

Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in Eastling Village Hall on 26 September 2022

Present: Cllr Julia Bailey (Chairman), Cllr Annie Adams, Cllr John Payne and Cllr Jimmy West; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were Ward Councillor David Simmons and two members of the public

Cllr Adams signed her acceptance of office in the presence of the Clerk
Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Councillor Vacancy

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the applications for co-opted Councillor

The meeting resumed public session

Having considered four applications for co-option to the Council, it was **AGREED** to co-opt Caroline Gilbert to the Parish Council.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from KCCllr Rich Lehmann (at another meeting) and PCSO Jessica Stocks; apologies noted.

3. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 4 July 2022

Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 July 2022 and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Bailey.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

All matters on agenda.

6. Public Time

Nothing was raised.

7. Website

There was no report on the village website.

8. Chairman's Report

Cllr Bailey reported that papers had been received from the previous KALC Swale Area Committee meeting including a presentation from Flo Churchill, Swale Borough Council Interim Head of Planning. The Parish Council has a small role in planning applications and can only comment on material planning considerations.

Cllr West said that the Parish Council submits comments and Swale Borough Council makes the decision.

SBCllr Simmons said Ms Churchill has given a presentation to Swale Borough Council's Planning Committee about material considerations. Parish Council do put in comments and have a right for any objections to be heard by the Committee. The applicant, a supporter, an objector and a Member of the Parish Council can attend and make representations at the Committee meeting.

Cllr Bailey said it would be beneficial to have link people with outside bodies to report back to the Council.

Item for next agenda

9. Finance

i. Finance Report

Cllr Payne reported that there is £9,353 in the bank account. The money was sent to the Ukrainian charity as agreed.

ii. To consider invoices and cheques raised

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mr Nick Swatland £240.00 for open space maintenance.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay KALC £60.00 in respect of the Clerks' Conference.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay KALC £60.00 in respect of the Dynamic Councillor Course.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Newington Parish Council £54.00, being a share of the Clerks' SLCC fees.

Cllr Bailey thanked Cllr Payne for his report.

Cllr West said the notice board is becoming overgrown with ivy and also needs to be varnished.

ACTION: Cllr Payne to seek advice.

10. Planning Matters

i. Ref: 22/502556/FULL Address: Woodbine Cottage Newnham Lane Eastling ME13 0AS

Proposal: Erection of a single storey front extension, insertion of external window and door sets, addition of 4no. rooflights and landscaping alterations.

Application permitted.

ii. Address: Eastling Manor Kettle Hill Road Eastling Kent ME13 0AX

Ref: 22/502180/FULL

Proposal: Demolition of existing Summer House with the erection of single storey replacement. erection of Oak Barn car port with solar panels garden Shed, and installation solar panel arrays.

Ref: 22/502634/LBC

Proposal: Listed building consent for the Demolition of existing Summer House with the erection of single storey replacement. erection of Oak Barn car port with solar panels garden Shed, and installation solar panel arrays.

Applications withdrawn.

iii. 22/503098/FULL Address: Plantation House The Street Eastling Kent ME13 0AZ

Proposal: Erection of a detached outbuilding

A decision is yet to be made.

11. Changes to the Village Hall Trust terms

Cllr Adams said the Village Hall Committee has decided to modify and update the trust deed as it is no longer fit for purpose. It makes reference to a number of "user groups" that are required to appoint a member onto the committee. Most of the user groups mentioned no longer exist. The key change that impacts on the Parish Council is a change of wording around

the Council's representation on the committee. In the current trust deed, the Parish Council is referred to as one of the user groups and, as such, is required to appoint a representative to the committee. It is proposed to remove named user groups completely from the trust deed due to their transient nature and instead invite regular users to put forward a representative if they wish to. The one exception would be the Parish Council and it is proposed to amend the wording to say that the Parish Council will be "invited to put forward a representative" rather than "required to appoint".

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to the proposal.

12. Parish Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr Bailey said the Council had tried to reduce the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph. It has been ascertained that Newnham Lane is a designated a Rural Lane, signage needs to be installed to warn drivers of the narrow lane.

ACTION: Clerk to contact KCCllr Lehmann for assistance.

SBCllr Simmons reported a resident had raised concerned about the flooding in Newnham Lane.

Cllr Bailey said works have been carried out at the bottom of the lane just before The Pheasantry.

13. Telephone Box

Cllr Bailey reported that there had been no further cost for the telephone box. It has been suggested that the phone box be filled with flowers but this would need lots of maintenance.

14. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that the next KALC Swale Area Committee meeting is on 11 October. Details of road closures have been added to the website.

15. Any Other Business

SBCllr Simmons reported that it has been quiet at Swale Borough Council; there were no meetings in August and meetings were cancelled during the national period of mourning.

Cllr Payne said there is two lots of flytipping in Newnham Lane.

ACTION: Cllr Payne to send details to Clerk to report to Swale Borough Council.

Cllr Adams said the Village Hall Committee had agreed for a litter bin to be installed on the verge by the hall, the committee has discussed this again and believe the best location is for the bin is at the end of the church path.

Cllr Bailey said the church refused permission for a bin to be sited there. There was a concern that there was no litter bin in the village and it was suggested that it would be good to have one near the school.

Cllr Adams said the hall has a regular user who would like to hire the main hall on Monday evenings.

Cllr Bailey said the Council could meet in the Committee Room.

Date of next Meeting: 7 November 2022

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.24pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 7 November 2022