

Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday
20th May 2015 at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence.

Present: Cllrs Jimmy West, Julia Bailey, Nigel Bickerdike, John Payne, Alan Willson (Village Warden) and Jill Seaman (Clerk).

Apologies were received from Cllrs Andrew Bowles, Colin Prescott (as this was the first full Council Meeting) and Cllr Helen Higgs.

2. Election of Officers

The clerk asked for nominations for Chairman – Cllr West was nominated and accepted the post. Cllr West signed a Declaration of Acceptance.

The clerk then asked for nominations for Treasurer – Cllr John Payne was nominated for the post and signed a Declaration of Acceptance.

All Councillors also signed an Acceptance of Office as a Parish Councillor. Cllr Higgs would be able to sign at the next meeting. The clerk also gave Cllrs the Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non- Pecuniary Interests form which the Clerk would need completed by the next meeting. She would let Cllr Higgs have a copy to complete.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th March 2015

The minutes were to be amended and would be signed at the next meeting.

4. Matters Arising

The footpath from Tong Lane had not been cut – Cllr West will email Ben Binder to request him to cut back the vegetation.

He had previously emailed about the nettles along the church footpath and Ben had replied that he would cut these every few months.

The drains have been cleared out and the layby has also been cut back as Highways were looking for the drain to clear. Cllr West would write to Cllr Bowles thanking him for his help with the drain clearance.

Mr Polhill had not responded to the letter regarding the work to lower the height of the trees but it may be that no response was needed. No residents had any problems now.

6. Village Warden's Report.

The village warden Alan Willson gave a summary of the past month. Two dogs had been found and returned to the owners. Jimmy Shilling's van was still at the top of Kettle Hill but was on private land only 15yards from the end of the road. It was thought to have a word with Angela Cheeseman to see what she suggests.

The Eastling Cricket Club now plays at the weekends on Belmont Land.

7. Chairman's Report.

Cllr West reported that he had been forwarded a copy of the History of Eastling from Hugh Perks, but it had not yet been finished. Cllr West would copy this to Alan Willson and Cllr Payne. Cllr Bickerdike suggested that a completed copy should be published to be held in The Carpenter's Arms. Cllr West would speak to Hugh Perks.

There was discussion about the Website as Cllrs thought that it had not been updated for some time and that the cost was not justified. There is a link to the Faversham website and local information can be googled from the Good News magazine for years ago.

The website to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Treasurer's Report.

Cllr West thanked Cllr Payne for taking on the role as Treasurer. The balance on account is £3315 which includes the 1st instalment of the precept of £1500. The bank mandate would be changed to Cllr Payne, Cllr Bickerdike and Cllr Bailey so that any two signatories were required on cheques. Thanks for the donation to the Kent Air Ambulance was received. The Annual Insurance renewal had been received which was the same amount as the previous year. It was decided to renew for this year but to look into alternatives for next year. It was agreed to renew the CPRE membership for £36 as in past years.

The Annual Audit was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk to be forwarded to the Audit Commission.

9. Planning Report.

There were no applications.

10. Correspondence

Kent Voice and Countryside Voice – to Cllr Bailey to read.

KCC Neighbourhood Planning - to Cllr Bailey to look at.

SBC Automatic vehicle number recognition in Faversham – not only for speeding but to prevent crime – passed to Alan Willson.

Alan said that the Village Hall Committee had £2000 to spend on children in the village.

Kent Downs AONB to Cllr Bailey to peruse.

11. Any Other Business

Cllr West mentioned the newsletter from Cllr Bowles regarding the Boundary Commission.

Cllr Bickerdike advised of the scam of letters received stating that someone with the same surname had died and left money to be claimed.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd September 2015 at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting finished at 7.45pm.

