MINUTES OF EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY WEDNESDAY 08 July 2020

1. PRESENT

Documents sent to: Cllr Ledger (Chair), Cllr Butcher, Cllr Hansell, Cllr Millard, Cllr Morgan Lovett, Cllr Wiles and Cllr Whitehead.

Invite with an opportunity to send a report to: KCC Cllr Lymer, DDC Cllr's Keen, Walker and Woodgate and Community Warden Julliette West. Also, C Vincent.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ledger declared a personal interest for item 3 on the agenda.

3. VOTE FOR CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR - CHELSEA WESTBROOK

The co-option of Chelsea Westbrook was agreed.

4. APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES 10 JUNE 2020 MEETING

Cllr Whitehead pointed out a correction for item 5 on the financial statement, the payment of £65.07 should be expenses and not overtime, the Clerk to amend.

The minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Butcher, seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried. Minutes will be signed by the Chair when circumstances allow.

5. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS

KCC CIIr Geoffrey Lymer sent the following report:

Businesses that are due to renew their licence for outside tables and chairs will have their licence extended until the end of August by Kent Highways. This goodwill gesture comes as the government switches the responsibility for street furniture licensing from Kent County Council to district and borough councils. Those who need to renew in July and early August will be given this free extension.

Kent Highways previously announced that it had waived the licensing fee until the end of July in a drive to support high street recovery. Businesses will still need to apply and ensure they abide by the rules to keep people safe and licences can be revoked if they are found to breached.

Kent's first "School Street" will be introduced outside a Margate school on Monday (July 6). St Peter's Footpath, which serves the Drapers Mills Primary Academy, will be temporarily closed on weekday mornings between 8am and 9.30am and in the afternoon between 2pm and 3.30pm. In addition to this, signs and road narrowing on College Road will warn drivers of the changes and help to slow down traffic passing the school. The term "School Street" refers to a road outside a school with a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The result will be a safer, healthier and more pleasant environment for everyone that will also support the government guidelines around social distancing. School Street schemes offer a proactive solution for school communities to tackle air pollution, poor health and road danger reduction. It is anticipated that the changes will be in place until July 22, at the end of the school summer term. Kent Highways officers are trialling this scheme in Margate to see what impact it has and if successful, they hope to make it permanent in September and then to start rolling out similar schemes for other schools across the county.

"We want to make journeys to and from school by foot and bicycle as safe as possible for children and so aim to slow down traffic and provide safer routes for pupils. Kent Highways are keen to encourage as many parents and children as possible to be able to choose to walk or cycle to school."

Older and disabled people will be able to use their bus passes before 9.30am, Kent County Council has announced. The passes will be able to be used on services provided by Stagecoach, Arriva, Go Coach and Nu-Venture. Holders of a senior citizen and disabled bus pass were previously able to travel for free on buses after 9.30am, but following discussions with these operators, this condition has been removed. This is something that will be extremely helpful during a time when some shops are opening early specifically for the older generation to support them during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Our public transport team is working hard to extend this to other operators in the coming days. This change has come into force now and I'm very happy that we have been able to support those in our community during this period of disruption. Kent County Council has a statutory duty to provide passes for free bus travel throughout England for older and disabled people under the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS).

Julliette West, Community Warden sent the following report regarding issues she has been dealing with:

Just to update you with recent activities and incidents occurring at Pike Road with reference to nuisance parking, obstruction, litter and human waste matter.

I have on several occasions recently had cause to attend the Pike Road Industrial site area of Eythorne to address many complaints and concerns arising reference multiple incidents of nuisance parking and other issues around the industrial area.

On five occasions between April-June 20. I have noted that some HGV trailers have been parked right at the entrance on Pike Road completely over hanging, by several feet, out into the main highway causing a partial obstruction and potential safety hazard for other road users, particularly during the night time hours when the trailers are not clearly visible to oncoming traffic. The road has often been over crowded with trailers parked back to back and vehicles double parked. On many occasions I have noted trailers without cabs attached left parked up there for days on end and have also noted that some of the local businesses access routes have become congested or obstructed making it difficult for the local companies to maintain safe and easy access to their businesses. I am aware that the parking situation has been an ongoing problem for a very long time now, and I have on many occasions spoken with drivers of these HGVS to raise awareness of, and explain the difficulties that have arisen as a consequence, but feel that in recent months the situation has become worse.

On a more alarming note I have on occasion been called to address issues of human waste including urine in bottles and faeces spilling out on to the foot way and highway and lots of litter relating to snacks, meals and beverages that may have been related to drivers having stayed overnight without access to toilet facilities or litter bins. Consequently, it has been necessary for DDC officers to come and clean up this mess. Not only is this issue unpleasant but it does give rise to some alarming hygiene, health and safety issues for all other people that have to use this area, particularly if they are walking through, and more specifically under the current circumstances where personal hygiene is of the upmost importance for everyone.

I will continue to update the parish council when matters arise relating to Pike Road and would be happy to liaise with Kent highways officers where relevant.

Cllr Morgan-Lovett commented that it was good to hear from Cllr Lymer and Julliette West.

6. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS

A local resident asked about the siting of two mirrors on a tree along Sandwich Road. They have concerns about planning permission and damage to the trees.

Action: The Clerk to contact DDC/KCC for advice.

7. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

The invoices as detailed below were agreed for payment, proposed Cllr Butcher, seconded Cllr Morgan-Lovett and carried.

Finance Report		
Payee	Payment Type	Amount
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	300781	£162.00
S Collins	300782	£373.83
S Thomson	SO	£589.65
HMRC	DD	£745.13

8. PLANNING

Applications:

DOV/20/00463 – Retrospective application for the fixed stationing of mobile home with raised decking for occupation by a security guard – Former Tilmanstone Colliery, Pike Road, Tilmanstone CT15 4DJ (expires 9 July 2020)

Resolved: Members have no objections but asked the Clerk to comment to DDC as to why other businesses on Pike Road have mobile homes have not applied for permission?

Decisions:

DOV/20/00491 – 1 Kennel Hill, Eythorne, CT15 4BQ – Erection of two storey side and rear extensions with side porch (existing conservatory and rear extension to be demolished). Granted 29.06.20

DOV/20/00443 – Barfrestone Court Farm, Barfrestone Road, Barfrestone CT15 7JJ – Rebuilding of fire damaged agricultural storage building including the erection of a first-floor extension (part retrospective). Granted 25.06.20

DOV/20/00444 - **Barfrestone Court Farm, Barfrestone Road, Barfrestone CT15 7JJ** – Alterations to agricultural building to include inserting a first-floor extension, rear elevation, insert 2no. windows into existing openings. Insert first floor gabled loft entrance with access doors and cantilevered platform. Front elevation insert 3 no. boarded doors. Internal works include insertion of a staircase & first floor structure for storage purpose. **Granted 25.06.20**

DOV/19/01498 – 66 Adelaide Road, Elvington CT15 4DP – Formation of Vehicular access. **Granted 25.06.20**

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES 10 JUNE 2020 NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Whitehead approached the Speedwatch team to see if any would be interested in becoming a Councillor but has not received a response.

10. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Whitehead reported that all allotments are now being used but there are still 2 unpaid invoices and asked how best to deal with this situation. Cllr Morgan-Lovett said the keys should now be returned and Cllr Butcher felt the plots should now be advertised and a letter sent to let them know they have lost their plots.

The other on-going decision is regarding the water supply to the allotments, Cllr Millard had managed to get plot holders to agree locally how to obtain water from a local resident if EPC supplied an IBC to each plot.

Action: The Clerk was instructed to send a letter by post to the tenants of the unpaid allotment plots reminding them of the unpaid payments. EPC will try to arrange more containers for the allotments for the water, this will also be carried forward to the next meeting.

11. VILLAGE SIGNS UPDATE

This item has been adjourned to the next meeting.

12. PIKE ROAD UPDATE

Cllr Whitehead reported that a planned site visit by KCC Highways has had to be postponed to enable the local Highways engineer and a member of the parking services team from DDC to attend. There will be an update after the site meeting.

13. WIGMORE LANE FOOTPATH UPDATE

Cllr Whitehead attended a site visit with KCC, the woodland walk path and the pathway alongside were both acceptable but an ecological survey would be required for both options, EPC would have to pay for this. Both options will be costly and funding will be required and a decision will need to be made.

Action: Adjourn to the next meeting.

14. KENNEL HILL/THE STREET UPDATE

Following a site visit attend by Cllr whitehead and KCC, it was agreed the parking in this area is dangerous it was also agreed that the road markings and signs need to be improved at the Eythorne roundabout. KCC will design and draw up the plans but are unable to fund this work.

At The Street it was realised that due to the lack of sight lines, traffic calming cannot be allowed as there are too many drives and no room for a pavement, Cllr Whitehead will find out about speed bumps.

KCC will fund new signs at Kennel Hill to give more warning of the 30MPH speed limit. The Kennel Hill Public Consultation is underway to extend the 30mph speed limit and reduce the national speed limit, which can be found here www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations, Eythorne Parish Council fully support this consultation.

15. DECISION REGARDING AN AUGUST 2020 MEETING

This will be reviewed closer to August.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

17. ANY OTHER MATTERS

It was suggested by the Chairman to send some flowers and a card to Suzanne from everyone to thank her for all of her hard work for EPC.