

# Eastling Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Churchfields on 11 November 2025

Present: Cllr Julia Bailey (Chairman), Cllr Annie Adams, Caroline Gilbert, Cllr Barrie Neaves and Cllr John Payne; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).  
Also present was Ward member Terry Thompson

Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting

### 1. Apologies

All Members were present

Apologies had been received from KCllr Rich Lehmann and PC James Tancock; apologies noted.

### 2. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

### 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 16 September 2025

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 September 2025 as a true record. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Bailey.

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr Neaves informed Members that the fly tipping in Mill Lane is still there.

SBCllr Thompson said the matter can be reported through Fix My Street.

*ACTION: Cllr Neaves to report.*

### 5. Public Time

No members of the public were present.

### 6. Chairman's Report

Cllr Bailey said the area around the village sign is in need of maintenance.

*ACTION: Cllr Adams to approach a local gardener.*

### 7. Planning Matters

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

Cllr Bailey reported that, on behalf of the Parish Council, she had attended the Swale Planning Committee meeting on 6 November, SBCllr Thompson supported the Parish Council, application was passed seventeen in favour, two against.

SBCllr Thompson said Swale Borough Council does not have a Local Plan and is concerned about refusing planning permission as the developer may go to appeal and costs would be awarded against the Local Authority. The National Planning Policy Framework is broken and does not deliver what is needed; there is no social housing or affordable housing; there is also a lack of understanding of the rural environment.

The Highsted Park proposal has gone to the Secretary of State, if this goes through it will be over Swale Borough Council's five-year housing land supply.

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.

Application refused

## **8. Finance**

### i. Finance Report

Cllr Payne reported that there is £15,941 in the bank, the second half of the precept has been received.

### ii. To consider invoices and cheques raised

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Newington Parish Council £14.00 being share of the Clerks' Conference fees.

An invoice is expected from the grounds maintenance contractor.

## **9. Highways**

Cllr Adam said she the only outstanding matter on the Highways Improvement Plan is the flooding on the S-bend which is a maintenance issue.

*ACTION: Cllr Adams to report on Fix My Street and inform KCCLlr Lehmann*

Cllr Neaves said there have been reports of traffic speeding down Newnham Lane.

## **10. Kent Downs investigation**

SBCllr Thompson said the Kent Downs Management Plan Survey adds another layer of protection to the area.

*ACTION: Clerk to resend survey to Councillors.*

## **11. The Carpenters Arms**

The Council has received notice that The Carpenters Arms has been removed from Swale Borough Council's list of Community Assets.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to apply to relist The Carpenters Arms as an Asset of Community Value.

Cllr Neaves asked if the church path could be listed as a Local Heritage Site.

## **12. KALC Community Award**

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to nominate Mr Roy Piles for the KALC Community Award.

*ACTION: Councillors to provide citation.*

## **13. Correspondence**

1. 18.09.25- SBCllr Thompson: Joint Advisory Committee Boundary Review and Management Plan engagement survey
2. 18.09.25- KALC bulletin
3. 18.09.25- NALC CEO bulletin
4. 18.09.25- KCC Road Safety & Active Travel Group: Mature Drivers & Passenger Course
5. 22.09.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
6. 26.09.25- KALC: Helping Hands Help Bridge the Digital Divide webinar
7. 26.09.25- NALC CEO bulletin
8. 29.09.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
9. 03.10.25- Kent Police- notification of new beat officer PC James Tancock
10. 03.10.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
11. 03.10.25- NALC CEO bulletin

12. 09.10.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
13. 09.10.25- KALC newsletter
14. 09.10.25- FOCAS newsletter
15. 09.10.25- NALC CEO bulletin
16. 03.10.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
17. 16.10.25- NALC CEO bulletin
18. 16.10.25- KALC bulletin
19. 16.10.25- Kent Police Rural Task Force newsletter
20. 20.10.25- NALC CEO bulletin
21. 22.10.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
22. 22.10.25- CPRE newsletter
23. 22.10.25: KCC Road Safety and Active Travel Group: request for information for a new series of cycling and walking itineraries
24. 27.10.25- KALC: Annual Policing Survey 2025
25. 27.10.25- Swale Borough Council: JKC policy round-up
26. 27.10.25- Kent Downs National Landscape:
27. 30.10.25- NALC CEO bulletin
28. 03.11.25- SBC: JKC Policy Round-up
29. 06.11.25- NALC CEO bulletin
30. 06.11.25- KALC newsletter

#### **14. Any Other Business**

SBCllr Thompson said the District Councils Network has published an analysis of data covering existing English unitary councils, this shows that Unitary Authorities with more than 300,000 residents are less efficient.

Cllr Gilbert asked if there should be better signage for the defibrillator.

**Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 13 January 2026**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.20pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 13 January 2026