunton in St Michael's Church Garden of Rest. They were enquiring as to who they needed to contact about installing a bench in the churchyard in memory of their parents who were both interred there. Cllr Westbury had referred Mr John Brunton to talk to the PCC (details were provided) but observed that there already was a bench where they had suggested siting one!
Cllr Westbury had also received a further request from CBC in relation to the new Relief road between Stanbridge Road and Hockliffe Road. Councillors were unable to come up with anything at the meeting: however Cllr Westbury had subsequently suggested "Crossfield Way", although this suggestion has yet to be confirmed by LLTC and CBC.

Cllr Westbury also commented that he wished to contact Anglian Water on behalf of the Council regarding the condition of the grass triangle outside the church, where the tyre marks were left. Also about replacing the bollards which had been knocked over. The workmen had simply left the area without any attempt at restoration.

Cllr Jefferis said he'd been in contact with CostCo regarding the installation of the play equipment he'd previously suggested. The climbing frame and its installation would cost £4,500. However, there were some concerns raised concerning the use of wood as the material for the installation, especially since the small wooden see-saw was now considered dangerous because of the vandalism and deterioration to which it had been subjected. This see-saw would certainly need to be replaced this year as a matter of some urgency, especially as funds had been allocated in the Council's budget.

9. **Speedwatch:** The new equipment and signage had been ordered, and paid for by the Community Fund grant (as referred to earlier). However, Cllr Moore said he had not yet been able to test it due to the road closure outside the church. He added that although this Speedwatch equipment was being donated to the Parish Council for administrative reasons, it would continue to be available to the Speedwatch group. It will be set up for a fortnight's monitoring purpose only, but prior to such deployment it would need a couple of good-quality padlocks to ensure it was not removed maliciously. Cllr Westbury proposed that Cllr Moore be authorised to purchase such, which was agreed by all.

Cllr Westbury invited all Councillors intending to stand in the forthcoming Parish Council election to take a set of Nomination papers, with a reminder that they needed to be submitted to CBC at Priory House by Wednesday 3rd April at 16:00 (4:00 pm).

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9:28 pm.

Cllr Ellyard gave his apologies saying he would not be able to attend the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday, April 3rd 2019, at 7:30 pm in Eggington Village Hall.

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed: (Chairman) Date: 3rd April 2019