**The Minutes of Easton Parish Council Meeting**
**held on 18 February 2025 at 7.00pm**
**at Village Hall, Easton**

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| Present: | Cllr M Caton (Chair) | Cllr R Chapman | Cllr M Cordy |
| | Cllr J Hudson (Vice) | Cllr M Jobling | Cllr D Fulcher |
| | Cllr P McCarter | Cllr D Lewis | Cllr M Bowman |

Also in Attendance: M Dewsbury – County and District Councillor, S Blundell – County Councillor Costessey Division and District Councillor Old Costessey Ward, Terry Laidlaw – District Councillor Old Costessey Ward and Gary Blundell – District Councillor New Costessey Ward.

Cllr Caton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**145 Apologies for Absence**
None.

**146 Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations**
None.

**147 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2025**
**It was resolved to accept these minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.**

**148 Planning:**

**a) Discharge of condition 22 (off-site highway improvement works) of planning permission 2014/2611, Phase 1 Land North and South of Dereham Road**

The Chair started discussions by stating that the project had already been agreed and that discussions and the resulting comments would be related to the conditions only.

Concerns were raised regarding:

- The lack of railings to the side of the footpath preventing pedestrians short cutting the slip-road and protecting them from traffic on the bridge.
- Road signage and clear road markings.
- The delay timing to the puffin crossings at high pedestrian times.
- The entry/exit point of the Royal Norfolk Showground onto the roundabout.
- The scheme's safety overall.

Members of Costessey Town Council and County Councillors added details to the plans and the approach to these plans over the years. Details as to the scheme in general and the different approaches to not include a separate pedestrian bridge alongside the existing one.

**The following response was agreed:**
The council remains concerned about the overall design for safety reasons but also recognises the importance of improvements in terms of connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists to the Longwater Retail Park.

They are disappointed that the opportunity to install barriers or railings on the corners of the slip roads to and from the A47 as well as along the bridge have still been missed. They are concerned that at times when the Showground is being used for events and more pedestrians are present there will be the opportunity to 'short cut' the entry slip-roads, because of a lack of railings to 'corral' pedestrians down to the puffin crossings.

There are also concerns over the entry/exit to the showground car park entering the roundabout to the west end of the interchange. Additional road markings forming 'Give Way' markings would be an advantage to help identify the entry point to the roundabout for all motorists leaving the showground site. As daily users of this approach, many instances have been witnessed of vehicles not yielding to users of the roundabout as the exit onto Dereham Road.

Concerns are again raised regarding the width of the footpath on the bridge, especially without railings to protect pedestrians. An alternative crossing should still be considered.

**149 Date and Place of the next Parish Council Meeting**
Tuesday 4 March 2025, 7pm, Easton Village Hall

With no further business, the meeting closed at 8.14pm.