

# NORTHLEACH WITH EASTINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013

**PRESENT:** Cllr N Fletcher (Chairman), Cllr Wellman, Cllr N Blades, Cllr Mrs V Hewer, Cllr Carol Davies, Cllr B Hulcup, Cllr Mrs P Rigby, Cllr Mrs L Roberts, Cllr G Stock, Mrs C Crompton (Clerk), 3 members of the public.

1/13		<p><b>Public Question Time (2) - Standing Order 22 refers</b> The Chairman shall have discretion to limit to twenty minutes the time set aside to receive statements from the public, and to <b>limit to three minutes</b> the time available for any one member of the public to deliver their statement.</p>	
2/13		<p><b>Apologies and Reasons for Absence</b> Cllr D Turner, Cllr Hancock, Cllr F McKenzie, Cllr Nick Fisher</p>	Verbal
3/13	3.1/13 <b>Resolution</b>	<p><b>Acceptance and signing of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012</b> It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate reflection of the meeting</p>	Attached
4/13		<p><b>Declaration of Interests</b> No interests were declared</p>	Verbal
5/13	5.1/13 5.2/13 5.3/13 5.4/13 5.5/13 5.6/13 5.7/13 <b>Action</b> 5.8/13 <b>Action</b> 5.9.13	<p><b>To Discuss any Matters Arising from the above Minutes not included on the Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action Point Update was discussed and the key points are:</li> <li>• A meeting between Bromford and Farmington Trust is being facilitated</li> <li>• The housing strategy display in the Westwoods Foyer is up and has been viewed by a number of people</li> <li>• A VAT specialist has been engaged to help with the re-registration</li> <li>• Admin assistant interviews are taking place next week</li> <li>• Cheques raised and letters sent to North Cotswolds Foodbank, Friends of the Cotswolds and Northleach with Fosse Lions</li> <li>• Need to revisit Londis rubbish issue which was put on hold after their wall fell down</li> <li>• Cllr Fletcher to speak to Leigh about a covered unit round the corner</li> <li>• Cotswold District Council (CDC) are unable to provide any new units and can only empty dog poo bins under 40 litres.</li> <li>• Clerk is pricing up non-returnable ones for PPMC</li> <li>• The proposed 15% Precept increase has been submitted to CDC</li> </ul>	
6/13		<p><b>County and District Councillors' Reports</b> Cllr Hancock and Cllr McKenzie were not available</p>	Verbal
7/13	7.1/13 7.2/13 7.3/13	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCSO Stagg reported that the figures are very good. These figures represent Northleach with Eastington 2012 – 2013 compared to the year before for the same period. Some of the key figures were:</li> <li>• Assault with injury down from 7 to 1, burglaries 0 up to 4, distraction burglaries 1 down to 0, shoplifting remains the same at 1, criminal damage from 1 to 0, cannabis down 1 to 0, hoax calls down 1 to 0, abandoned vehicles down, rowdy behaviour down from 6 to 0. The majority of figures are down</li> <li>• In summary 16 fewer people have been affected by crime. Need to continue raising public awareness. For example leaving expensive items on show in cars. Local communities are much more aware of what they see and often tackle things before they happen.</li> </ul>	Verbal

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	7.4/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PCSO Stagg was questioned about an oil spill nearby but stated that this case is restricted and he is not privy to that information</li> </ul>	
8/13	<p><b>Finance</b> - To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Finance, Funding and Grants Committee</p> <p>8.1/13</p> <p>8.2/13</p> <p>8.3/13</p> <p><b>Resolution</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p>8.4/13</p> <p>8.5/13</p> <p><b>Action</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Hewer explained that the Town Council need to agree on the final Precept figure following the Finance meeting last Friday.</li> <li>The rules have changed slightly since 2012. Previously CDC paid the amount outstanding from those households which did not pay Council Tax. Now this amount will come as a "grant" which may not be given next year. The Finance Committee have considered the implications of this very seriously</li> <li>Cllr Hewer recommends that the Town Council agree this figure of a 15% increase to the Precept and this was put to a vote. Cllr Fletcher proposed and Cllr Wellman seconded the proposition</li> <li>Members voted unanimously and it was resolved to raise the Precept by 15% for 2013 – 2014. This would equate to a £10 increase for a D band house from £68 to £78.</li> <li>Clerk to submit final figure to CDC by end of January</li> <li>Clerk to communicate precept message to residents</li> <li>Co-op high interest deposit account matured at the beginning of January. Clerk withdrew £5k for current account and re-invested the rest for a further 3 months till April.</li> <li>Tree quotes for Wellingtonia and Churchyard work. There are still 2 more quotes to come in</li> <li>Clerk to circulate all quotes on a comparison document for all to consider prior to March PPMC meeting</li> </ul>	<p><b>Verbal</b></p> <p><b>Verbal Attached</b></p>
	8.6/13 <b>Resolution</b>	<p>To Approve Bills for Payment for January 2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was resolved unanimously to pay the January bills</li> </ul>	<b>Circulated</b>
9/13		<b>Planning and Tree Works</b>	
	<p>9.1/13</p> <p>9.2/13</p> <p>9.3/13</p> <p>9.4/13</p> <p>9.5/13</p>	<p>To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There has been a few more applications come through which need approval, please feedback comments to the Clerk</li> <li>Mill House application has been approved</li> <li>Eastington Manor has submitted new details</li> <li>Old Timbers retrospective application has been rejected</li> <li>Long Garden House shed was approved</li> </ul>	<b>Verbal</b>
10/13	<p>10.1/13</p> <p>10.2/13 <b>Action</b></p> <p>10.3/13 <b>Action</b></p> <p>10.4/13</p> <p>10.5/13</p> <p>10.6/13 <b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p>10.7/13</p> <p><b>Action</b></p>	<p><b>Property and Premises Maintenance Committee</b> - To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Property and Premises Maintenance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salting and snow clearance has been a priority over the last few weeks</li> <li>Canopy on bus shelter is in progress</li> <li>Clerk has been given criteria by Highways and needs to measure the pavement</li> <li>Plastics recycling bin needs moving from behind the Westwoods</li> <li>Clerk to call CDC to find out when it will be removed</li> <li>Surgery path – Cllr Hancock is dealing with the legal side</li> <li>Tree quotes – still awaiting 2 quotes to compare with the 3 already in. Want to ensure we are getting good value</li> <li>Grass cutting contract has been renewed at the same price</li> <li>Clerk to write a letter to CGS saying contract renewed</li> <li>Clerk to write to any other companies who asked to be considered and explain situation</li> <li>Latest guidelines about salting has highlighted what we need to do and where. Cllr Hewer suggested that a working group needs to be set up possibly as part of PPMC. At the moment its very ad hoc and we need a plan so we know what is happening</li> <li>Clerk to add this onto next PPMC to plan for next winter</li> </ul>	<b>Verbal</b>
11/13		<b>Westwoods Committee</b>	

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	<p>11.1/13 11.2/13 11.3/13 11.4/13</p>	<p>To Receive a Report from the Chairman of the Westwoods Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Westwoods has not spent much of its maintenance budget and wants to ensure there are funds for the VAT repayment</li> <li>The Mens toilets have been fixed by James Williams</li> <li>Marketing plan is focussing on weddings and Westwoods is now on a specialist website to capture that market.</li> </ul>	<b>Verbal</b>
<b>12/13</b>		<b>Working Groups, Projects and Reports</b>	
	<p>12.1/13 12.2/13 12.3/13 Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working group is required for parking issues. There has been correspondence in about West End. This is an on-going issue. In April CDC will be employing a new group to patrol and they will be paid on results.</li> <li>Councillors discussed various alternatives including residents parking, enforceable passing places and priority rights of way.</li> <li>Cllr Hulcup suggested that we get Highways and GCC in to advise the Town Council</li> <li>Cllr Hulcup to enquire about new parking inspectors and speak to Highways and GCC in the first instance</li> </ul>	<b>Attached</b>
	<p>12.4/13 12.5/13 12.6/13 12.7/13 12.8/13 12.9/13 Action 12.10/13 Resolution 12.11/13 Resolution 12.12/13 Resolution Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northleach Charter Market – correspondence in. A letter has come in from Geoff Green, the Fruit and Vegetable stallholder. This market has been operating in the Market Place for several years. There was an issue over Christmas when the market set up on Christmas Eve which was a Monday and there had been previous issues with traffic movement round the Market Place. The Town Charter only allows the Market on a Wednesday.</li> <li>The current organiser Geoff has written to apologise for the events on Christmas Eve.</li> <li>Some councillors believe the Town Council should be running the Charter Market under the Town Charter and collecting a fee</li> <li>Cllr Fletcher suggested that the market move into the Green where it would not be disruptive to the moving traffic.</li> <li>Cllr Wellman suggested that we engage a councillor to go around and collect the fees from each stallholder. Cllr Blades is happy to collect the fees and hand out invoices as long as it is recognised that Cllr Blades is not in charge of it. He is simply operating on behalf of the Town Council.</li> <li>Cllr Wellman suggested that we write to each stall holder and make them aware of our intentions. When the market was first suggested it was expected that it would bring a variety to the Town</li> <li>Clerk to write to the stallholders.</li> <li>Cllr Fletcher proposed that the Town Council take over the running of the Charter Market and the possibility of this was discussed</li> <li>It was resolved unanimously to take over the running of the Charter Market</li> <li>Cllr Fletcher asked the Town Council to vote as to whether the Charter Market should move to the Green. The vote was 6 for and 3 against. The motion was carried.</li> <li>It was resolved to move the Charter Market to The Green</li> <li>A discussion around how this would work, concluded by suggesting that the Clerk look into this in more detail in preparation for passing this to PPMC</li> <li>Agreed to move the Charter Market issues to PPMC March meeting</li> <li>Clerk to add Charter Market to next PPMC agenda for March and complete some preparation prior to the meeting</li> </ul>	<b>Attached</b>
	12.13/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider Housing survey. Discussion was around whether the Town Council should take up the offer of a housing survey. It would be advantageous to have this information and the cost of £100 is reasonable. The core bit is housing needs but we can add a couple of other questions on. The town plan evolved out of the last survey done.</li> </ul>	<b>Verbal</b>

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	12.14/13  <b>Resolution</b>  <b>Action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Fletcher proposed that the Town Council engage Martin Hutchings from GRCC to conduct a housing survey and include questions about local needs for a nursery and breakfast clubs.</li> <li>• It was resolved to use GRCC to conduct a housing survey of Northleach with Eastington</li> <li>• Clerk to contact Martin Hutchings and confirm</li> </ul>	
13/13	13.1/13	<b>Chairman's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fortey House - George Hudson is prepared to show an interest in the building and Cllr Fisher is leading this. Cllr Roberts suggested that there is a need for a Nursery and larger Playgroup. School is growing and may need the playgroup space in the future.</li> </ul>	<b>Verbal</b>
14/13	14.1/13  14.2/13	<b>Correspondence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you letters from North Cotswold Foodbank and Northleach with Fosse Lions was circulated.</li> <li>• Letter from Geoff Green regarding Charter Market</li> </ul>	<b>Circulated</b>
		<b>Plus Any Other Urgent items received since publication of the agenda</b>	
15/13	15.1/13	<b>Any Other Business</b> Any other matters that any Councillor wishes to bring to the attention of the Council or agenda items for future meetings. <b>Please note that no Discussions or Decisions can be taken under this Item.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was an issue on the Facebook page but this has been removed as it was inappropriate</li> </ul>	
16/13		<b>Date and Time of Next Meeting – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm (please note the change of day due to an event at the Westwoods)</b>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm