**Eastling Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday

6h July 2016 in Eastling Village Hall at 6.30 pm

**1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence.**

Present: Cllrs. Jimmy West, Helen Higgs, Julia Bailey, Nigel Bickerdike, Alan Willson (Village Warden) and Jill Seaman (Clerk). Cllr Colin Prescott was also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Andrew Bowles and John Payne (due to a bad back).

**3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 25th May 2016.**

The minutes were taken as read and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters Arising**

VETS (Village Emergency Telephone System) has now been set up with one telephone number. This will be advertised in July Good News with a flyer. The system will help both volunteers and residents. The PC will fund the set up cost of £45. It is a 12 year contract but it can be cancelled at any time. Alan Willson said that a refresher CPR First Aid Course was to be organised.

Website –Cllr Bailey had a draft of the termination letter to Neville Perkins advising that it was decided to run the website “in House” but after discussion, the letter would be amended and emailed to the clerk. Cllr Payne would email details of Neville Perkins address. JP had spoken to Paul Ainsworth who would be Editor and the new website would cost £300 per annum. Although Paul would like to join the PC, he cannot be co-opted and an election would be in 3 years. Paul Ainsworth would be invited to the next PC meeting. Harold Wyld has a lot of historic photos and information.

**5. Village Warden’s Report.**

Alan Willson gave his report

**6. Chairman’s Report**

Cllr West reported on the visit by KCC Highways on 24th May 2016. It had been a very positive meeting with Cllr Andrew Bowles and Alistair Coleman of KCC.

1. Flooding at bottom of Kettle Hill next to the Water works. There was no easy remedy to this problem, mostly because of the close proximity to the Water works. Decided to erect signs warning of floods (A Coleman to action).
2. Flooding at “Z”bends just out of Eastling towards Faversham. Keep existing drains cleared on a regular basis and erect warning signs of z bend. (AC to action).
3. Flooding outside 6 Prospect Place (home of John and Leslie Andrews), AC to look into whole drainage system on this part of the road. Possibly building a “soakaway”on the edge of the field near Prospect Place (AC to action).
4. Flooding in Tong Lane. Soakaway at top of Tong Lane to have a major clean. AC to arrange and liaise with Ben Binder on timing to strim the affected area.
5. Footway from Tong Lane to Prospect Place badly overgrown. Andrew Bowles said he would liaise with relevant KCC dept to clear.
6. Overhanging trees from Orchard View (nearly opp The Glebe and also overhanging trees at Telfords on the way to Otterden. Parish Council to contact owners. It was agreed that Cllr Bailey would speak to owner of Orchard View and JP would speak to Telfords owner.
7. Potholes – keep reporting these to KCC via website, inparticular those by the side of the road. (Action everyone)
8. North Eastling Lane and Newnham Lane – both have significant stone and debris in the middle of the roads. AC said that a sweeper vehicle could be arranged.

The lack of funds in KCC is a factor and cutbacks have been made in recent years with reduced resources. KCC have to focus on what needs to be done rather than what might be nice to be done.

**7. Treasurer’s Report.**

The Treasurer was not in attendance.advised that the balance on account is £3251. The Insurance is due for renewal on 1st June. The PC authorises the Treasurer to check cost of alternative Insurance companies to get the best deal. The KALC membership is due by 30th June. (Annual Subscription is based on the number of Band D properties).

JP suggests opening a new account with Nat West rather than Lloyds. This was unanimously approved. Other signatories would be Cllrs Bailey and Bickerdike.

**8. Planning Report**.

There was nothing to report.

**9. Correspondence**

KCC– Notice of Publication of Inspector’s Report on Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

 Email report from Cllr Bowles had been copied to Councillors.

Any correspondence was available to read.

**10. Any Other Business**

Cllr Bailey advised that the missing directional road signs had been reported to Gary Gibbs. She also suggested that dog walkers might like to be involved in litter picking by taking along a small plastic bag. This would be voluntary.

Cllr Prescott advised that he has funds available for any projects.

**11. Date of Next Meeting.**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st September 2016 in Eastling Village Hall at 6.30pm.

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