

A Bi-monthly Meeting of East Garston Parish Council was held in the Friends Meeting House Children's Room on
Wednesday 1st November 2017 at 7 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Present: - Jonathan Rabbitts (JR) - Chairman, Councillors: - Chris Tonge (CT), Liam Robson (LR), Deana Carpenter (DC), Sue Tulloch (ST) and Alan Breadmore – Clerk; Apologies: - Jane Haddock (JH) – Parishioners: - David Bell (DB)
2. Declarations of Interest: None
3. Minutes of Bi-monthly Meeting held 6th September 2017 – were read and signed as correct.
4. Matters Arising: -
 - a. c/f. Awaiting action from WBC re re-profiling and drainage on Back St outside PJS, WBC have indicated there is still no funding and that cost will be approx. £15K.
 - b. Parishioner Linda Tame has reported that “dog mess” had not been a serious problem recently and that she had surveyed the Millennium Field in preparation for bonfire night. Volunteers wishing to help clear the Parish of dog waste should liaise with Linda or a Councillor.
 - c. c/f. JR to arrange to “refresh” salt bins. Clerk to order stock of road salt
 - d. c/f. WBC have acknowledged the PC offer of financial support for library services and have accepted the conditions. They will forward an agreement and request for payment in due course.
 - e. Clerk reported that he is now booked on the training course re data protection.
 - f. The Electoral Boundary Commission have reported that although East Garston PC presented a strong case for modification to ward boundary changes, it was more important to attain statistical balance to ward size. Councillors asked Clerk to make a final appeal to District Councillors for intervention.
 - g. CT reported that a meeting is scheduled with Highways department at WBC re speeding. Clerk reported that there was no progress re the “smart meter” VAS and that costs were likely to be £3-5k each for the PC to fund themselves.
 - h. Clerk reported that following the consultation period, the Post Office had confirmed that no representations had been made regarding the proposed reduction in services and that from November the Post Office would only open on Thursday mornings.
 - i. Awaiting report from Historic England re war memorial.
5. Outcomes of Planning Considerations held 20th September 2017 were read and signed as correct.
6. Matters Arising: - None.
7. Finance and Compliance: -
 - a. Paid since last meeting: *unplanned

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT	CQ number or on-line banking approvers
A Breadmore	Clerks Exes (inc. pooper scooper)	£55	LR DC
Scofell Landscapes	Mowing x2	£480	ST DC & LR DC
e-mango	Web Services	£461	ST DC
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	£20	DC LR
CPRE	Subscription	£36	LR DC
Wilkins Kennedy	Payroll	£315	DD
Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Pads	£38	LR DC
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	£18	
Hills Waste	Skip Hire	£276*	DC LR

b. To be paid by next meeting:

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
WBC	Library Contribution	£525
Scofell Landscapes	Mowing	£240
EGPCC	Churchyard Maintenance	£200
Wilkins Kennedy	Payroll	£315
East Garston Quakers	Meeting Room Hire	£80
R Gibbard	JM Bench Refurbishment	£120
J Hing	Materials (for phone box shelving)	£80
A Breadmore	Clerk's Expenses	£40
PJS	Padlock for MF	£32
BALC	Clerk Training	£48
Willis and Ainsworth	Road Salt	£150
??	Computer Equipment (if grant application successful)	£780
Unity Trust Bank	Service Charge	18.00

c. Received since last meeting: -

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
WBC	Precept	£4500
East Garston Amenities	Grant for Swing	£168

d. To be received by next meeting: -

Name	Goods or service	Amount inc VAT
BALC	Computer Equipment Grant (if successful)	£650

- e. The September and October Current and Deposit Account statements were reconciled to the cash book and agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- f. Councillors agreed to make a grant to the PCC towards churchyard maintenance. Proposed CT, seconded ST.
- g. Clerk highlighted that a government grant is available to PCs for the purchase of computer equipment to assist with implementing the transparency guidelines. He highlighted that having a PC owned computer would also assist with future transition of his role and with enhancing data protection. Councillors agreed that an application should be made and that, if successful, purchases should be made. Proposed DC, seconded LR
8. Flood Management Status: - CT advised that there had been a meeting of the Lambourn Valley Flood Forum and that there was nothing significant to report, the meetings discussions were predominantly about the Great Shefford flood relief scheme.
9. Telephone Box adoption: - Clerk reported that the phone box/book exchange was complete and “open for business” with a significant number of books already donated. Councillors expressed their appreciation for the voluntary work performed by Dermot Tredget and Jon Hing. Councillors agreed that the phone box should be added to the PC “All Risks” insurance at a value of £2,000 for a potential increase in premium of £20.
10. Millennium Field Reinstatement/MUGA: - Clerk reported that TW had advised that the survey of the old sewer pipes was not yet complete. ST and Clerk have been obtaining illustration quotes for a MUGA. Current indications are that cost would be £60-70K. TW have now completed the reprofiling and reseeding of the MF to Councillors satisfaction. Clerk confirmed that he had been advised that planning permission would be required for a MUGA and that the formal tendering process would need to be used. He is taking further advice on how this can be simplified yet remain within guidelines. LR to provide Clerk with link to information re government procurement methods. Councillors agreed that before pursuing this initiative further then parishioners should be consulted. A survey and public meeting to revalidate the findings of the community plan re the need for community leisure facilities will take place in the new year.
11. Planning Status: - The WBC status of East Garston Planning Applications is as follows
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|-------------------------------------|--|
| a. Church Cottage – refused | d. Ivy Cottage – approved |
| b. Manor Farm (pool etc) – approved | e. The Pump House – approved following withdrawal of roof proposals. |
| c. Jasmine Cottage – approved | |
12. Volunteer Programme: - Councillors acknowledged the turnout for the Village Clean Up day. The provision of a skip this year had proved problematic and may need to be reconsidered in the future. Councillors asked the Clerk to seek a volunteer to recoat the bench on Humphreys Lane and repaint the block wall in the Village Hall Car Park.
13. Correspondence: -
- Notification of potential closure for maintenance of Footpath 2, segment 9 (South Fawley) for maintenance.
 - Offer of grant for “Community Cohesion Projects” from Quakers. Councillors to consider potential ideas.
 - Update re progress of 4LEGS community radio. Likely to be “on air” in New Year. Once established Councillors to suggest that they apply for a Community Grant.
 - Request for meeting with a developer re affordable homes on exception sites. Declined
 - Proposal for changes to street cleansing services from WBC. Councillors did not recognise the current level of service and felt it inevitable that services would reduce. Impact to be monitored.
 - Winter Service Plan from WBC showed no change for East Garston re gritting and snow clearance.
14. Any Other Business
- Clerk requested that Councillors reviewed their profiles on the website and advised him if changes were required.
 - Councillors agreed to appointing contractor for hedge cutting, cost estimated to be £160. Proposed JR, seconded CT.

Meeting ended – 8.20 p.m. Next meeting – Wednesday 10th January 2018 at 7pm