

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 1st April 2014
in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, Egerton at 8.00pm.

1. **Present:** Alison Richey (Chairman), Richard King (Vice Chairman), Roger Harper, Ambrose Oliver, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Peter Rawlinson, Bill Smyth, Richard Wall, Geraldine Dyer (Ward Councillor) and Heather James (Clerk).
3 members of the public were also present.
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Declarations of interest:** Roger Harper- planning

The minutes of the meeting on 4th March 2014: The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings.

Proposed: Roger Harper; **Seconded:** Tim Oliver

4. Matters Arising from 4th March 2014

a) **Footpaths and stiles:**

All works awaiting action have been notified to KCC.

- The gate halfway along the track in Wheeler wood: **Pat still awaiting action.**
- Stile opposite Egerton House: **Pat still awaiting action.**
- A wobbly plank on the stile from New Road into the old allotment field leading to orchard. **Pat still awaiting action.**
- Finger post in orchard from Church towards Egerton House (reported by Bill). **Pat still awaiting action.**
- Fallen tree behind village hall blocking footpath. **Cleared by landowner.**
- Faulty bridge @ Hazeldene bridle way, by the new kissing gate has lifted due to excess water. **KCC has added to forward maintenance list.**
- Pat is to report a fallen tree blocking the byway at Hazeldene and that the horse latch is not working on the gate. **Action:** Pat Parr

b) **Highways:** Pat has reported to KCC the flooding up Greenhill Lane from Mundy Bois Cottages to Brown's Kitchen. Pat suggested if a ditch was dug on the right-hand side where water flows there probably wouldn't be a problem. At present it is at the level of the road so naturally runs across the road. **Under investigation by KHS.**

Richard King reports that the drains at Stonebridge Green are blocked and water is running down the road and across the road from Willow farm to Brook House Pat is to report to KHS.

Action: Pat Parr

Richard reported that the drains along Iden Lane are overgrown and blocked, he has offered to use a metal detector to find drains and Pat is to report to KCC to get them cleared.

Action: Richard King, Pat Parr

c) **Emergency planning:** The Clerk sent a template to Pat from KALC but it is not the template Pat has been waiting for, it was agreed to move on without it for now and therefore the committee

had agreed to send out the plan in its current format, once it had been confirmed that Peter had added in the maps at the back of the plan. **Action:** Peter Rawlinson.

- d) **CFR: (Community First Responders)** Following the report from Stratton Richey about the lack of mobile phone signal to mobiles used by CFR's Richard Wall was asked to form a group to look into possible sites with Richard King and an interested villager. The issue regarding phone masts will still be controversial with some people still being concerned regarding the possible dangers. Research on masts has still not established a single link to any harm, however it is equally impossible to prove that no harm could ever be caused. Mobile masts are in neighbouring parishes with one in Lenham Church, repeaters are in most towns and cities often in National lottery signs and other shop furniture. It was suggested that maybe a mast on the church tower could be the way forward depending on the response from villagers. This was put forward many years ago when less people owned mobile phones and fears regarding potential dangers and a threat to house values was more extreme. The Clerk is to look back over the minutes to find this report. The benefit of CFR's outweighs any unknown harm that could be caused by mobile masts and a better signal is essential to their operating in the parish. A better mobile phone signal is now likely to be a positive on house values. Peter is to check with KALC to see their response to new masts. Richard Wall is to speak to people at Lenham church to get the contacts for the mast providers. **Action:** Clerk, Peter Rawlinson, Richard Wall.
- e) **Culverts:** Alison has asked Lois to compose a letter to landowners requesting the ditches being cleared before next winter to try and solve the flooding issues. Peter read out the letter and the Councillors agree this should be sent out. Pat has been trying to find out which landowners own which fields within the village. The Clerk is to try and find the Tithe map to show all fields and is to contact Sue Palmer a previous Clerk. **Action:** Clerk.
- f) **Finger post:** Bill has spoken to Croft Castings, they can produce a sign for Green Hill Lane in cast aluminium and will supply a price to Bill. Bill will keep in contact with Les Bidewell who originally put forward the request to have the sign repaired. **Action:** Bill Smyth
- g) **Newsletter:** These have now been delivered around the village. Thank you Peter for all your hard work.
- h) **Planning:** The Parish Council were concerned about the development at The Old Byre but when Geraldine challenged ABC officers their response was that restricted development did not mean that all future planning applications would be refused; it meant that minor proposals such as garden sheds would require full planning permission and that ABC could approve such plans if they thought they were acceptable. Road kurb stones are being installed by property owner at the entrance to Willow Farm.
- i) **Forstal Sewerage:** Bill has had a meeting with Southern Water and the drains have been inspected with cameras, Bill is awaiting the outcome of their report. Bill reports that Southern water may be able to fit a non-return valve to pipe work at the top of Forge Lane to help with drainage.

- j) **Community Awards.** Sheila Palmer was presented with the 1st Community award by Ray Evison Chairman of KALC at the Parish Assembly. Richard King has a photo on his mobile phone which he will show to all in near future. **Action:** Richard King
- k) **Christmas tree on Glebe:** Bill has taken down and disposed of the tree and has placed the metal cap over the pole in the ground so no one gets hurt.
- l) **Fallen tree behind Millennium Hall:** Bill has spoken to Rob Walker and has also received quotes from other tree surgeons to remove tree. Rob has taken down two trees and one more will be down soon. Then the trees will be cut up and removed.

5. Correspondence

All circulated by email in advance unless marked with a *

Action

*Dark Skies Supplementary Document (SPD) Public Consultation

*Clerks & Councils Direct subscription due £12-**It was agreed to continue with subscription.**

*CPRE membership due £36 (was £29)-**It was agreed to continue membership.**

NALC Repeal of s.150(5) : Finance committee 25/3**Alison and Clerk to visit bank to set up internet banking then report at next meeting.**

*Heber Horticultural Services.

Note

Roadside drains-JTB 11/3/2014: All 6/3

KALC Parish news 375: Alison, Richard W, Pat, Ambrose :6/3

Thurnham Heritage award: All 18/3

KALC event Kent Police : All 18/3

KCC Spring vegetation: All 18/3

KALC Governments Community energy strategy: All 18/3

Kent's second mini –conference speed: Peter 25/3

DCLG Consultation S106: All 25/3

*CPRE save our countryside

ABC Flood defences meeting: All ¼

Web Items

KCC Spring vegetation poster: 18/3

KCC road closure The Pinnock: 25/3

Kent & Medway funding fair: 27/3

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

6. **Accounts:**

Approval of the accounts for the month, for cheques to be signed.

Proposed : Richard King **Seconded:** Bill Smyth

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
KALC	membership	1260	412.01
Cancelled	Wrong name	1261	
Malcolm Laws	Lap top repair	1262	145.00
EPC Telecottage	printing	1263	10.25
Mrs H James	Parish Assembly supplies	1264	71.85
			639.11

End of tax year 5th April, Clerks salary paid at end of month into new tax year. Clerk will have to finalise 2013/14 before 2014/15 can be started.

Income			£
ABC	Street Cleaning	BACS	777.75
Ben Hope	Lower rec rent	500006	130.00
			907.75

Bank Reconciliation as at 20th February 2014 (Latest statements)

Current Account latest Statement Balance as at 20th February 2014 = £25,148.14 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Physio control UK	1st responder	1216	2155.20
Mrs H James	Clerk February salary	1251	514.65
HMRC	February	1252	128.60
SECamb Charity Fund	CFR	1254	5513.16
Mrs H James	Reimburse for stationery	1255	75.38
Printbig	newsletter	1256	285.00
Mrs H James	Clerk salary March	1257	514.65
HMRC	March	1258	128.60
MD Printers	Parish plan	1259	548.40
			9,863.64

Actual balance = £15,284.50 as at 28th February 2014

7. Public Discussion

Alison Richey closed the meeting at 8.55pm for the public discussion, the meeting re-opened at 8.57pm.

8. Planning

Planning applications submitted to Ashford Borough Council this month for Egerton Parish Council to consider and decisions recently taken by ABC to be noted, details of which may be accessed on line at: http://www.ashford.gov.uk/online_planning/ Individuals may also register via the website with ABC to receive regular alerts of new applications and decisions.

New planning applications:

14/00120/AS	Egerton	Weald North	Mount Pleasant Farm, Chapel Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9BX Removal of existing casement window, subframe and brickwork below and replace with new framed, ledged and braced access door
-----------------------------	---------	-------------	---

Support

14/00310/AS	Egerton	Weald North	2 Goodwin House, Bedlam Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DA Proposed 2 storey side and rear extension
-----------------------------	---------	-------------	--

Support

14/00321/AS	Egerton	Weald North	White Cottage, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9EB Erection of a detached garage with lean-to log store.
-----------------------------	---------	-------------	---

Support

Decided planning applications:

14/00120/AS Listed Building Consent is not required	Egerton	Weald North	Mount Pleasant Farm, Chapel Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9BX Removal of existing casement window, subframe and brickwork below and replace with new framed, ledged and braced access door
--	---------	-------------	---

9. **AOB**

- The Clerk asked about **Allotments** and if the village had any plans to re-instate them. It was decided if anyone enquired they would be put in touch with the relevant person.
- The Clerk expressed an interest in purchasing the **Local councils Explained book** to assist with the Clerks work. It was agreed this could be purchased.
- It was agreed by many that **The Parish Assembly** was a great success and the new format was attracting many more villagers than in previous years and that this should continue. The only comments that had been made to Alison Richey were concerning the Parish Plan. She said that villagers thought they were going to have more of a presentation on this topic. The Plan had a table there and were able to answer questions. She said that the questionnaire is the last piece of the jigsaw for the Plan and this would now be prepared and submitted to the Parish Council for approval over the coming months.
- Tim has had a request to remove the **tree stump** on the rec where a tree was taken down previously.
- Pat has sent out **Welcome packs** to Mr & Mrs Narbara and Ruth Haggie has delivered one to new residents in Harmers Way.

The meeting closed at 9.25

Next meeting: Tuesday 6th May 2014 at 8.00pm will be AGM