The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 8 January 2013 in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, Egerton at 8.00pm.

Present: Alison Richey (Chairman), Roger Harper, Ambrose Oliver, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Peter Rawlinson, Bill Smyth, Richard Wall and Heather James (Clerk). 3 members of the public were also present.

- 1. Apologies: Richard King, Geraldine Dyer
- 2. Declarations of interest: None
- **3.** The minutes of the meeting on 4 December 2012: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings. *Proposed: Bill Smyth; seconded: Tim Oliver*
- 4. Matters Arising from 4 December 2012
- **a. Playground and Skatepark:** The fencing has been repaired Thank you to Alan and Scott James for carrying out the repairs. The wet pour kits and seats await installation when the weather improves.

 Action: Bill Smyth
- b. Older Person's Housing: Discussions are continuing and another meeting will be held.

Action Alison Richey, Richard King

c. Footpaths and stiles: A job action has been raised about the footpath signs at Court Lodge and Rockhill Road opposite Buss' farm entrance as they are both lying on the ground. At the time of the meeting the work had not been carried out, it is probably due to a lack of funds. It was proposed that if the work was not carried out by the next meeting Peter, Tim and Bill would carry out the work.

It has been noted that the road has collapsed on the corner of Crockenhill and the Forstal road, Pat is to report.

Action: Peter Rawlinson, Tim Oliver, Bill Smyth, Pat Par

- **d. Rural Fires**: Kent Fire & Rescue (KFR) had requested a report from the water company which had not yet been received by the clerk, so this will be chased up. Still waiting to hear.

 Action: Clerk
- **e. Cricket pitch drainage:** Bill is still awaiting a response from KCC with regard to the damaged pipework. Richard Hopkins will carry out the work to relay a new pipe and clear foliage as soon as the weather improves.

Action: Bill Smyth

- **f. Fields in Trust:** Roger Harper has sent off paper work and is awaiting a response.
- **g. Emergency planning:** Bill has been looking into how Staplehurst PC run their Emergency Planning strategy , Pat has collected the responses from the inserts from the Newsletter. A meeting will be held to discuss the outcome.

Action Bill Smyth, Pat Parr, Peter Rawlinson

- **h. Community Responders:** Following the talk from Tim Gosden at the December meeting Stratton Richey has received a number of responses from people willing to volunteer, a meeting will take place to discuss all that is involved.
- i. Tree surgery: Awaiting to hear from Graham Howland.
- **j. Hedges:** The hedging on the left hand side of New road towards Pluckley has been cut back the hedging on the right has not, a letter has been sent to Mr T Downs.
- **k. Snow committee:** Alison has updated news on the Egerton Parish web site.

I. Finance meeting: The Budget has been finalised and sent to all the Councillors who approved it at the meeting. It was noted that the amount set aside for training may not cover costs if a number of training places are taken up. It was decided if this were the case then monies could be taken from the contingency fund.

The paper work will be filled in and sent to request precept monies etc,

m. Parish Forum: Roger has been following up on people on benefits that may need assistance when the new housing benefit system comes into force. It was decided that if anyone needed assistance they would be directed to the appropriate advisors i.e Citizens Advise.

Roger had raised the question about the rents in affordable housing within the village. It was agreed that although there should be a consistency and fairness on rents for assisted housing, the onus fell to the housing provider and not the Parish Council. Therefore, each case should be assessed on its own merits and the Parish Council should only get involved if the tenant was being treated unfairly.

Clerk had received a response from Sanctuary Housing which she would resend to Roger Harper.

Action Clerk

Action: Clerk

n. Post box: The Clerk had sourced a metal letter box for £19.98 which would be purchased following consent from the Village hall committee that it could be installed. **Action: Clerk**

O.Plan it Ashford: ABC has sent a paper 'Housing framework consultation' which is to look at the number of properties that could be needed in the future in the Ashford area, Peter and Tim are to follow up the questionnaire.

Action: Peter and Tim.

Correspondence - All circulated by email in advance unless marked with an *

Action:

Draft KALC response to DCLG consultation-Alison, Peter 6/12 KALC carers support free course-All 20/12 Parish Precepts and Concurrent grants-Alison, Richard, Tim, Peter 11/12 KFRS, fire hydrant inspection-All 4/12 Tim to follow up Came & Co PCI Public liability- Alison, Bill 11/12 Contact Mike Steed re: trees in village Capping rules for 2013/14-Alison, Richard K, Tim, Peter 3/1/13 ABC Housing Framework consultation-All 8/1/13 ABC Planning and Development Services* Alison

Note:

Southern Water Lee Colvin, report following site visit- Alison. Also have print out

KALC November meeting, Wittersham Cluster-Peter

Localising Council tax support (funding)-Alison, Richard, Tim, Peter 11/12

KALC Broadband update-All 13/12

KALC-DCLG speed limits HGV's over 7.5 tonnes-All 13/12

KALC Susan Wood report financing-All 18/12

KALC Parish news December-All 20/12

Rural Services Network-All 3/1/13

Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment- Alison, Pat, Tim 3/1/13

KALC General Meeting 9/1/2013*

Oast to Coast magazine*

Alison Myhill-re: Harmers way rent-Alison, Roger 4/1

Kent Lane rental Scheme/All 9/1

Accounts:

Approval of the accounts for the month, for cheques to be signed: Proposed Richard Wall: Seconded: Tim Oliver.

Cheques for approval:

Expenditure	Cheque No	£
Andrew Hopkins hedge cutting	1149	108.00
EPC extension fund transfer	1150	6371.25
KALC Clerk in Action meeting	1151	72.00
Clerk salary January	1152	509.09
HMRC Clerk January	1153	129.41
Claire Stevens	1154	98.99
Richard King DVDs covers jubilee	1155	14.44
Total Expenditure		7303.18

Income:

Total Income	2,030.70
DVDs sales	5.00
extension fund	
Transfer funds from deposit to current for hall	1283.50
UK Power Networks	51.95
Village Hall peppercorn rent	5p
N Cornwall peppercorn rent (envelope)	5p
Julia Bournes Jubilee	440.15
KCC grant Jubilee	250.00
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Bank Reconciliation as at 30 November 2012 (Latest statements)

Current Account latest Statement Balance as at 30 November 2012 = 11,714.47 Less unpresented cheques as follows:

Clerk (Claire)last pay	1135	84.00
HMRC PAYE Nov	1137	129.51
EPC Telecottage VAT reclaim	1138	502.45
PrintBig newsletter	1140	286.00
CPRE M20 NAG	1141	100.00
KALC Clerk finance event	1142	72.00
Staples Clerk reimbursed	1143	15.19
Christmas tree	1144	30.00
Clerk December salary	1145	509.09
HMRC PAYE Dec	1146	129.51

EPC Hire sports pavilion	1147	20.00
EPC Telecottage photocopying	1148	24.16
Total expenditure		1901.91

Actual balance = 9,812.56 as at 30 November 2012.

5. Public Discussion

Alison Richey closed the meeting at 9.17 pm for the public discussion, The meeting re-opened at 9.18 pm.

6. Planning

There were no planning issues for the January meeting.

7. <u>AOB</u>

Ambrose explained the outcome of the Offsted report at the Village school- 'requires improvement'.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday 5 February 2013