

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL
5th November 2019

The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 5th November 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)
2 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies:** Claire Foinette -ill

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

3. The minutes of the meeting on 1st October 2019: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings. **Proposed:** Lois Tilden; **Seconded:** Tim Oliver

4. **Matters Arising from 1st October 2019**
 - a) **Report No. 115 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – November 2019**
See attached report at end of minutes

New: A tree has fallen over the bridge leading to the footpath next to bridle way near to Hazeldene Farm.

 - b) **Highways:**
See attached report at end of minutes

New: The Clerk noted that two new grit bins have been put in place. One at the junction of Egerton House Road and Coldbridge Lane. The other at junction of Rock Hill Road and Crockenhill Road. The Clerk will ask Graham to check if they are filled and if necessary buy shovels for each bin.
Action: Clerk

 - c) **Older people's accommodation:** Meetings have been arranged with the working group and Hallett & Co solicitors to discuss the Heads of Terms that have been drawn up for EPC and Court Royal developers. Lois will check the paperwork to ensure terms protect EPC and villagers. Once finalised Richard will send out to all Cllrs.
Action: Richard King, Lois Tilden

 - d) **Extension to Games Barn:** Bill is to have a meeting on Thursday 7th with design company, Jeff will offer to join the meeting. Lois requested a meeting for the Games Barn committee to allow the committee input with the design
Action: Jeff Hopkins

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- e) **VE Day Celebration 75 Years:** Pat has formulated a working group and a meeting has taken place with great ideas being put forward. Pat will keep the PC informed of progress.
Action: Pat Parr
- f) **Fence opposite Barrow House:** Lois has sent details to the landscape officer at ABC and is awaiting a reply.
Action: Lois Tilden
- g) **Map on Glebe:** Pat has asked the design company to move the boundary line to include the three properties that are now within Egerton having previously been within Charing Heath. The Clerk has received a quote from Tim Kent to install new posts and erect the sign once Pat receives the new map. The Clerk will check with Tim if he could clean the old sign before the new map is installed.
Action: Clerk
- h) **Rubbish bin:** The bin hanging on the fence by the skate-park needed a new screw which Tim and Haidan have sorted. Also thank you to Tim and Haidan for repairing the broken slat on the bench which overlooks the cricket ground. Also for removing excess growth from the trunk of sweet chestnut tree in car park by play area. The PC is most grateful for all their hard work. Lois has had a request for a bin to be placed in the vicinity of the Forstal. She will check if there are any bins there at present.
Action: Lois Tilden
- i) **Speed indicators:** Peter is working on getting funding in place to purchase a SID.
Action: Peter Rawlinson
- j) **UKPN Power Partners:** Grants had been made available for renewable energy initiatives but Richard was not sure if these were still available. He is checking and thought that there were different areas within the village which might benefit from extra funding. Maybe to replace lighting or heating within the Games Barn or Millennium hall. Richard will send the link to the hall committee and Games Barn committee.
Action: Richard King
- k) **Red phone box, Stonebridge Green:** Lois is trying to source a book case that could be fitted in for the lending library.
Action: Lois Tilden
- l) **Trees in recreation ground and others to maybe be felled:** The Clerk had asked Ken Mulholland if ABC had a contact for tree specialists. Ken contacted Aspire who will give a free check of trees and a quote for any work that might need to be done. The Clerk suggested that Ken liaise with Graham Howland as tree warden. Sarah was aware that some residents in Elm Close had concerns about the silver birches that had grown very tall, obscuring the view from some of the bungalows. The Clerk will contact Graham Howland to seek his opinion as to whether there is an Egerton Parish Tree Strategy, and if not, should there be one; and subject to any such Strategy, if it would be appropriate to reduce the height of some of the trees
Action: Clerk
- m) **GDPR:** Information audit, John will produce a document with details of different clubs and what information is held. These clubs will include Games Barn, Computer Centre, Film Club and Neighbourhood Plan. These are all under the auspices of EPC, other clubs in the village should hold their own information audit.
Action: John Lawton

- n) **Review of Risk Assessments and Asset Register:** On the Risk Assessment held at this time the following items need to be reviewed. Data Protection Policy, Freedom of Information Policy. The Clerk will liaise with John and Sarah to update the paperwork. **Action:** John Lawton, Sarah Elworthy
- o) **ABC survey:** Lois completed and submitted the survey on behalf of EPC, taking into account comments received. The survey will help ABC understand the views on how local councils (including parish, town and community councils) and the borough council can work together to improve communications between us. **Action:** Lois Tilden
- p). **Christmas Fair:** The Committee have decided on Saturday 7th December at 3.00-5.30pm for the fair which this year will be held in the hall with the huts erected on the recreation ground. The minutes of the meetings will be posted onto the village web site.
- q). **Finance Committee:** A meeting is to be held on Tuesday 12th November to determine the budget for 2020-21 and to work out the precept. The committee is Richard King, Peter Rawlinson, Claire Foinette, Tim Oliver and the Clerk. Once the figures are organised they will be shown to the PC before being submitted. **Action:** Finance committee
- r). **War memorial:** Pat has been having discussions with members of St James church about the missing names on the memorial that are mentioned in the roll of honour. Members at the church are to contact the War Graves Commission to clarify the names.
- s). **Steps:** During a risk assessment site visit Sarah found the steps from the rec leading to the cricket pitch to be dangerously slippery and has put up a warning sign. The Clerk contacted Tim Kent who has sprayed the steps with fungicidal wash to remove moss etc. He had also submitted a quotation to fit chicken wire to the steps to help with traction. Following discussions Tim thought maybe the PC would be wise to obtain a quote for new steps as the ones in place were getting quite rickety. The Clerk has asked J D Mills for a quote for new metal steps, this has yet to arrive.
- t). **Wheelie bins:** While he was a Cllr Rob Walker put out the bins fortnightly but now he is working away the bins sometimes do not get put out on time. The Clerk will ask if Graham would be able to help. **Action:** Clerk
- u). **Stonebridge Green parking:** Unfortunately recently vehicles have been parking on the grass next to the red telephone box, this is not acceptable as the grass will be damaged especially when the ground is wet. A letter has been received from the head of staff at the Cottage explaining the need for so many vehicles at the site with carers and maintenance staff. There could be upwards of seven vehicles with only space for five on the site. Lois will write to the planning department to determine actual planning consent. Sarah will continue to liaise with residents in the area. **Action:** Lois Tilden, Sarah Elworthy
5. **PCSO:** No report this month.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan Update:** Jane Carr has submitted the following report and apologised for not being able to attend the meeting. The main focus over the last month has been preparation for the meeting on November 30th, which will be the final open consultation on the draft plan and policies before circulation of the pre-consultation draft to everyone in the village. The meeting has been announced on the Neighbourhood Plan web site (www.egertonnp.co.uk) and other social media, on

poster sites, and will be clearly flagged in the November Egerton Update. We would be very grateful if councillors would try to find time to attend and would remind neighbours and friends in the village of the importance of attending if they possibly can.

We have asked Ashford Borough Council and our consultants, South Downs, to give us feedback on the draft policies presented at the September open meeting; but would also like comments from councillors both on the draft policies and on the short list of sites for development on which decisions will be made this month. A report is being compiled on the feedback received at the September open meeting, and following it. The views expressed by people in the village will be included in the re-drafted policies and the final decisions on sites for development.

The suggestion of improvement to the footpath from the Forstal has been raised with KCC and Jane will be meeting them on site in the next two weeks.

We would appreciate any up to date information on the MUGA proposal, to ensure that the proposal is accurately described in the plan and, more importantly, that the proposed protection of Green Spaces does not impact on a proposed site for the MUGA.

If any councillor would like more information before sending comments on the policies and/or sites, please contact Jane by phone or email.

7. **Sale of shop:** Richard has written an article for the Update magazine to explain the current position. Alison Robinson (accountant) on working group has written to all who pledged funds originally. Colin and Fraser have put the shop on the market and have had 6-10 viewings from prospective purchasers. Richard with Janet Goode (solicitor) on working group have had a meeting with a prospective purchaser who is interested in the premises but to open not as a convenience/post office store. Richard and Janet explained the need within the village for the post office. The Community Benefit scheme working group are to hold a meeting on Thursday 7th to discuss the ongoing problems and decide the next steps if a purchaser does not come forward.
8. **CCTV in car park-Police Forum:** Pat has sent a report following attending a meeting by PCSO's in Tenterden. Gareth Recht ABC Community Safety and Wellbeing officer attended and spoke about CCTV. It was explained that EPC could have a visit or EPC could visit Command Centre. Peter will contact Gareth and arrange a site visit and a meeting with Cllrs. **Action:** Peter Rawlinson

9. **Correspondence**

Correspondence

All circulated by email in advance unless marked with a *

Action

Action group to oppose the Garden Community proposal by Maidstone Borough Council: All + NHP **John attended a meeting with the action group which was very well attended. The group are opposed to the plan by MBC to build 5,000 new houses (in the Lenham/Lenham Heath corridor), new railway station, new motorway junction, new school and other infrastructure. Following lengthy discussions members unanimously agreed to oppose the scheme and support the opposition group.**

John will attend future meetings and report back. If John is unable to attend meeting Peter, Lois and Pat have offered their help.

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*EPC to purchase Christmas tree for Fair- **Peter proposed, Pat seconded all agreed EPC should fund the tree. The Clerk will arrange to purchase and get set up.**

Bin at Forstal- Lois **See 4h**

Note

Leader's Briefing – Freedom Appointed as New Leisure Operator: All 8/10
 Proposed new KALC post and KALC AGM 30 November 2019: All 10/10
 Welcome to Autumn in the Kent Downs: All 15/10
 Parish Seminar - Wednesday 13th November - KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste: John 15/10
 Leader's Briefing – Giving Everyone a Chance to Go Online: All + CCC 15/10
 Update for local councils VE day 75th anniversary: All 17/10
 KCC's spending priorities and Council Tax proposals for 2020/2021: All 24/10
 Leader's Briefing – Housing Awards: All 29/10
 Dynamic Councillor Event: All 29/10
 #OurDay 2019: All 29/10

Web Items

September minutes
 November agenda
 Draft October minutes

10. Accounts

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

Proposed Peter Rawlinson; **Seconded:** John Lawton;

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Tim Kent	Cleaning steps to cricket pitch	BACS	25.00
Reimburse Malcolm Laws	Egerton web site renewal	BACS	139.91
Reimburse Mrs H James	Ink cartridges	BACS	92.00
Graham Howland	Tree forum attendance	BACS	25.00
Wicksteed	Play area inspection	BACS	170.40
Mrs H James	November salary	BACS	731.89
HMRC	November	BACS	217.67
			1401.87

Income			

Bank Reconciliation: Balance as at 30th October 2019 £14,458.28 less un-presented cheques as follows

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Actual balance = £14,457.28 as at 30th October 2019

Accounts for Egerton update magazine

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			
Advertising			

Bank Reconciliation Balance as at 30th October 2019 £4684.20 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £4,684.20 as at 30th October 2019

Accounts for Village projects

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			
Interest			0.84
			0.84

Bank Reconciliation: Balance as at 30th October 2019 £20,594.00 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £20,594.00 as at 30th October 2019

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Village Projects fund	
Pre-school move	= £11,288.65
Village Hall	= £ 9,305.35

Total	= £20,594.00

Accounts for Neighbourhood Plan

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			

- a) Total Budget 2019-2020 £37,055
 - b) Precept and Grant £19,540
- Actual amount spent to date is £13,702.95

11. Public Discussion

Richard King closed the meeting at 9.50pm for the public discussion, the meeting re-opened at 9.55pm.

12. 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:

19/00229/TC	Egerton	Weald North Ward	St James' Church, The Street, Egerton, Kent, TN27 9AH Ash Tree north side of churchyard requires work to remove diseased stems.
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No comment

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Awaiting decision:

19/01304/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Parrsmere, Chapel Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9BX Erection of annexe.
19/01290/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Agricultural Building, Wanden Farm, Wanden Lane, Egerton, Kent Prior approval for change of use from one agricultural barn and land within its curtilage to two dwellings and associated operational development
19/00971/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	BT Telephone Box Consultation on the removal of payphone
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
19/00767/AS	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.

Decided planning applications:

15/01529/AMND/AS Amended Plans Approved	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Rock Cottage, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9ED Proposed non material minor amendment to front porch as approved on planning permission 15/01529/AS (Erection of a two storey side and rear extension, replacement conservatory and front porch)
19/01104/AS Permit	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Coldharbour Farm, Barhams Mill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DD Formation of a pond for Great Crested Newts

13. Any other business/information:

- Peppercorn rents- **As Mr & Mrs Cornwell no longer have a caravan or drive a car it was agreed they should not need to pay the rent which covered the right of way at the rear of their property for access. This is an agreement to only Mr & Mrs Cornwell not the property.**
- Village sign ready to collect- **Thank you the Bourne family for painting the refurbished sign. Tim Kent will collect and the Clerk will liaise with him to arrange putting up the sign and also to discuss the taking down of the old planter around base of sign.**
- Dogs under control-Lois referred to an incident when two dogs bit and hurt another dog and its owner. **The police attended but the injured person didn't want to press charges. It appeared that the dog warden was to be asked to contact the owners of the dogs to explain the need to keep dogs under control and maybe muzzle them whilst out and about. Lois will contact Colin Leek (dog warden) to see if he has made contact with dog owners and will report next month.**
- Speeding in car park-Tim **A complaint has been made by a villager about cars entering the car park off Rock Hill Road and speeding through the car park. It was suggested that maybe a speed bump, like the ones already installed on the ramp from Elm Close, could be installed.**
- Hedges New Road- Pat- **The Clerk was requested to write to land owners to get the hedges either side of New Road cut back.**
- Telephone box opposite Barrow House- Peter **The objection to having the phone box removed has been upheld by ABC. Peter contacted BT and explained the lack of use of the phone box was because the light didn't work and the hand-set was broken. Both these have now been fixed and Peter has cleaned off all old stickers and cleaned the box so it is now ready for use. Peter noted coins are not accepted so a card needs to be used. Thank you Peter for all your hard work with sorting this and cleaning phone box.**

The meeting closed at 10.20pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 3rd December

Report No. 115 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – November 2019

Outstanding Footpath Issues: Where there has been a change from last month's report the text in red will read "LATEST" instead of "Still"

1. **PROW297375.** (Denise Smith). Reported 27/01/19. AW95 down Bedlam Lane, footpath at "Badgers" two consecutive stiles are in awful condition. **LATEST "Landowner Action"**
2. **PROW392151.** 22/05/19. Neil Crossley-Roberts. AW68 opposite Buss's Farm. Dangerous stile as the plank is wobbly when you stand on it. **NEW PLANK ON STILE. JOB CLOSED.**
3. **PROW214250.** 28/06/19. Sarah Elworthy. AW76 opposite Kingsland Lane, Mundy Bois. Bottom step of stile broken. **Still "Awaiting Allocation".**

4. **PROW981700 and 599699.** (John Bunyard). Reported 14th August. AW64 Opposite Egerton House, right hand side of large field. Dangerous stile sloping down steep hill. *Still "Work Scheduled"*.
5. **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. *LATEST "Work Scheduled"*
6. **PROW249870 and PROW614368.** Neil Crossley-Roberts and Jane Carr. AW71. Newland Green Lane. Stile rotten. *LATEST "Work Scheduled"*
7. **PROW544509.** 21/07/19. Sarah Elworthy. AW64 opposite Egerton House, track on right hand side of field, down steep steps to sheep field, through gate or over stile if gate closed, a short distance further on a stile is broken/damaged. *Still "Work Scheduled"*
8. **PROW124430.** 27/07/19. Mrs Macklin 8 Stisted Way. AW106 from The Street phonebox out to field at back of Stisted Way. A large dead branch from a hawthorn tree covered in ivy encroaches over a private garden. This has happened over a long period of time and the owner's clematis has attached itself to this branch in the back garden. *Still "Work Scheduled"*
9. **PROW518542.** 22/08/19. Heather. Same problem as 9. above but a different resident of Stisted Way. This branch overhanging into their garden is from a live hazelnut tree. *Still "In Progress"*.
10. **PROW359025.** 09/09/19. Sarah. AW94 Coldbridge. Broken stile on the right-hand side of the lane, (just before Heather's woodyard). *Still "Awaiting Allocation"*.
11. **PROW397050.** 24/09/19. Heather. AW65 Egerton House Road, opposite Star & Garter Cottage. Broken fingerpost. *LATEST "Work Scheduled"*

Report No. 4 of the Egerton Highways Representative – November 2019

Summary

Closed Items 3
Open Items 3
New Items 2 (both now closed)

Closed Issues

1. **389358, 448982 and 415968.** 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. JL has contacted the KCC Steward monthly to ascertain progress.

Update:

Greenhill Lane works have been completed including several sections of road edge with good quality repairs. Persistence has paid off! This item has been moved to closed.

2. **443615** Road/Carriageway, Dip/Depression on Newland Green Lane raised by member of the public at July meeting of the EPC. JL visited site and reported road depressions in Newland Green Lane beyond Tresmond up to Woodland Farm

Update:

Works have been completed. This item has been moved to closed.

3. **428549** Damaged footpath/Pavements on Crockenhill Rd

Update

Works have been completed. Item moved to closed

Outstanding Highways Issues

1. **453975 and 439404** General condition of the road and road edges along Egerton House Road between Star & Garter Cottage and Egerton House.

KCC advise on the website” Enquiry investigated and customer updated”

Update:

The KCC steward has advised me in an email as follows:

I am writing to you with regards to your recent enquiry for Egerton House Road. I have been to site today and I can appreciate your concerns on this matter, however, at the moment I am waiting for our drainage department to deal with the drainage issues along this section of carriageway so that we can carry out the necessary repair work to the carriageway. I have emailed them today to chase this matter up.

JL Chased the Highways Steward on 4/11/19 for an update.

2. **427606** Potholes on Stonehill Road.

KCC highways have inspected and works are being programmed – no change from Sept & Oct report.

No further update

3. **51976783, 415759 & 446907** Potholes on Wanden Lane. This road is in a very poor state.

KCC highways have inspected and works are being programmed – no change from Sept report

Update

JL wrote to the Steward asking for an idea of when works would be carried out.

New Highways Issues

1. Parking in Elm Close - PCSO's have attended, no significant issues but a presence will hopefully have helped encourage good parking. Issue now closed.
2. Mud in Stisted Way. Many thanks to the prompt action by the Farmer for clearing up the mud in a very wet period. Issue now closed.
3. Parking in Stonebridge Green – on Agenda for discussion at November meeting.