

Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held in Eastling Village Hall on 13 May 2025

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

Also present were two members of the public.

Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Payne **PROPOSED** that Cllr Bailey be elected Chairman: **SECONDED** by Cllr Neaves: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Bailey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Caroline Gilbert (holiday) apologies accepted.

3. Declarations of interest

Cllr Neaves declared an interest in item 10.i as an AirBNB/ glamping provider; and a non-pecuniary interest in item 11.iii being a trustee of CAB Swale.

4. Election of Representatives

i. Representatives at KALC Swale Area Committee Meetings

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Bailey be the Council's representative at KALC Swale Area Committee Meetings

ii. Representative at Swale Borough Council Eastern Area Committee Meetings

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Adams be the Council's representative at Swale Borough Council Eastern Area Committee Meetings.

5. General Power of Competence

Cllr Bailey **PROPOSED** to resolve that Eastling Parish Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, adopts the General Power of Competence until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

6. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 11 March 2025 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 10 April 2025

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 March 2025 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 10 April 2025 as a true record.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes

All matters on the agenda.

8. Public Time

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time

A resident raised concern that the garden around the village sign was in need of attention. Cllr Payne said he would see if the volunteer is able to help. Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Council's contractor be approached to help if necessary.

The meeting was reconvened

9. Chairman's Report

Cllr Bailey reported that she had received a letter from two residents, thanking the Parish Council and in particular the Green Spaces Working Group for their hard work which had sadly failed to come to fruition despite all of their efforts.

Details of an open session on the Heathlands proposal at Lenham has been received.

Cllr Neaves said that a watching brief needs to be kept on this, the entrance to the development will be opposite Hubbards Hill and this could cause a problem with rat-running through Eastling.

10. Planning Matters

i. Ref: 25/501769/FULL

Address: Orchard View Eastling Road Eastling Kent ME13 0AN

Proposal: Change of use of land for the siting of 2no. shepherds huts for use as holiday let accommodation.

Councillors considered the application and had no comment to make on the proposal.

ii. Any planning matter received by 13 May 2025

Eastling Manor Kettle Hill Road Eastling Kent ME13 0AX

24/505051/FULL Erection of replacement attached single storey summer house, new detached garden shed, and a ground mounted solar panel array.

24/504898/LBC Listed Building Consent for demolition of existing attached summer house and erection of replacement attached summer house, new detached garden shed, and a ground mounted solar panel array.

Awaiting decision.

The Old Rectory Eastling Road Eastling Kent ME13 0AN 24/505326/LBC

Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations including demolition of conservatory and front shed. Erection of a single storey rear extension, creation of a rear terrace, removal of internal walls on ground floor and first floor, insertion of wood burners and changes to fenestration.

24/505325/FULL Demolition of conservatory and front shed. Erection of a single storey rear extension including creation of an outside terrace and patio and changes to fenestration. Conversion of garage for use as home office including a rear dormer extension, patio and external landscaping works.

Awaiting decision.

25/500935/FULL Land Rear Of The White House Eastling Road Eastling Kent ME13 0AN

Proposal: Erection of 1 No. two storey 4 bedroom detached chalet style residential dwelling
Awaiting decision.

11. Finance

i. Finance Report

Cllr Payne reported that there is £14,792 in the bank and the first instalment of the precept has been received £2,762.

ii. To consider invoices and cheques raised

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay the KALC subscription of £255.66

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Hugofox £143.86. The company has requested payment by Direct Debit; an invoice will be sought for payment by BACS.

iii. To consider requests for a donation

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a donation of £100 to Swale Citizens Advice.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to make a donation of £100 to Kent Sussex Surrey Air Ambulance Trust.

Councillors considered a request from Swale Pride for a grant and were unable to give a donation as the request did not meet the Council's criteria for making grants.

iv. Annual Governance and Accountability Return - To Certify exemption from a limited assurance review under Section 9 Of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to certify exemption from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. The certificate was duly signed by Cllr Bailey and the Clerk.

12. Website - To receive an update

There was nothing to report

13. Any Other Business

Cllr Neaves informed Members that he will attend the Swale Borough Council meeting on Local Government re-organisation.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 15 July 2025

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.05pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: