

Eastleach Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 6:30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Tim Jeans (Chair), Cllr Fiona Jacovides, Cllr Julia McLellan, Cllr Jane Fenton, District Cllr David Fowles (joined during discussion of item 052 26/27)

In attendance: Catherine Morgan (Clerk), 8 Members of the Public

034 26/27 Apologies for absence

None received. Cllr Richard Ebsworth was absent.

035 26/27 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

036 26/27 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 12th May 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2026 were approved as an accurate record.

037 26/27 To agree to adjourn the meeting for Public Participation, if members of the public are present - there is a 10 minute total time limit in accordance with EPC Standing Orders

No comments

038 26/27 To agree to reconvene the meeting following Public Participation, if applicable.

Agreed.

039 26/27 To consider submission for dogs to be allowed at Summer Fete and for a dog show to be held

Cllr Fenton considered that the playing field should remain available for its primary purpose throughout the year and questioned whether a dog show could be accommodated safely and appropriately. However, she acknowledged that, as the event had already been publicised and an organiser appointed, the Parish Council could only proceed.

Cllr McLellan noted that dog shows are a standard feature of many local village summer fetes.

Cllr Fenton also raised concerns regarding the age of some dog owners.

Cllr Jacovides advised that the Summer Fete Committee had completed a risk assessment and appointed an organiser to oversee the event. It was also noted that dogs would not be permitted access to the children's playground or the Village Hall.

It was **RESOLVED** to permit the inclusion of a dog show as part of the Summer Fete, on a trial basis for 2026, subject to the event being managed in accordance with the Summer Fete Committee's risk assessment. The arrangement will be reviewed on a case by case basis before future events. Proposed Cllr McLellan, Seconded Cllr Jacovides.

Carried by 3 votes to 1.

040 26/27 To agree next steps on legal ownership of playing field and playground

Village Hall Charity Trustees Rob Clegg and David McKenna were invited to the meeting to discuss this item.

Cllr Jacovides outlined the current position regarding the registration of the playing field and playground. The Parish Council has been pursuing registration with the assistance of a solicitor and

has kept the Village Hall Committee informed throughout the process. Cllr Jacovides had also recently attended a seminar to consider the potential benefits of a Parish Councillor becoming a trustee of the Village Hall Charity. It was concluded that avoiding overlap between Parish Councillors and Village Hall Charity trustees would be preferable, as dual roles could result in conflicts of interest and the need to abstain from discussions, thereby reducing overall capacity.

The Council noted the solicitor's advice that, as the Village Hall Charity is the owner of the playing field and playground, it would need to take the lead in pursuing legal registration.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Village Hall Charity trustees would pursue the legal registration and keep the Council informed of any associated costs for future consideration and agreement.

Action: Village Hall Charity trustees to pursue legal registration.

It was **RESOLVED** to place an item on the next agenda to consider a maintenance agreement between the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee in respect of the playing field and playground.

Action: Clerk to include on the next agenda.

It was noted that the old goalposts on the playing field require removal, ideally before the Summer Fete.

Action: Cllr McLellan to arrange for the goalposts to be recycled or disposed of.

041 26/27 Chairman's Report

The Chairman's comments are covered elsewhere in the minutes.

042 26/27 To receive report from District/County Cllr

As the District Councillor was delayed, this item was deferred until the end of the meeting.

District Cllr Fowles submitted a written copy of the July report for the Coln Valley Ward, which is attached and can be viewed in full here: <https://eastleachparishcouncil.org/cdc-news/>

He also shared an update on CHEQS magazine which had previously been emailed to Cllr Jeans.

Action: Cllr Jeans to circulate written update to the rest of the council.

Action: Clerk to add CHEQS Magazine to the next agenda.

Finance

043 26/27 To approve schedule of payments

The following payment schedule was approved.

Payment Schedule @ 15th July 2026

Payments Already Made - July 2026

Date of Invoice	Ref	Description	Payee	Amount (incl VAT) (£)	VAT (£)	NET	Invoice No.
12/07/2026	P.25	Locum Clerk	G Jennings	160.00		160.00	2609
15/07/2026	P.26	Clerk salary June	C Morgan	171.89		171.89	
06/07/2026	P.27	Ivy removal and disposal from willow tree	Tidy Trees	250.00	41.67	208.33	INV-2865
Total:				581.89	41.67	540.22	

Payments Already Made - June 2026

Date of Invoice	Ref	Description	Payee	Amount (incl VAT) (£)	VAT (£)	NET	Invoice No.
20/06/2026	P.15	Insurance	Clear Councils	485.57		485.57	LCO00389
07/06/2026	P.16	Clerk salary May	C Morgan	589.32		589.32	
07/06/2026	P.17	Clerk expenses May	C Morgan	39.50		39.50	
02/05/2026	P.18	GALC Internal Audit	GALC	210.00		210.00	1731
11/05/2026	P.19	Sanding and oiling benches	Mike Lenik	425.00		425.00	
11/05/2026	P.20	Ronseal for benches	Julia McLellan	42.00		42.00	
23/06/2026	P.23	Grounds Maintenance April	Tactical Facilities Management	497.00	82.83	414.17	
23/06/2026	P.24	Grounds Maintenance May	Tactical Facilities Management	497.00	82.83	414.17	
Total:				2785.39	165.66	2619.73	

Direct Debits

Date paid	Ref	Description	Payee	Amount (incl VAT) (£)	VAT (£)	NET
18/05/2026	P.13	Service charge fee	Lloyds	4.25		4.25
21/05/2026	P.14	Website services	Bulldog	68.00		68.00
16/06/2026	P.21	Service charge fee	Lloyds	4.25		4.25
23/06/2026	P.22	Website services	Bulldog	68.00		68.00
Total:				144.50	0.00	144.50

Payment schedule total:	3511.78	165.66
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The following receipts were noted:

Ernest Cook Trust grass cutting contribution £2,500

The balance of the bank accounts were noted as:

Community a/c £21,978.02

Savings a/c £3,070.49

Total = £25,048.51

044 26/27 To approve cashbook and reconciliation

Approved.

045 26/27 To consider and agree status of budget

Approved.

Clerk's Report

046 26/27 Martyn's Law training

The Clerk reported on attending a webinar on Martyn's Law and would circulate the accompanying resources to councillors. It was noted that Cllr Jacovides had previously attended training on the legislation. It was noted that the requirements are unlikely to apply to events held in the parish, but that it is nevertheless useful to remain mindful of the guidance when planning village events. Cllr McLellan agreed to keep a record of attendance numbers at the Summer Fete to help inform future considerations

Action: Clerk to circulate resources on Martyn's Law

047 26/27 Adopt updated risk assessment and Risk Management Policy

Deferred to the next meeting.

Planning

048 26/27 To receive Decision Notices

Number	Address	Description	CDC Status
26/01583/TCONR	44 Eastleach GL7 3NQ	Works to trees in conservation areas for Boundary three Thuja trees - fell. Laurel - Fell.	No Objection

26/02011/TCONR	Street Record The Green Eastleach Gloucestershire	T2 Sycamore - Remove deadwood over green and reduce end weight on over-extended limb	No Objection
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049 26/27 To consider and agree NEW Planning Applications

Number	Address	Consultation end date	Description	PC Comments
26/01500/LBC	Outbuilding At 22 - 24 Eastleach Gloucestershire	01/07/2026	Strip and re-tile roof of domestic outbuilding	No objection.
26/01977/CLOPUD	34 Eastleach Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 3NQ	Not Available	Certificate of Lawful Proposed Use or Development under section 192 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for an outbuilding. The proposed building will be supported on screw piles, which have a significantly lower carbon footprint than concrete, with minimal site disturbance	No objection.
26/01986/TPO	34 Eastleach Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 3NQ	15/07/2026	Dismantle to ground level a large Chestnut & Christmas tree. Chip and remove all waste.	The application had already been altered to <i>"Reduce crown of chestnut by up to 3m (around previous pruning points) leaving an even and balanced crown."</i> Thus no objection.
26/01821/PLP	Land To The South Of Manor Court Eastleach Gloucestershire	Comments still being accepted	Permission in Principle application for the erection of 1 x modest single storey dwellinghouse	The PC had already submitted some initial comments of objection. A more detailed response had been compiled ready for the Clerk to submit.

Other Matters

050 26/27 To receive an update on ECT

Cllr Jeans reported that a meeting had been arranged between the Parish Council, ECT and GRCC for 19th August to discuss progressing outcomes of the Housing Needs Survey.

051 26/27 To review grass cutting arrangements

Cllr Jeans expressed disappointment in the quality of the service. Cllr Jacovides had a meeting arranged with the contractor for Thursday 23rd July to review the work so far this year.

It was **RESOLVED** to review the contract at the end of the season.

Action: Clerk to include review in November agenda.

052 26/27 Update on Parish Plan Action List

Cllr McLellan reported that her recent playground inspection revealed a some issues:

i) **Edging** - this had deteriorated and was causing a trip hazard, thus needed to be replaced. A quote had been received from Mike Lenik for 2-2.5 days labour (£440 - £550) plus materials (£200) - total £640-£740.

As there is budget available for general asset maintenance it was **RESOLVED** to accept this quote.

Action: Cllr McLellan to instruct the contractor.

ii) **Wall to rear of playground** - a stone wall in the small wood behind the play area had been dismantled and the stones spread on the ground.

Action: Cllr Jacovides to ask ECT whether the wall belongs to them.

iii) **Conifer on playing field** - it was agreed that this would need to be cut down. As the tree is still young no planning application would be required. It was suggested the tree could be used as a Christmas Tree.

Action: Clerk to add to November agenda

Other updates from Action List:

i) **Reseeding Willow Green** - this was planned for autumn.

Action: Cllr McLellan and Cllr Jacovides to seek quotes for this work.

ii) **Repainting of the handrails on the Twittens** - Cllr Jacovides had received a quote from Megan's Makeovers for £500 + materials.

This work had been included in the budget so it was **RESOLVED** to accept this quote.

Action: Cllr Jacovides to instruct contractor.

iii) **Welcome Pack** - Cllr Fenton had circulated a first draft of a Parish Welcome Pack for newcomers to the Parish. It was **RESOLVED** that the final edition would be published on the website and that neighbours would be encouraged to share it.

Action: Cllr Fenton to make edits and circulate second draft to Council.

053 26/27 To consider trialling a regular community event

Councillors were very keen to provide more opportunities for members of the Parish to come together. Many suggestions for the format of this were discussed including hosting small bimonthly events with a different theme such as seed swaps and/or establishing a larger event that could become an annual tradition, being mindful of not detracting from any of the current annual Parish events.

It was **RESOLVED** to start by organising some additional initiatives around the existing apple day.

Action: Cllr McLellan to implement this. A member of the public also volunteered to support this and any activities around seeds/seedling swaps in the new year/spring.

Upcoming Meetings:

2026

8th September

10th November

2027

12th January

9th March

13th April - Annual Parish Meeting

11th May - Annual Parish Council Meeting

There being no further matters the meeting closed at 20:45pm.