

Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Eastling Parish Council held on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Jimmy West (Chairman), Cllr Paul Ainsworth (Co-opted at this meeting), Cllr Julia Bailey, Cllr Nigel Bickerdike and Cllr John Payne and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

1. Apologies

Cllr West welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Andrew Bowles and from Ward Member Cllr Colin Prescott; apologies noted.

2. Co-option of Parish Councillor

There being no call for an election, it was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to co-opt Mr Paul Ainsworth onto the Parish Council. Mr Ainsworth signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

3. Declarations of interest

None were declared

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 10 January 2018.

Councillors considered the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2018 and **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept them as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr West.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

KALC Community Award- Cllr Bailey said the presentation of the Award needs to be publicised in the Good News Magazine.

ACTION: Clerk to draft article for the Good News.

It was agreed that Cllr Bailey purchase a gift for the Award recipient; Cllr Bailey to write citation for the Chairman; Cllr Bailey will purchase the wine and the Parish Council will contribute towards the cost of the food the Village Hall will supply.

6. Correspondence

- i. 15.01.18 Cllr Bowles's December newsletter.
 - ii. 13.02.18: Cllr Bowles's January Newsletter.
 - iii. 09.02.18: Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management plan consultation.
 - iv. 19.02.18: Tunstall resident email regarding Housing Infrastructure Fund bid by SBC.
 - v. 19.02.18: Cllr Bowles- bus services.
 - vi. 22.02.18: KALC Parish news.
 - vii. 22.02.18: Invitation to the Swale briefing on next steps for Local Plan.
 - viii. 23.02.18: Ramblers Association email, is there an active Parish Footpath Warden or a local footpath group monitoring the Parish Public Rights of Way.
 - ix. 02.03.18: KCC start of works notification for Otterden Road.
 - x. 03.03.18: Email from resident concerned roads are not being cleared in the snow.
- Cllr West said farmers work hard to keep roads clear with a snow plough, but as KCC is responsible for the gritting of the roads it is beyond the control of the Parish Council.
- xi. 12.03.18: Emergency item for KALC Swale Area Committee.
 - xii. 12.03.18: Emails from SBCllr Lewin and SBCllr Whiting regarding the KALC SAC item.

- xiii. 12.03.18: KCCllr Bowles's February Newsletter.
- xiv. 13.03.18: Green Grid Forum.
- xv. 13.03.18: Letter from KCCllr Mike Whiting - Snow emergency and resulting damage to the highway network.
- xvi. 18.03.18: Email from resident requesting an update on the speeding issue in Newnham Lane.

The Clerk reported she has contacted KCCllr Bowles for assistance.

- xvii. 19.03.18: Ospringe Parish Council, request for an informal meeting.
Councillors considered the request and agreed that they would be interested in having a meeting as and when pressing matters arise.
- xviii. 20.03.18: Email from resident regarding fly tipping and litter in Parish.
Cllr West said the matter is dealt with by Swale Borough Council and Officers look through rubbish to trace its origins.
ACTION: Clerk to advise the resident to continue to report incidents to Swale Borough Council.

7. Report from Village Warden

Mr Willson was unable to attend the meeting and had submitted a Neighbourhood Watch Report:

There was a daylight burglary in Newnham Lane where jewellery and other valuables were stolen. This property was definitely targeted at the specific time when it was known that the occupants would not be there. The perpetrators were seen climbing over the gate into the property.

8. Website

Cllr West reported to Members that the Village Website is looking good.

Cllr Ainsworth informed Councillors the visitor numbers are steady. The self-administration function is working well and individual users can be assigned a page to administer without having access to the rest of the website. This is currently being tested and groups on the website will be contacted and given details. The Village survey will be scanned and added to the site. People are still visiting the website and it needs to be continually updated.

ACTION: Clerk to ensure there is a link to the Village website from the Parish Council website.

9. Farm Manager's Report

Mr Binder, the Farm Manager was unable to attend the meeting and sent a report:

That the drains at north Eastling junction have not been sucked out. It is very dangerous when icy, there was a car in the field even before the snow. There is concern that if people must venture out during snowy weather they must know where their towing eye is located and how and where it fits to the car. When trying to keep the roads open with the snowploughs it wastes a considerable amount of time, when pulling people out, going through the spare wheel or tool kit trying to locate these items and then go through the handbook to work out where it fits. People need to be more prepared. We did our best to keep things moving but the drifting snow was a massive challenge.

ACTION: Clerk to draft article for the Good News asking people to familiarise themselves with their vehicles.

Cllr West said the Farm Manager has raised concern about the flooding on the z bend in Eastling Road. KCC have informed the Parish Council that they are prioritising cleansing safety critical drains only and will be added to our spring cleaning programme for attendance for the new financial year. The flooding at the Z bend flooding is dangerous and needs to be remedied as a matter of urgency.

ACTION: Cllr West to contact KCC for a speedy resolution of the problem.

10. Public Time

No members of the public were present.

11. Chairman's Report

Cllr West reported that most of the issues have been covered already in the meeting.

Cllr West thanked everyone for their help with the notice board.

Cllr Bailey said there are two keys for the notice board.

Councillors agreed that Cllr West and Cllr Ainsworth show each have a key.

12. Finance

i) Finance Report

Cllr Payne reported to Members that the notice board has been paid for and there will be an invoice from the contractor who erected it. There is also a grant from KCCllr Bowles's members fund for £405.00 due.

Cllr Bailey thanked Cllr Bickerdike for attending the Funding Session and obtaining a grant.

The Clerk reported that audit arrangements are changing and Councils under £25,000 income or expenditure do not have to submit a return but have to submit an Annual Governance & Accountability Return.

Cllr West thanked Cllr Payne for his report.

ii) To consider invoices and cheques raised

It was **AGREED** to pay Mr David Ainsworth £150.00 by BACS, for the Village website for January to March 2018, inclusive.

It was **AGREED** to pay Newington Parish Council £5.00 by BACS, being share of Clerks' attendance at the General Data Protection Regulations workshop.

It was **AGREED** to pay Tunstall Parish Council £10.00 by BACS, being share of Clerks' attendance at the Governance and Transparency Conference.

13. Planning Matters

i) To receive an update

Ref: 18/500018/FULL

Address: Pett Dane Stalisfield Road Eastling ME13 0BD

Proposal: Partial demolition of existing building and erection of an extension to create a new 4 bedroom house, demolition of existing outbuildings and replacement.

Cllr West said this is a historic building and the Faversham Society are keen to preserve the building. A decision is yet to be made.

ii) Any planning matter received by 21 March 2018

Cllr Bailey reported to members that she had attended the KALC Swale Area Committee meeting as there had been correspondence concerning the removal of the consultation process with Parish Councils. The Swale Borough Council Scrutiny Committee had recommended that planning applications no longer be called in when a Parish Council objects with material planning concerns but this was rejected by the General Purposes Committee by SBCllr Bowles's casting vote. The Swale Area Committee meeting supported SBCllr Bowles's view.

Cllr Bailey informed Councillors that Shirley Loveday from UK Power Networks made a presentation about the company and its Priority Service Register ensuring vulnerable people are safe during power cuts. There was also a presentation about a proposal to change Stroke Centres in Kent and Medway, it is vital to deal with a stroke within the first two hours. The consultation ends on 13 April.

Cllr West thanked Cllr Bailey for attending the meeting.

14. Environment

i) Footpath Warden

Cllr Bailey said she thought Eastling has a Footpath Warden and she will seek confirmation of this.

ii) Dog Fouling issues

Cllr Bailey said there has been an issue with a resident, who is registered blind, being reported for not clearing up after his dog. The Clerk has contacted the Swale Borough Council Dog Warden and has been informed that someone who is registered blind cannot be prosecuted if their dog fouls and does not clear it up. The family is grateful to the Parish Council for ascertaining the information.

15. Rural Buses

Cllr Bailey informed Members that she had written a paper about the needs of Eastling as the suggestion was the village would lose some of its bus service. KCC has resolved not to cut the Rural Bus services. There was a joint response with Ospringe Parish Council.

ACTION: Clerk to send response to KCC and keep on file.

16. General Data Protection Regulations

Cllr Payne reported to Councillors that the Parish Council needs a Data Protection Officer and the Council has to be able to demonstrate to the Information Commissioners Office that there are procedures in place regarding Data Protection. Cllr Payne **PROPOSED** that he should be the Data Protection Officer for Eastling Parish Council: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Councillors agreed that their names would appear on the Parish Council and Village websites. Cllr Payne said the Village Website will need to obtain permission from people to put their names on the website.

Cllr West thanked Cllr Payne for his work on the General Data Protection Regulations. The procedures will need to be updated.

17. Any Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm.

Date of next meetings: Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 26 April at 8pm.

Annual Parish Council Meeting-Wednesday 2 May at 6.30pm

Parish Council Meetings- Wednesday 11 July; Tuesday 4 September and Wednesday 7 November at 6.30pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chairman

Dated: 31 May 2018