

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EASTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER, EASTWOOD NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
ON MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2009

Present: Cllr D Bagshaw, Cllr P Butler, Cllr Hazel Charlesworth, Cllr R Charlesworth, Cllr Tara Fiddymont, Cllr Mrs J Forrest, Cllrs B Griffin, J Kenny, C Robb, Cllr Mrs G Robb and Cllr J Zalewski.

Also present Police Inspector John Lees, Police Constable Scott Chambers, (Nott's Constabulary), Cllr Steve Brunt, Kimberley Town Councillor – (to provide advice/information relating to agenda item 6. Police presentations) and 16 members of the public.

Cllr Mrs J Forrest, Deputy Town Mayor in the Chair.

Before the commencement of the formal business, opening prayers were led by Cllr P Butler.

034/10 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs S Bagshaw, Cllr R Dodge (holidays), Cllr K Londgon (holiday) and Cllr Ms R Robb (sickness).

035/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D Bagshaw and Cllr P Butler declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 (presentation by Inspector John Lees). Cllr B Griffin declared personal interests in both agenda items 6 and 11 (Eastwood Cemetery).

036/10 NOTIFICATIONS OF LOBBYING

Cllr Tara Fiddymont gave notice of lobbying received in respect of agenda item 6. Cllr B Griffin gave notification of lobbying received in respect of agenda item 11 (Eastwood Cemetery).

037/10 MINUTES

a) Town Council meeting 29 June 2009

After receiving updating information upon various items, the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 29 June 2009 were adopted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

During the review of the minutes members felt that a record of matters brought up by members of the public during council meetings and of any action taken as a consequence could be made available to the public at the next Council meeting. (Policy Committee to review).

b) Leisure and Maintenance Committee 6 July 2009

The minutes of the meeting the Leisure and Maintenance Committee held on 6 July 2009 were ADOPTED as a true and accurate record and signed by the Town Mayor.

038/10 QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Council agreed to suspend standing orders in order to allow members of the public present to address the meeting (standing order 70 refers).

For the reason of transparency in the Council's business, the matters brought up under this item of business; as specified below: -

NAMEMATTER

Mr Goodley	Eastwood Cemetery. Felt that the recent closure of an access gate (Knapp Ave) made a real contribution to reduce anti social activity in the cemetery. (Noted).
Mr Keith Brindley	Complained about anti social activity caused by motor cyclists using particular routes in the town. (Noted by Police Representatives).
Mr Brian Fretwell	Felt that a drop kerb should also be provided at the top of Dawson Close to benefit disabled people (Town Clerk to write to County Highways).
Mr Michael Bradley	Complained about the dangerous effect of road safety caused by parked vehicles along Church Street near to the doctors' surgery, particularly adjacent to the junction of Ratcliffe Street. (Noted by Police reps. Town Clerk to write to practice manager to seek cooperation from visiting patients and to the County Highways).
Mr Trevor Howley	Complained about quad bikes racing onto Halls Lane from adjacent fields (Noted by Police reps).
Mr John Nicholls	Presented to the meeting a petition signed by local residents calling for traffic/pedestrian control measures at the junction of Newthorpe Common and Nottingham Road. The Deputy Mayor received the petition which will be handed to Eastwood Town Mayor (Cllr K Longdon) in his role as County Councillor.
Mrs Maria Kirk	Expressed concern at the incidents of racing cars along Nottingham Road between the Eastwood Library and Hilltop (Noted by Police reps).
Mr Robert Kirk	Asked whether the request to renovate Cadets Cross had been passed to the Borough Council. (Town Clerk confirmed this had been done). Maria Kirk commented that the Eastwood Army Cadets might be willing to volunteer work in connection with maintenance of the Cadets Cross. (Suggestion to be passed onto the Borough Council via the Royal British Legion).

Mr Roger Ellis	Asked about the operational arrangements between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Constabulary. Inspector John Lees gave a full explanation upon the effective cooperation between the two Police forces. Also asked about the current position in the planned new Police Station for Eastwood. The Town Clerk responded.
Mr Trevor Flint	Complained about irresponsible action by dog owners particularly at the bottom end of Lawrence Avenue. (Town /Clerk to write to the Borough Council dog warden service).
Mr Howard Jones	Referred to the emerging local policies to control alcohol abuse in public places. He believed Police action in this area was beginning to produce improvements. The Town Clerk commented that the Town Council were shortly to request the Borough Council to extend the current prohibition area in the town.
Mr Dana Odedra	Commented upon incidents relating to underage drinking in the area. (Police rep noted the details).

There being no further matters brought up from the public the Deputy Town Mayor thanked the residents for their useful contributions.

Standing orders were then re activated and the formal business of the meeting resumed.

039/10 PRESENTATION BY LOCAL AREA POLICE COMMANDER

Inspector John Lees thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to address the Town Council and members of the public in attendance. He then gave an extensive and detailed presentation upon the following matters: -

- Changes in Police staffing for the area.
- Increase attention to the traffic problems particularly relating to the MFN Nightclub.
- Work being done to control alcohol and drug abuse.
- Improved liaison work with community groups.
- Areas in Eastwood being given particular attention.
- The very welcome increased support being received by the Police from members of the community for which Inspector Lees expressed his appreciation.

Cllr Steve Brunt from Kimberley Town Council then gave a full report upon Kimberley's action under the 'Speed Watch' scheme. They had received good volunteer response from members of the local community and also support funding from the Borough Council.

Both Inspector Lees and Cllr Brunt answered questions from members of the public and Eastwood Town Councillors.

At the conclusion of this session Cllr Mrs Josie Forrest thanked Inspector Lees and Cllr Steve Brunt for their important contributions to these important vital items of business.

040/10 TOWN CLERK DESIGNATE'S REPORTS

The meeting received an updating report from the Town Clerk Designate upon the following items of business: -

- Local Transport Schemes
- Draft Green Space Strategy
- New Town Council Offices
- Eastwood Library Dais
- Garden Service
- Overgrown Allotments

During the ensuing discussion it was agreed to suggest to the County Council that bollards be installed around the raised dais (Eastwood Library) to control damage to the brickwork caused by skateboarding activity.

The report was then received and noted.

041/10 REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr C Robb Council Leader gave a report upon a recent breakfast meeting of the Eastwood Town Centre Management Group.

Cllr P Butler reported upon increased community support work by the Citizens' Advice Bureau caused in part by the current recession and resulting financial problems being faced by members of the community. The Bureau needed more volunteers and additional funds to meet this increasing demand.

Both reports were noted by the meeting.

042/09 MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Deputy Mayor Cllr Mrs Josie Forrest on behalf of the Town Mayor, Cllr Keith Longdon, reported upon the new barrier provision fitted on Coppice Drive to eliminate the nuisance caused by scrambler bikes. Cllr Longdon would be giving future reports upon County Council matters to all future Town Council meetings.

The meeting noted these reports.

043/10 MATTERS CONCERNING THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

No matters were brought up or discussed under this item of business.

044/10 EASTWOOD CEMETERY

Cllr B Griffin gave a detailed report upon a recent action to control anti social behaviour on the Eastwood Cemetery adjacent to Church Drive. He reported upon: -

- Incidents of damage to graves, litter problems, and anti social behaviour caused in part, by the open access to the cemetery from Knapp Ave.
- Consultations with the Borough Council concerning the open access element.
- The decision to close the Knapp Ave access point.
- The decreased incidents of anti social activities since this closure.

Cllr J Kenny expressed appreciation to Cllr Griffin for his work in this matter.

Cllr R Charlesworth spoke upon public rights of way through the cemetery and made the point that reasonable people do use this access route and do respect the cemetery. He thought that to restrict the access 'dawn to dusk' would have been a better proposal. Cllr C Robb questioned the right of the Borough Council to close this gate and argued that a right of way had been established in law through habit and custom over a period of time. He felt the Borough Council's actions were hasty.

After a full discussion the reports and comments were noted.

045/10 PAYMENT SCHEDULE 03/10

It was RESOLVED to approve payments totalling £12,088.89p (gross) listed in schedule 03/10 attached to these minutes.

046/10 PAYMENT SCHEDULE 02/10

It was resolved to note and approve payments totalling £39,808.39p shown on the amended and corrected schedule 02/10 attached to these minutes.

047/10 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT MONTHS 1-3

It was resolved to note the income and expenditure report for months 1-3 for the current financial year, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

048/10 PLANNING SCHEDULES

It was resolved to note the schedules for the planning sub committee meetings held on 19 June 2009, 17 & 24 July 2009.

There being no further business the Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Josie Forrest thanked everybody for their contributions and closed the meeting.