

Draft MINUTES OF EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 9 January 2019, 6.30PM

Elvington Community Centre, St John's Road

1. PRESENT

Cllr Ledger (Chair), Cllr Boiston, Cllr Butcher, Cllr Millard, Cllr Morgan-Lovett, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Sluder, Cllr Whitehead and Cllr Wiles. DDC Cllr Ovenden, KCC Cllr Lymer (from item 8) and 3 members of the public. Also in attendance S Collins.

Apologies

Cllr Hansell – personal reasons

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

Cllr Rogers proposed if item 9 could be moved to below item 20 to allow for discussions during the evening to be included in decision making. Seconded Cllr Morgan-Lovett and carried.

3. APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES 12 DECEMBER 2018 MEETING

The minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Boiston, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett and were signed by the Chair.

4. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS

DDC Cllr Ovenden gave the following report:

- i. The next full Council meeting is end of January
- ii. Deal Pier has been renovated and planning has been granted for 4 sites to be developed with smaller dwellings and social housing.
- iii. A litter pick on Pike Road produced 12 bags of rubbish including human waste. The abandoned breakdown lorry on Pike Road will be clamped as it has no tax or insurance and is registered as SORN.
- iv. The parking restrictions work on Pike Road has resulted in KCC saying a clearway is not allowed, so the double yellow lines is the only option for businesses.

Cllr Morgan-Lovett asked if the social housing would be for local people. Cllr Ovenden was not privy to that information, but did say many new builds sold on the open market were being bought by London Boroughs to house their waiting lists, as the property is cheaper than London dwellings.

Cllr Morgan-Lovett also asked about the 'robust' attempt by the Council to renovate empty properties in Dover and surrounding areas. Cllr Ovenden said she would try and find out more information, but did say an idea to get these properties habitable is to charge owners more Council Tax for vacant properties and that there are grants available to help make properties habitable, but turnaround is slow.

A member of the public asked about the movement of lumber from the yard on Pike Road and that it looks empty. Cllr Ovenden said the logs come from Scotland and over the Christmas Season they were not restocked and stores got low. There was a discussion about the carbon footprint of the logs and the 'cost' of green energy.

5. EYTHORNE ROUNDABOUT PARKING RESTRICTIONS

In Julliette's absence, this item was not discussed. S Collins to contact Julliette for any updates.

6. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS

A member of the public thanked the Council for getting the kerb fixed on the corner of Sweetbriar and Fairfax roads.

7. SLCC AND ALCC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

S Collins explained this is a union for Clerks and the PC usually pays for the membership. Proposed Cllr Wiles, seconded Cllr Boiston and carried.

Cllr Lymer attended the meeting at 6.50pm and was allowed to give his report:

- i. KCC Highways is committing additional resources by recruiting more drainage engineers to ensure the 250,000 drains are kept as clear as possible.
- ii. A programme of works in the coming year to clear footways of overgrowth and other incursions, especially from mud and earth from embankments. These incursions can reduce the width of pavements making them difficult to navigate safely for those with pushchairs, wheelchairs or mobility scooters. This work will also highlight any repairs needed.
- iii. KCC Highways will be employing more highways inspectors to ensure that repairs to Highways are carried out to a good standard. This is particularly important, given the additional works that will be done, because of the welcomed increased budgets KCC has secured for Highways repairs.
- iv. KCC has been successful in gaining £29m in one-off grant funding from government to assist in preparing Kent's highways for a no-deal Brexit. Works to a range of major routes on some of KCC's networks including the A20, A299, A256 and A25, will be carried out between now and 29 March 2020 to help ensure they are in the best possible condition for any additional traffic that may use our roads as a result of a no-deal Brexit. However, Highways England maintains some routes such as the A256, the A20, so I wonder whether KCC will receive the full £29m.
- v. The Dept for Transport has carried out two test runs with approximately 100 HGVs on the morning of the 7 January from Manston Airport to Dover. KCC is awaiting feedback on those trials from DfT, Highways England, Kent Police and KCC's own officers.
- vi. New pothole blitz contracts are being awarded. The Cabinet member has asked that KCC Highways resume the weekly pothole and patching reports. KCC will start a running total from 1 January.
- vii. Waste Transfer Stations were running at capacity last week, as bin collections, delayed over Christmas and New Year, started to feed into the system. By way of example, last week KCC was sending 2,400 tonnes per day to Allington, which has a capacity for 1,500 per day. The waste is being stored there until it can be incinerated. However, officers expect things will get back to normal by the middle of this week.
- viii. Due to trying to save money on this year's budget the County Councillor's Highways fund will be reduced to £15,000 for the next financial year.

Cllr Sluder gave his gratitude to DDC and KCC for the waste collections over the Christmas season.

Cllr Whitehead said she had read from a Freedom of Information request that the test runs of HGV's from Manston to Dover Port cost in excess of £50,000 and each driver was paid £500.

Cllr Lymer also commented that the requests from Highways England for ecological searches around the M2, A2, M20 and A20 for potential lorry park sites, has been taken up by Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE). CPRE have said that the ecological surveys should not just look at ground impacts but also the effects on houses in a mile around the site. The letters have been sent out to make sure these checks are completed. Highways England are trying to identify sites near junctions.

Cllr Wiles said there is supposed to be a holding area for HGV's at the end of the A256 and enquired if Cllr Lymer knew where that was. After a discussion about possible sites, it was unclear where that holding area would be.

Cllr Ledger asked why foreign HGV drivers who do not pay for the Dartford Crossing are not chased for payment in Europe. Cllr Lymer said there is an issue with speeding not being enforced either and it could be picked up at the port, whereby drivers should not be allowed to leave until fines and payments have been paid.

8. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS, Q3 BUDGET CHECK

The invoices as detailed below were agreed for payment, proposed Cllr Boiston, seconded Cllr Whitehead and carried.

Finance Report		
Payee	Cheque number	Amount
Resource Centre (paid 12 Dec 2018)	300672	£80.00

SLCC	300673	£175.00
ALCC	300674	£40.00
S Thomson	300675	£564.52
S Collins	300676	£1,182.92
KCC Kent Pension Fund	300677	£259.34
HMRC	DD	£807.51

S Collins took the meeting through the Q3 budget, there were no unexplained over spends. Proposed Cllr Morgan-Lovett, seconded Cllr Boiston and carried.

10. PLANNING

- i. DOV/18/01292 – Erection of a two storey and single storey side and rear extensions (retrospective) – 5 Larch Road, Elvington CT15 4EW. No objection.
- ii. DOV/18/01311 – Erection of 2 storey front, single storey rear extensions and raise roof to facilitate a first floor – 10 Green Meadows, Eythorne CT15 4GP. By looking at the conditions which were given on the initial application for this house (08/00984), it appeared that the changes outlined in this application were contra to these conditions. Cllr Rogers proposed to object to this planning application for the following reasons: over development on the site, over intensification, not in keeping with the street scene, overlooking of neighbours and loss of amenity. Seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried.
- iii. DOV/18/01338 – Raise roof of existing garage to facilitate conversion into habitable accommodation – 28 Monkton Court Lane, Eythorne CT15 4BJ. No objection.

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES 12 DECEMBER 2018 NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

S Collins reported the following:

- i. The kerb stone damage and potholes have been reported to KCC.
- ii. Defibrillator for Barfrestone has been ordered.

Cllr Wiles asked about the Tommy Structure to be placed by the Rose Garden on Eythorne Roundabout. Cllr Boiston said it is in his garage but he is concerned that it will be damaged. Cllr Wiles suggest East Kent Railway by the beacon as a possible alternative site. This will be added to the February agenda for further discussion.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Cllr Morgan-Lovett informed that the Council's in Manchester and the surrounding local area have stopped all drilling for fracking.

13. WIGMORE LANE FOOTPATH

Cllr Whitehead gave some background to David White the consultant who has quoted to manage the project. He has 44 years in the industry and has worked for KCC for 8 years dealing with design and supervision of new highways works. He is now an independent KCC approved consultant. Cllr Whitehead had previously circulated the proposal from David White and said he would like to attend a meeting for questions and discussion. A site meeting was also suggested.

It was agreed that a comparative quote could not be obtained as David White has specialist and local knowledge, is pre-approved by KCC and the project is very niche so it will be difficult to find local consultants that have the experience required.

There was a discussion regarding the exact location of the footpath, whether cyclists and pedestrians could travel side by side and if traffic calming would also be needed or if a kerb would suffice to prevent fatal accidents.

Cllr Rogers proposed that the Parish Council employs David White and that the first stage of the project is completed to ascertain if the project is physically and financially viable. Seconded Cllr Morgan-Lovett

and carried.

2 members of the public left the meeting at 7.50pm

Cllr Ledger thanked Cllr Whitehead and Mr Whitehead for their work on the project so far.

KCC Cllr Lymer said he has contacts to help with funding and materials.

KCC Cllr Lymer, DDC Cllr Ovenden and 1 member of the public left the meeting at 8.00pm

14. FUTURE TRAFFIC PRESSURES ON A2

With the time constraints, the Councillors had no more updates on this item.

15. PIKE ROAD PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Cllr Whitehead said as KCC have said a clearway is not a possible option, she has gone back to the Pike Road businesses and informed them that double yellow lines is the only possible solution and asked for financial backing. She is awaiting responses. She informed the meeting that only 4 of the businesses and Bakkavor are returning her correspondence.

16. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Rogers informed the Council that she will contact the people who had expressed an interest in the allotments to make sure the need is still there. She has identified more likely costs to the project for levelling the car park and taking out some bollards. Tree chippings need clearing and the site needs ploughing and levelling. An estimate of £2,000 was given for these additional works.

It was suggested that until the public have re-expressed their interest in an allotment, the fence should not be erected.

17. VILLAGE HALL ELVINGTON PROPOSAL

Cllr Rogers went through the VHE proposal for the Parish Council to offer administration and financial governance support from April 2019 and highlighted issues which may occur. The issues are complicated and as the annual hours needed to complete the work are estimated, problems with re-charging the Village Hall were highlighted. S Collins said she would carry out the work if the PC asked her to and would note down the hours spent on VH work so that over the year the time required would be more accurate. The more confidential details of the proposal to be discussed during the closed session.

To suspend Standing Orders was proposed by Cllr Whitehead, seconded Cllr Morgan-Lovett and carried.

Cllr Sluder left the meeting at 8.35pm.

18. MOBILE SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE

Cllrs Butcher and Millard visited Eastry to watch their SID being moved and speak to the Clerk. The larger SID would need 3 people to move it and the smaller one would need 2 people. The battery needs to be removed first and a step ladder is needed. The Clerk said if data capture is purchased make sure the blue tooth enabled option is requested as it can be downloaded onto a mobile phone rather than being plugged in to a laptop which is clumsy and unpleasant in inclement weather. 2 batteries are supplied, one in use and one on charge, and they have a 12 month guarantee. The SID also needs to be insured which is approximately £7 a year. S Collins to chase KCC for the quote and also KCC Cllr Lymer about any funding available.

19. LGPS REQUEST RE: PAYMENT BY BANK TRANSFER

S Collins said the Local Government Pension Scheme would like all monthly payments to be paid by bank transfer as cheques take time to process. It was decided to discuss the issues during the annual financial regulations audit at the year end.

20. MUGA LIGHT BULBS REPLACEMENT

S Collins informed the meeting that 3 bulbs on the MUGA court have ceased working. The bulbs were replaced 10 years ago and thus it would be worthwhile replacing all the bulbs in one go as an electrician with a cherry picker is required. The estimated costs would be £100 a bulb and there are 8

bulbs on the court. It was agreed to allow the Clerk up to £1000 from the contingency budget, to get the repairs completed after quotes had been obtained. Proposed Cllr Wiles, seconded Cllr Whitehead and carried.

9. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2019-2020

Following discussions during the meeting and many unknown capital spends for 2019-2020, it was agreed for these to be discussed at the February meeting and the capital budget to be finalised at the March meeting.

21. CORRESPONDENCE

i. Letter from French intern looking for accommodation or homestay for summer 2019.

22. ANY OTHER MATTERS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

i. It was agreed for the NALC pay scale increments to be given to the 2 staff from April 2019. Proposed Cllr Rogers, seconded Cllr Wiles and carried.

ii. There was detailed discussion regarding the Village Hall Elvington proposal for the Parish Council to offer administration and financial governance support from April 2019. The proposal to charge the Village Hall at the end of the year based on hours actually worked but with a capped maximum amount based on 104 hours (hourly wage only with no on-costs) was given by Cllr Millard, seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried.

The second proposal to pay the Clerk for 104 hours spread out evenly over the year, whether they have been accrued or not by the year end, was proposed by Cllr Whitehead, seconded Cllr Boiston and carried.

Cllr Rogers and other members of the PC that sit on the Management Committee will discuss this support and associated costs at the next meeting of the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm