

Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Eastling Village Hall on Monday 6 September 2021

Present: Cllr Jimmy West (Chairman), Cllr Paul Adams, Cllr Paul Ainsworth and Cllr Julia Bailey

Also present was one member of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr West welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies had been received from Cllr John Payne (holiday); apology accepted.

Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Rich Lehmann (at another meeting and from Ward Member David Simmons; apologies noted.

2. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on 4 May 2021

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 4 May 2021 as a true record of the meeting. Cllr West duly signed the minutes as a true record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr West said the Council will respond to the planning application from Orchard View when it is lodged with Swale Borough Council.

5. Public Time

No matters were raised.

6. Website

Cllr Ainsworth reported that the village website is in good order, COVID related matters will be removed from the site.

The Clerk said the Council was up to date.

7. Chairman's Report

Cllr West said the school asked Cllr Payne about a tree for the sensory wood, this has been donated by the Councillor. There may be other projects and the school will have to apply for a grant.

ACTION: Cllr Payne to inform the school of the Council's grant policy and procedure.

Cllr West reported that in 2015 he had received the transcript of a History of Eastling written by Hugh Perks, who wanted it to be kept with the Parish Council's records so that the Parish Council could preserve this record for the future after his death. Mr Perks was a wonderful pen and ink artist and had many other attributes. Mrs Perks is now seeking to fulfil her late husband's wishes.

Cllr Ainsworth said a copy could be added to the website, the document would need to be reviewed to comply with GDPR.

ACTION: Cllr Ainsworth to review and redact if necessary and prepare for publication on the website. This will be circulated for approval.

8. Finance

i. Finance Report

Cllr West reported that there is £9,056 in the bank account and the next instalment of the precept is due on 1 October.

ii. To consider invoices and cheques raised

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Mr L Robbins £60.00 for the Internal Audit fee.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Newington Parish Council £43.67, share of the Clerk's SLCC fees.

iii. To consider renewal of Community Heartbeat VETS- £120.00

It noted that there had not been any calls made to the was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to pay Community Heartbeat £120.00 for the Village Emergency Telephone System.

iv. To consider renewal of CPRE membership- £36.00

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to renew the CPRE subscription.

v. Annual Governance Statement- To agree the statement.

Councillors considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement which was duly signed by Cllr West and the Clerk.

vi. Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2021- To receive the end of year return and to consider the adoption and signing of the return.

Councillors considered and approved the Accounting Statement which was signed by the Clerk and duly signed by Cllr West.

vii. 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 West and the Clerk.

viii. Independent Internal Auditor's report

Cllr West said the Internal Auditor noted that the finance records were up to date. The Risk Assessment will be reviewed next month and the Statement of Internal Control will be agreed prior to the next Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

9. Planning Matters

Ref: 21/503608/FULL

Address: 1 Bankside Newnham Lane Eastling Faversham Kent ME13 0AT

Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Addition of dormers to rear elevation.

Cllr West reported that the application had been refused.

Ref: 21/053914/EIOUT & 21/503906/EIOUT

Address: Land To The West Of Teynham London Road Teynham Kent

Proposal: Outline application with all matters reserved for the phased development of up to 95.51 hectares of land comprising: demolition and relocation of existing farmyard and workers cottages, up to 1,250 residential dwellings including sheltered/extra care accommodation (Use Class C2 and Use Class C3) - up to 2,200 sq.m/1 hectare of commercial floorspace (Use Class E(g)) - mixed use local centre and neighbourhood facilities including commercial, business and employment floorspace (Use Class E), non-residential institutions (Use Class F1) and local community uses (Use Class F2) floorspace, and Public Houses (Sui Generis) - learning institutions including a primary school (Use Class F1(a)) - open space, green infrastructure, woodland, and community and sports provision (Use Class F2(c)) - highways and infrastructure works including the completion of a Northern Relief Road, Bapchild Section, and new vehicular access points to the existing network - associated groundworks, engineering, utilities, and demolition works.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** not to respond to the application.

10. Parish Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr Adams informed Members that he had requested an update from Sarah-Jayne Elcock, KCC Highways Swale Traffic Schemes manager, but has yet to hear back.

Cllr West said the Council had received a letter from Lenham Parish Council inviting all the parishes along the A20 footprint, as well as those likely to be affected peripherally, to see if there is an appetite to share intelligence in advance of the emerging Maidstone Borough Council Local Plan Review.

ACTION: Clerk to resend the letter to Cllr Bailey.

11. Environment

Cllr West said KCCllr Lehman has funding to contribute towards salt bins, Kettle Hill has one halfway down and one at the bottom.

Cllr Ainsworth said the z-bend going towards Faversham would be suitable as the road ices over in the winter.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to request a salt bin for the z-bend.

Cllr West said the parish could have a litter bin if a suitable site was found. The PCC has been approached but do not want one in the car park as the design is not in keeping with the rural environment.

Cllr Ainsworth said about seven or eight residents have asked for one.

ACTION: Cllr Ainsworth to contact the Village Hall Committee to seek agreement for a bin to be put in the car park.

12. Telephone Box

Cllr West said the adoption of the phone box was agreed in principle by the Council, there needs to be a committee to help with the project.

Cllr Bailey said an article was included in the Good news and there has been one response.

ACTION 1: Cllr Bailey to obtain recommendation and quotation for the work to restore the phone box.

ACTION 2: Clerk to apply to purchase the box.

13. Correspondence

There was nothing to discuss.

14. Any Other Business

Cllr West said the KALC Award and picture will be presented to Mr Colin Bell in a private ceremony to thank him for his sterling contribution to the village.

Cllr Ainsworth said residents have raised concern that the footpath from the church down to the valley has two strands of barbed wire, this is a danger if people slip and reach out.

ACTION: Cllr Ainsworth to draft a letter to the landowner requesting its removal.

Date of next meeting: Monday 15 November

Tuesday 4 January.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 15 November 2021