

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL
2nd July 2019

The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019
in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, Egerton at 8.00pm.

Present: Richard King (Chairman), Peter Rawlinson (Vice Chairman), Sarah Elworthy, Jeff Hopkins, John Lawton, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Lois Tilden, Ken Mulholland (Ward Councillor) and Heather James (Clerk)

4 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies:** Claire Foinette

2. **Declarations of interest:** Pat Parr- Gift of land

3. The minutes of the meeting on 4th June 2019: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings.
Proposed: Tim Oliver; **Seconded:** Sarah Elworthy

4. **Matters Arising from 4th June 2019**

a) **Report No. 111 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – July 2019**

See attached report at end of minutes

New: The telegraph pole barrel strainer outside Brook House has broken, this has been looked at by BT Openreach and is not an emergency so will be dealt with at some point.

b) **Highways:**

See attached report at end of minutes

New:

The Clerk has asked the maintenance team to re-attach Village Hall signs onto new sign showing 1&2 New Road, which will be done soon. **Action:** Maintenance Team

Ken has contacted ABC. The trees in the garden of 10 Crocken Hill have been removed.

c) **Mobile phone signal:** There are two operators along M20 corridor both of which have no plans to install any new masts in the area. Peter will keep trying to move forward with this issue.

Action: Peter Rawlinson

d) **Notice board:** A grant of £500 has been received from Ken Mulholland ABC. Also an offer of a grant of £500 has been received from Charlie Simkins KCC. Jeff has offered £500 from the Geoff Wickens fund which will be a refund of EPC donation to Playing Fields plus an extra donation to the notice board fund. The Clerk will contact Maypole Construction Ltd and request the work be started on the new notice board once all money has been received **Action:** Clerk

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- e) **Older people's accommodation:** The Chairman reported that since the last meeting the Working Group had held two meetings with the Parish Council's solicitor, Andrew Doinik of Halletts, at which the access arrangements had been discussed. There had been no response from Derek Marks executors to the Parish Council's expression of interest in purchasing his bungalow and the remaining land to enlarge the Orchard Nurseries site.
- f) **Village sign opposite Barrow House:** Tim Kent has finished repairing the sign and will contact Julia Bourne who will undertake the painting of the sign.
- g) **Extension to Games Barn:** Bill Smyth has had a meeting with a new design company and is awaiting a quote for the new building. Once it has been received Lois suggested that the Games Barn Committee should hold a meeting.
- h) **Saplings:** Graham will check with Kent Woodland Trust ready for next year. **Action:** Graham Howland,
- i) **Red Phone Box:** Peter has offered to change the light bulb for a new one, assisted by Richard.
Action: Peter Rawlinson, Richard King
- J) **30 MPH sign:** It had been suggested that the 30 MPH sign currently on the Egerton side of Stone Hill Road could be moved nearer to Green Hill Road along New Road to slow traffic before the bend. KCC had checked on Google earth and thought it would not be possible. Charlie Simkins was to hold a site meeting with KCC which Richard was to attend. Due to illness Richard was unable to attend so the meeting was postponed. Richard suggested as new Highways Cllr John could take on this item. John agreed to contact Charlie to set up another meeting. If following the meeting it is deemed not possible to move the sign then maybe it could be looked at again as part of any development on the old allotment site.
Action John Lawton
- k) **Sale of Barrow House:** Although the pub is an asset of community value if an asset is being sold as a commercial going concern it is not affected by ACV. Richard will check with the current tenants how sale is progressing.
Action: Richard King
- l) **VE Day Celebration 75 Years:** The information sent from SSAFA has been forwarded to Mel Rawlinson to put into the next Update magazine. Hopefully volunteers will come forward to organise some celebrations.
- m) **Web Site:** Sarah has been checking the Statutory documents which are all up to date but felt the web site could do with a refresh update. Sarah thought that maybe three people could get together to do this. John offered and it was thought maybe Claire could be asked for her input as she has been a Cllr for a longer period than John or Sarah. Once refreshed the Clerk, as the responsible officer, will check all is ok to be published.
Action: Sarah Elworthy, John Lawton, Claire Foinette, Clerk
- n) **Egerton Update:** At the end of the meeting Peter will take a picture of each Cllr to be put into the Update magazine with their name, email address and role within the Council.

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- o) **Sanctuary Housing:** As Claire is absent will await a report in August. **Action:** Claire Foinette
- p) **GDPR:** All Cllrs need to have an email that is password protected which John reported could be sourced from 123.reg.co.uk who hold the domain name for the parish council web site. The email address could be e.g john @egertonparishcouncil.co.uk. This would have cost implications but John thought it would be money well spent, it was agreed the money should be spent and John would look into buying 100 email addresses. He would follow up and report next month. Also a GDPR statement would need to be added to all emails within the Council. **Action:** John Lawton
- q) **Fence opposite Barrow House:** Lois and Peter have visited the site and feel that although high perhaps the fence could be softened by the planting of a beech hedge on the grass area in front of the fence. It was thought maybe this idea could be presented to the owner of the fence. **Action** Lois Tilden, Peter Rawlinson
5. **PCSO:** No report has been received this month.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan Update:** On Wednesday 10th July there is to be a meeting with EPC Cllrs and the Neighbourhood Plan committee. A public meeting is to be held on Saturday 21st September.
7. **Sale of shop:** Richard explained that Sena Satheeswaran, the prospective purchaser and owner of the Pluckley Store, had told the Fraser-Prichards yesterday that he was no longer prepared to purchase the post office and shop. This was a major blow, as the local community initiative to buy the shop had been put on hold last August to enable his purchase. After a discussion, when it was suggested that if the post office were to close it might never re-open, it was agreed that the Community Benefit Society, formed last year to buy and operate the shop and post office, should be asked to take whatever steps were necessary to prevent the post office and shop from closing. Tim Oliver wished to stand down as a one of the parish council's trustees of the Community Benefit Society (the other parish council members are Richard King, Peter Rawlinson and Claire Foinette, plus Heather James, the Clerk) and Jeff Hopkins agreed to take his place.

8. **Correspondence**

All circulated by email in advance unless marked with a *

Action

*Map on Glebe, new posts **Pat will contact KCC who provided the map initially to see if a new one can be supplied.**

*New bin by pavilion **The Clerk has received a map and list of bins from ABC which shows where bins should be in place. The Clerk will check if this is all correct.**

Note

Five reasons why to attend the NALC / LGRC EXPO 2019: All 11/6

Register of electors form: All 11/6

Leader's Briefings – Ashford Borough Heritage Plaque Scheme: All 20/6

Leader's Briefings – Ashford in Bloom and Macknade at Elwick Place: All 25/6

KALC Councillors Conference being held on Thursday 18th July 2019: 25/6

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UK Protect National Bulletin: All 2/7
Rural Services Network: All 2/7

Web Items

May minutes
July agenda
Draft June minutes

9. Accounts

Approval of the accounts for the month, for cheques to be signed and Internet transfers to take place.

Proposed Lois Tilden; **Seconded:** John Lawton;

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Came & Co	Insurance renewal	BACS	692.98
Reimburse Claire Foinette	Folders for Clerk	BACS	9.96
Reimburse Mrs H James	Ad-free Outlook	BACS	14.99
Mrs H James	July salary	BACS	732.09
HMRC	July	BACS	217.47
			1667.49

Income			
ABC Ken Mulholland	Grant for notice board	BACS	500.00
			500.00

Bank Reconciliation Balance as at 30th June 2019 £11,509.59 less un-presented cheques as follows

Actual balance = £11,509.59 as at 30th June 2019

Accounts for Egerton update magazine

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Alan Arthur	Delivery Issue 14	00014	100.00
			100.00

Income			
Advertising			

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Bank Reconciliation: Balance as at 30th June 2019 £5,335.70 un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £5,335.70 as at 30th June 2019

Accounts for Village projects

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			
Interest			0.88
Pre-school	donation	500105	115.00
			115.88

Bank Reconciliation Balance as at 30th June 2019 £20,240.63 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £20,240.63 as at 30th June 2019

Village Projects fund

Pre-school move = £11,036.65

Village Hall = £ 9,203.98

Total = £20,240.63

Accounts for Neighbourhood Plan

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			

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- a) Total Budget 2019-2020 £37,055
 - b) Precept and Grant £19,540
- Actual amount spent to date is £6,239.64

10. Public Discussion

Richard King closed the meeting at 9.37pm for the public discussion, the meeting re-opened at 9.53pm.

11. Planning

Planning applications submitted to Ashford Borough Council this month for Egerton Parish Council to consider and decisions recently taken by ABC to be noted, details of which may be accessed on line at: http://www.ashford.gov.uk/online_planning/ Individuals may also register via the website with ABC to receive regular alerts of new applications and decisions.

New:

19/00131/TC	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Stonebridge Barn, Stonebridge Green Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9AN 82 poplar trees cut down to safe level approximately 12 -15 feet from ground
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Lois to comment-Support

19/00788/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Browns Kitchen, Green Hill Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9EY Proposed 2 storey rear extension; Proposed roof alterations to existing single storey; Demolition of existing detached garage building and proposed replacement detached garage with ancillary above; Change of use of land to the west of the site and landscaping alterations including the reconfiguring of the driveway. Comments deadline: before 01 July 2019 a decision will not be made until after this date.
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Lois to comment on behalf of EPC as discussed and agreed

Egerton	Weald North Ward	Grain Store Burscombe Farm, Coach Road, Egerton, Kent, TN27 9BB Demolition of existing grain store and silos. Construction of office and warehouse facility with associated external works.
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Lois to comment in detail on behalf of EPC as discussed and agreed, including reference to concerns about excess traffic, as raised by one resident. This was an unusual case, and could be regarded as exceptional quality of design in line with the parish Design statement and National Policy.

Awaiting decision:

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19/00737/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Rock Hill Farm, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DP Partial change of use of workshop/storage area to live/work unit to provide a 1 bedroom flat with changes to fenestration, addition of rooflights and external staircase.
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19/00681/AS	Egerton	Weald North	Barn west of Amherst Court, Bedlam Lane, Egerton, Kent Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building and land within their curtilage to two residential dwellings.
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19/00706/AS	Egerton	Weald North	Stone Hill Barn, Stone Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DU Construction of new four bay garage and tractor store
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Decided planning applications:

19/00651/AS Permit	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Agricultural Building north west of Amherst Court, Amherst Farm, Bedlam Lane, Egerton, Kent Loft conversion and installation of log burner flue
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19/00570/AS Refuse	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Long Ridge, Egerton House Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9BD Proposed replacement garage with one bedroom annexe over.
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19/00306/AS Withdrawn By Applicant	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Appleby Grange, Green Hill Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9EY Proposed agricultural barn and access track
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19/00564/AS Permit	Egerton	Weald North	New Stonehill Farm, Stone Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DU The addition of a Glass Canopy to the rear elevation of the property.
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12. Any other business/information:

- Bench/tree Josh Wilkinson **The Clerk has asked Jeff to check with the Playing Fields committee if a bench could be placed near to the pavilion. Graham (tree warden) suggested a tree could be planted on the bank on the boundary of the cricket pitch and Barlings. Graham will liaise with Josh's family.**
- Claire cleaning around hall outside- **The Clerk reported that following the awful stormy weather Claire had done a splendid job in sweeping and clearing the area around the entrance of the hall and along the path beside the Computer Centre and behind the hall. Thank you Claire**
- 123 bus timetable- Claire **A resident had reported that the bus has been continually late and when asked the bus driver blamed the ongoing work on the A20/M20. The Clerk will contact the bus company to request that signs explaining the lateness of the bus be put onto the timetable boards.**
- Vision for Egerton-Sarah
- Mower for Glebe- **Graham has been using the large mower which belongs to the church but has been struggling as it vibrates badly. Lois has offered the use of her mulcher mower for use only on the Glebe until a new mower is sourced/bought. Peter has offered to contact Mower Plant to enquire about a new/second hand mower.**
- WI picnic table **At the meeting in December 2018 the Council had received a request from the WI to place a picnic table/bench onto the rec in celebration of Egerton WI centenary. This was agreed to and now the table/bench has been purchased. The WI will be holding a short ceremony to unveil the table/bench on Saturday 6th July at 10.00am when all will be welcome.**
- Village Hall hire **Due to some misunderstandings the wording on the Village hall conditions of hire are to be altered and also the Recreation ground usage agreement will have some wording altered. Anyone hiring the hall needs to adhere to the conditions and if using any areas outside the hall the Recreation ground usage agreement must be completed and insurance certificates given to the Clerk.**
- Gravel on Rock Hill Road **Following the stormy weather of late a large amount of gravel has been washed down Rock Hill accumulating near to Buss Farm. Tim and grand-son Haidan had cleared a lot away but then more rain had brought down some more.**
- Welcome packs **Pat and Claire have updated the welcome pack and Peter has kindly had printed and bound. Thank Peter for this work and well done Pat and Claire. Pat has delivered packs to Pembroes Cross Farm and 7 Elm Close.**

The meeting closed at 10.30pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 6th August

Report No. 111 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – July 2019

Outstanding Footpath Issues:

1. **PROW981700 and 599699.** (John Bunyard). Reported 14th August. AW64 Opposite Egerton House, right hand side of large field. Dangerous stile sloping down steep hill. *“Work Scheduled. We are currently waiting for a delivery of gates from our supplier”.*
2. **PROW297375.** (Denise Smith). Reported 27/01/19. AW95 down Bedlam Lane, footpath at “Badgers” on the right before Goodwin Cottages (Sue Palmer) two consecutive stiles are in awful condition, see photos. Still *“Awaiting Allocation”* I have asked KCC why this one is still waiting allocation from January 2019 when PROW810309 was reported this month and has been inspected and work scheduled! Awaiting their reply.
3. **PROW549664.** (Graham Howland). 14/05/19. AW84 steps down to Egerton House Road/Coach Road from the Court Lodge orchard. There seems to be some soil erosion happening down the steps. The soil between each board is a lot lower than the top of the board and erosion of the soil at the bottom part of the board on some steps. *“Allocated. Awaiting Inspection”*
4. **PROW249870.** 22/05/19. Neil Crossley-Roberts. AW71. Newland Green Lane. Stile rotten, Mrs Crossley-Roberts hurt her ankle but is ok. *“Awaiting Allocation”*
5. **PROW392151.** 22/05/19. Neil Crossley-Roberts. AW68 opposite Buss’s Farm. Dangerous stile as the plank is wobbly when you stand on it. *“Awaiting Allocation”.*

New Footpath Issues:

1. **PROW810309.** 10/06/19. Sarah Elworthy. AW64 across the road from Egerton House and Long Ridge the stile has a broken bottom plank making it difficult to manoeuvre. *Inspected – Work Scheduled.*
2. **PROW614368.** 16/06/19. Jane Carr. AW71. Re-reported the same issue as 5. above but now have a photo and the problem seems to be the three sleepers over the stream - one sleeper is rotten, one is ok and the third not that good. *“Allocated. Awaiting Inspection”*



3. **PROW214250.** 28/06/19. Sarah Elworthy. AW76 opposite

Kingsland Lane, Mundy Bois. Bottom step of stile broken.



Report No. 2 of the Egerton Highways Representative – July 2019

Summary

Closed Items	4
Open Items	3
New Items	3

Outstanding Highways Issues

1. **403901 (10/1/19)**. (Jonathan Elworthy). Bad reinstatement of road at the corner of his property and Iden Lane after utility works.

Update:

JL raised with KCC Steward on 31st May & 26th June 2019

Response from KCC dated 31st May (acknowledgment only) & 26th June 2019

The Streetworks team sent their inspector to have a look at the site in question a couple weeks ago.

He reported his findings back to me and said that the reinstatement was all ok, no safety critical

issues to report. With regards to kerbstones, on our KCC Highway plans, there is no records of kerbs

ever being on this road in question. I can see from the pictures that there are some sort of rocks

behind on the grass verge, I can only assume they have been put there by a member of public, as KCC highways would not install this so close to the highway boundary.

2. **389358 and 415968**. (Heather). 5th March 2019. At the Parish Council meeting it was reported that KCC had resolved the first report **389358** of a dip/depression on part of Greenhill Lane near to the property Appleby Grange by putting up signage to say there was a dip in the road and to be cautious. A further complaint was made **415968** that residents felt the response was not acceptable, Charlie Simkins was asked to investigate and received a response from Lisa Willoughby of KCC that appropriate action was taken but that damage to vehicles due to the depression can be claimed for from KCC.

Update:

JL raised with KCC Steward on 31st May & 26th June 2019

Please could you let me know what the current position is with this issue?

You may not be aware but the problem with this depression is exacerbated by the difficulty in negotiating the junction of Greenhill Lane and Mundy Bois road when travelling in a north easterly direction away from Smarden and up the hill. The limited visibility on the junction means that once you have made a decision to cross Mundy Bois Rd in order to do so as safely as possible you need to execute the manoeuvre quickly. This means that vehicle speed on crossing to the North part of Greenhill Lane is higher than typical and sufficiently fast if not reduced before the depression to cause grounding of vehicles.

I would be grateful for your advice as to the present position.

Response from KCC dated 26th June 2019

The KCC Steward and engineer plan to visit site in the next couple of weeks, he will then assess the current situation and if any safety critical issues arise, we will raise a job for our contractors to make safe.

3. **Richard Wall** emailed on 10th March 2019 regarding strong gales having brought down one of a large number of trees believed to be owned by John Lumley of Stonebridge Barn and he ask that we discuss the fact that “these trees have been neglected and now represent a serious threat to life were they to fall on vehicles. Can we get Highways to speak to the owner? I trust that you would all agree that these trees need either to be removed or at least brought down to a height that would be appropriate to protect an orchard should one be replanted.”

Update:

The trees in question were planted in the 1970’s as a windbreak. The site is in a conservation area and therefore consent is required to remove or reduce any tree. As a result an application has been made by the owner of the trees in question to reduce the height of the trees to the height when they were first pollarded in 1982. The target date for a decision is the 31st July 2019.

19/00131/TC	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Stonebridge Barn, Stonebridge Green Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9AN 82 poplar trees cut down to safe level approximately 12 -15 feet from ground
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New Highways Issues

1. **434813** Damage to verges and disintegration of the highway edge outside Forstal Corner Cottage, Forstal Road.
 JL visited the site on 13th June and spoke with the homeowner. The edge of the road requires reinstatement outside the dwelling and further down the road towards the junction with Crockenhill Road. Issue reported to KCC on 16th June under the above reference.

Update

Councillors should note the area has been marked for repair and KCC are programming repairs.

2. **437055** Drains blocked along both sides of Stonebridge Green Road from the surface drain to the South West of Veralls Oak to the junction with Stonebridge Green Road, Iden Lane and Field mill Road, including the drains adjacent to the Green and outside Good Intent cottages. Issue reported by J Elworthy to HJ on 25th June.

Update

JL reported to KCC on 26th June. Enquiry currently under investigation.

3. **Posts on verge at Mundy Bois House**

This has been raised by HJ and LT expressing concerns that the posts may be illegal.

Update

Rather than raise a formal issue with KCC JL has asked the KCC Steward to look at these posts when he is on site with his engineer to look at the depression in Greenhill Lane and comment on the legality or otherwise of these posts.

4. **436839** Hedge opposite Queens Arms obscuring sight when turning right out of Chapel Lane onto Forstal Road

This has been reported by HJ under the above reference.

Update

KCC have advised Enquiry investigated and no further action planned.