

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT

EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 12TH MARCH 2018, 8.00PM, VILLAGE HALL, PYE CORNER.

PRESENT: Cllrs Beazley, Bryant, Hughes, Wighwick
In attendance: Christine Law (Parish Clerk), Eric Buckmaster (County Councillor), two members of the public.

THIS IS THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – This meeting gives the registered electors of the parish an opportunity to come and discuss any matters of importance within the community.

- a. Roger Beeching - gave a presentation to the meeting about Healthwatch Hertfordshire that he is now involved in. Healthwatch Hertfordshire is the independent consumer voice for health and social care in Hertfordshire. For more detail see Appendix A below.

The Parish Council thanked Roger for his presentation.

- b. A complaint has been received from a resident of Pye Corner about the speeding and overweight vehicles that are going through Pye Corner (C161), which has a 7ton weight limit. It was asked if the Parish Council could put some weight behind this matter and help to solve the problem. The Clerk will write to the Commissioner of Police.

We were informed about a scheme that is running in High Wych called 'Drive Safe Scheme' The Clerk will investigate and report back to the next meeting.

- c. Old Brophy site – Speedway and bikes. Complaints are being received from residents and it was asked that residents keep a log of the use of the site and report back to the Clerk. The Parish Council have been informed by Herts CC Enforcement Officer that as it is now a new year the owner of the site is permitted to use the land for motor sports for a maximum 14 days without the need for planning permission.

Is this site in the parish of Gilston or Sawbridgeworth or across both?

- d. The Parish Council has received Eric Buckmaster's March report which can be found towards the end of these minutes.
- e. It was asked by a member of the Council to record that they have no confidence in Cllr Brunton (District Councillor) due to his non- attendance at our meetings and lack of any input or support to the parish.
- f. No other business to discuss.

The Annual Parish Meeting closed 8.30pm and the Parish Council Business meeting commenced.

THE BUSINESS MEETING

89. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

- a. Cllrs Geddes and Orson.

90. RECEIVE COUNCILLOR'S DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

- a. None received.

91. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

- a. Minutes of the business meeting of 8th January 2018 were proposed by Cllr Beazley and seconded by Cllr Bryant. These were signed as a true record by Vice Chairman Cllr Hughes.

92. ACCOUNTS

- a. The Council's statement of accounts was presented to the meeting (copy attached to these minutes).
 - b. Village Hall hire for April 2017 – March 2018. At present we pay £210.00 per year for our meetings and the Clerk proposed that, as the Village Hall raised the hire costs last year, the Council should now pay £240.00 per year. This was proposed by Cllr Hughes and Seconded by Cllr Beazley. The Clerk will pay this by cheque.
 - c. Churchyard maintenance – It was agreed by the full Council that it continue to make a contribution towards the two churchyard maintenance costs - £400.00 to be paid to the PCC for the upkeep of both our churchyards. The Clerk will pay this by cheque.
- Items b & c were proposed by Cllr Hughes and seconded by Cllr Beazley then agreed by full council.

93. PLANNING AND ASSOCIATED APPLICATION

- a. 4 Roseley Cottages, Eastwick – This is a new application for the erection of front porch and render original property. The Council had no objections and are awaiting Development Control decision.
- b. Golden Brook, Gilston -This is a new application for a proposed agricultural machinery store. The Parish Council had no objections to this.
- c. Terlings Park – The meeting was informed that the Clerk and Cllr Beazley had walked the site and taken photos of all the outstanding issues and things that need finishing off. Cllr Beazley has written to Bloor Homes and their contractor about the outstanding matters.

94. STOP HARLOW CAMPAIGN

- a. Cllr Hughes informed the meeting that they are considering whether to respond to East Herts District Plan Main Modifications Consultation.

95. PARISH PATHS

- a. Cllr Orson not at meeting.

96. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- a. Cllr Bryant reported that the Hunsdon, Eastwick & Gilston Neighbourhood Planning Group are working on a response to East Herts District Plan Main Modifications Consultation. The Neighbourhood Planning Group is preparing a formal response on behalf of the Planning Group and drafting a "template" which they will be recommending to our community. They are preparing a flyer, to be distributed to all residents of Eastwick and Gilston, advising residents of the template response which

needs to be submitted to EHDC by 29th March 2018. The Group is hoping to have another workshop, possibly at the end of April, which will look at the infrastructure, but no date has been agreed yet with EHDC and Places for People. The flyer will be delivered to all residents within the next week reminding them to respond to EHDC's Main Modifications to the District Plan Policy GA1.

97. HIGHWAYS

- a. Cllr Beazley informed the meeting that she is investigating the installation of replacement Radar Speed signs. We were advised if we write to Cllr Buckmaster he will be able to investigate for us whether any particular model is better than the others.
- b. Litter picking has been done within Terlins Park by community volunteers. Footpath between Terlins and the Dusty Miller has been strimmed and cleared, we assume by EHDC.
- c. Litter along the majority of the verges of the C161 between the Eastwick roundabout and the eastern edge of Gilston is not being cleared by East Herts, despite several complaints to the Council. The District Council has informed the Parish Council they would have to put in highway controls and therefore consider it too expensive. Further representation / complaint to EHDC to be made.

98. VILLAGE SIGNS

- a. Cllr Orson - away, nothing to report.

99. NEW HOMES BONUS

- a. The Clerk has received a list of suggestions on how this money could be spent to benefit the parish. List to be circulated to Councillors who will form a sub-committee to discuss the items put forward. The sub-committee will prioritise the suggestions for consideration and ratification at the next full Council meeting (14th May 2018).

100. ADOPT A KIOSK

- a. Cllr Hughes reported that he is not getting any response from BT on the matter and will abandoned our suggestions for its use.

However, Councillors still wish to explore the possibility of installing defibrillators in the two villages.

101. WAR MEMORIALS

The Clerk informed the meeting she is awaiting to hear from The War Memorials Trust about grant application for the restoration work to both our memorials before November.

102. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

103. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- a. None.

104. ITEMS COUNCILLORS WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE NEXT AGENDA

- a. Burnt Mill Lane

105. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a. The date of the next meeting is on Monday 14th May 2018 – Annual Meeting of the council followed by the Parish Council Business Meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT MARCH 2018

Current Consultations:

Waste Consultation. Hertfordshire County Council, as Waste Planning Authority for Hertfordshire, is seeking the views of all interested parties on the way forward for waste planning in the county.

This Initial Consultation is the first consultation that Hertfordshire County Council has published during the process of reviewing the county's existing Waste Local Plan (WLP). The existing Local Plan covers the period 2011-2026 and comprises two documents:

- Waste Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document (adopted November 2012); and
- Waste Site Allocations document (adopted July 2014).

This Initial Consultation is being published for consultation for an eight-week period starting at **9am on 5 February 2018** and ending at **5pm on 30 March 2018**. Please ensure that your responses reach us by the closing date.

Online Consultation Portal: <http://hertscc-consult.objective.co.uk/portal>

Email response forms: waste.planning@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Address for printed forms: Minerals and Waste Policy Team,
Spatial Planning and Economy,
CHN 216,
Hertfordshire County Council,
County Hall,
Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DN.

Phone no. for queries: 0300 123 4040

Update on Year of Physical Activity. It is promoted by Herts Sports Partnership and Herts County Council. The focus will be on:

- * Increasing physical activity levels
- * Shifting stubborn inactivity levels
- * Celebrating what's already happening
- * Encouraging new programmes and events.

Herts Sports and Physical Activity Partnership (HSP) is working with a local social enterprise Apex in the Community and the Sports Development Officers to recruit 200 volunteer HertsYOPA18 Champions.

Accredited training will be provided, in conjunction with the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA) and #TeamHerts Volunteering. Volunteers will gain an insight into their role, expectations, safeguarding, behaviour change and wider volunteering opportunities.

Graduates will receive a HertsYOPA18 branded polo shirt and be linked up with their local Sports Development Officer who will arrange local volunteering opportunities.

All Champions will be encouraged to link with their local parkrun event and raise awareness of Hertfordshire's Year of Physical Activity 2018 in their local community, encouraging local groups and organisations to broaden their local offers.

They will also be supported to continue as volunteers in sport and physical activity programmes beyond December 2018.

Flytipping

There was some serious fly-tipping on the A414 near Eastwick. This was eventually cleared. I had some discussions with both County and District as to whether or not height barriers or obstacles could be put in place but sadly not owing for the need for public access. I am informed now that CCTV cameras will be installed by east Herts to discourage and apprehend perpetrators.

Potholes and other issues.

Residents and Councillors can go online to register Highways faults whether they be potholes or faulty lights. The link is

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/report-a-problem/>

East Herts Article 4 Directions. There are 42 Conservation areas across the district. There has been some concern that with the arrival of permitted development rights there could be damage done to our Conservation areas in our towns and villages. Following a pilot in Bishops Stortford we decided at Executive this month that Article 4 directions will need to apply to all of our conservation areas. This means that now there will be a local land charge that will apply so that owners within a conservation area who would otherwise have permitted development rights will need to engage with the council by applying for planning permission. The process for introducing additional Article 4 directions could take up to 2 years and will start in the Ware plus south west area, followed by Hertford, Buntingford plus north, then Sawbridgeworth plus south east. Once introduced they will be monitored to ensure their effectiveness in preserving and enhancing conservation areas.

Removal of council tax discounts In recent years we have gradually reduced the period of time in which discounts apply for empty homes. There are several hundred empty homes in the district at any one time. It is in everyone's interest to bring these back into use as soon as possible. The Executive is therefore recommending to full council that from April the discount for all empty and unfurnished properties be removed including those undergoing refurbishment and repairs.

Sawbridgeworth Masterplanning

Under the District Plan Sawbridgeworth is expected to have at least 500 homes, 300 of them on West Road and 200 north of Sawbridgeworth. I am currently undertaking masterplanning sessions with local members and residents and we are due to meet all three developers, Barrett's, Taylor Wimpey, and Countryside. The Town Council has also responded to the District Plan modifications. Members would also like to respond on behalf of Gilston and would be willing to hear from our neighbours.

Ongoing

Warm Homes:

New scheme launched to help Hertfordshire residents stay warm in their homes

A new scheme that provides free or discounted household improvements to help residents stay warm in their homes has been launched by Hertfordshire County Council in partnership with all 10 district and borough councils.

In Hertfordshire, over 32,000 households are estimated to live in fuel poverty meaning they do not have enough money to adequately heat their home. Colder temperatures can lead to excess winter deaths. Between August 2013 and July 2016, there were 1795 excess winter deaths in Hertfordshire. The Hertfordshire Warmer Homes scheme aims to make homes easier and cheaper to heat by offering free or discounted energy efficiency measures, such as insulation and heating repair, or fuel switching advice to low-income and vulnerable households.

The Hertfordshire Warmer Homes scheme will be managed by the National Energy Foundation, using funding from the national Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and local authority contributions. It will run to 31 October 2018.

Please help us raise awareness of this scheme with the vulnerable residents you are in touch with by publicising it through your own channels. Anyone can find out more information by contacting HertsHelp on: 0300 123 4044 (local rate) or

**info@hertshelp.net. Alternatively, please visit
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertswarmerhomes**

Recycling:

‘Keep calm and carry on recycling’. That’s the message from the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP) following news reports about changes which will impact on the ability of the UK and other countries to trade mixed recyclables with China.

As a result HWP contractors have been investigating and diversifying by using alternative markets and consequently the amount of mixed recyclables exported to China has significantly reduced in recent months.’

A significant proportion of material such as separately collected newspapers and magazines, steel and aluminium cans and textiles are sent to re-processors here in the UK. Similarly all of the organic materials collected in Hertfordshire, such as garden waste and food waste, are also processed at recycling plants in the UK including at a number of facilities in Hertfordshire.

Although China has previously acted as a large market for mixed recyclables, many other countries in the region are actively engaged in the international trade in mixed recyclables.

It is very important that residents follow the advice issued by their local council on which materials can and cannot be recycled, especially at certain times of the year such as after the festive period, or Easter when contamination levels can increase significantly. This type of information is available on each local council’s website, along with additional guidance, such as remembering to ‘wash and squash’ recyclables where necessary.

Eric Buckmaster March 2018

Appendix A

Healthwatch represents the views of people in Hertfordshire for health and social care services. We are an independent body and have been given powers by central government to make sure that the people’s voice gets heard, and to act as a ‘critical friend’ to organisations that provide health and social care.

We work with: Voluntary and community organisations on a local level, for example Herts People First. The people who pay for services (called commissioners) such as the Clinical Commissioning Groups. Health and social care providers like the NHS and County Council.

We improve services by listening to feedback from the public and using this evidence to focus on the important issues for people who use services. We also work with other places that Hertfordshire residents get care from, such as hospitals in London and Essex.

The main functions - These can be divided into 5 key bodies of work:

Gathering Evidence – All of our work is based on what people tell us, either through email, telephone calls, surveys, at events we attend, social media, or by comments left on this website.

Being a ‘critical friend’ – Produce reports and make recommendations about how local care services can be improved (we often do this through targeted research projects and ‘Enter and View’ visits).

Signposting – We help people to find information about local care and health services by letting them know what they can do, or, if we can’t, by putting them in touch with someone who can.

Challenging Health Inequalities – We want to find out what’s happened to those who are finding it difficult to make use of services, or who have trouble making a complaint.

Getting People Involved – We try to ensure the involvement of Hertfordshire’s communities in improving and developing services.

Our work also involves working with the commissioners to:

Represent the People of Hertfordshire – We aim to help commissioners to plan and design services making sure that the views, experiences and needs of patients, carers and users are listened to.

Keep an Eye – We highlight where services are doing well and also where they can be improved. We carry out visits to services to see how well they are working.

Raise Issues – We can also take concerns to the inspectors and regulators if necessary

All of this can be found in more detail in [Looking Ahead: 2016-2020](#), our strategy document for the next 4 years. It outlines our aims as well as our core values. Please do take a look. We are here to ensure that **your** voice is heard.

They can be contacted on 01707 275978 – www.healthwatchhertfordshire.co.uk – info@healthwatchhertfordshire.co.uk

**EASTWICK AND GILSTON PARISH
ACCOUNTS 2017-2018**

Balance as of
1.3.18

Bank Accounts as of

Current		£		1,637.03
Reserve		£		65,391.56
	less uncashed cheques	£	-	-
	Petty Cash owing	-£		68.88
TOTAL		£	- #	£ 66,959.71

Income and Expenditure for the period 2nd January 2018 - 5th March 2018

1st March 2018

DATE PAYMENT MADE/RESOLUTION	DETAILS	METHOD OF PAYMENT	EXPENDITRE	INCOME	TOTAL BALANCE
Balance					£67,824.45
15th January	Ware Operatic - mag ad	income		£ 10.00	£67,834.45
18th January	SLCC membership	bacs	£ 72.00		£67,762.45
26th January	Parish Mag - Shogun Print	bacs	£ 152.00		£67,610.45
				£	
31st January	Nat West - interest	income		3.00	£67,613.45
1st February	Mrs Law - salary	SO	£ 200.14		£67,413.31
2nd February	HAPTC - training RW	bacs	£ 40.00		£67,373.31
22nd February	Parish Mag - Shogun Print	bacs	£ 216.00		£67,157.31
				£	
28th February	Nat West - interest	income		2.54	£67,159.85
1st March	Mrs Law - salary	SO	£ 200.14		£66,959.71

GRANTS

<u>PARISH PATH BENCHES</u>	<u>TRANSPARENCY CODE</u>
Grant Received	Grant Received 24.12.15 826.22
29.8.2012 £ 724.50	Computer - spent 2015/2016 -728.98
Spent 2014/2015 -£ 441.48	VAT reclaimed 121.49
	Grant Received 13.6.16 325.04
	Spent in 2016 -325.04
	Grant Received 11.7.17 332.53
Balance £ 342.17	Balance 551.26

<u>VILLAGE PLANTERS</u>	
Grant Received 19.11.2014	£5,000.00
Spent 2015/2016	-£2,115.20
VAT reclaimed	£ 219.43
Spent 2016/2017	-£ 624.49
25.5.17 Plants	-£ 184.94
Maintenance	-£ 280.00
Sawbridgeworth tc - watering	-£ 461.25
9.10.17 winter plants	-£ 86.00
Balance	£1,467.55