

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 3rd November 2020
Via Zoom at 8.00pm.

Present

Present: Richard King (Chairman), Peter Rawlinson (Vice Chairman), Sarah Elworthy, Claire Foinette, Jeff Hopkins, John Lawton, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Lois Tilden and Heather James (Clerk) Jane Carr NHP Chairman 3 members of the public were present.

1) Apologies

Ken Mulholland (Ward Councillor)

2) Declarations of Interest

Pat Parr- Gift of land

3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 6th October 2020: Following the addition of the words 'on their accuracy' after 'Following a discussion...' under item 3, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings. Proposed: Claire Foinette; Seconded: Pat Parr; All were in favour

Damian Green MP: The letters to Lenham and Charing PC, as suggested by Damian, have been sent by the Clerk.

4) Matters Arising

Footpaths Report

Report No. 127 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – November 2020
See attached report at end of minutes

Highways Report

See attached report at end of minutes John reported he had been in discussions with Charlie Simkins who has intervened on behalf of EPC with Lisa Willoughby highways about the verges at Greenhill Lane and Mundy Bois Road. John will ensure this is programmed in the Spring. Sarah requested the pot holes in Stonebridge Green Road be reported, which John will undertake.

Action: John Lawton

Older people's accommodation

Richard reported that the working group had held another meeting. Peter has had a Zoom meeting with Russell Jarvis (developer) and Jeremy and Charlotte Eustace (representing the owners of the land on New Road). Peter is awaiting a response from Russell Jarvis about the cost of access from proposed new development on New Road to Orchard Nurseries site. Richard has asked Vicky Phillips of Hobbs Parker to submit an invoice for her report. Sarah asked if there was any development about alternative access to Orchard Nurseries site. There wasn't.

Action: Peter Rawlinson

Trees in recreation ground and others to maybe be felled:

Three quotes have been received with one more being waited on. The Clerk will discuss at next meeting.

Action: Clerk

Steps

The extra anti-slip plates have been fitted and an invoice received.

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

Lenham Heath Garden Community

Maidstone Borough Council SPI committee will be considering and deciding on the sites they intend to go forward with at a meeting of the SPI committee on Monday 9th December. Two other potential Garden community sites are being considered, Lidsing and Marden. Lenham Heath is the least favoured on sustainability grounds with Marden the most favoured.

Following the decision of the SPI committee there will a Public Consultation period in December when the Public can put forward their views.

SOHL will be producing a leaflet for distribution in all areas affected locally and Egerton Parish Council have undertaken to deliver the leaflet in the Egerton parish.

Action: John Lawton

GDPR

John reported he is working on the Data audit with all clubs and committees. He will report once completed.

Action: John Lawton

Clerk to step down

The Finance committee held a meeting on 13th October to discuss next year's budget and precept figures. The precept will rise from previous year due to funding for NHP grants. The vacancy for the job as Clerk has been advertised but due to 'lockdown 2' it has been decided to wait until face to face meetings can be held to carry out interviews. The present Clerk will contact those who have submitted details and explain about the delays. If the 'lockdown' is extended then interviews will have to be held via Zoom.

Action: Finance Committee

Christmas Fair

Due to current Government restrictions the Christmas Fair will not be held this year. The Clerk will request an article be placed in the Update magazine. The Clerk requested that the PC fund the Christmas tree to be placed on the Glebe. All agreed.

Action: Clerk

Ground works:

Peter reported that he and a working team would be replacing the broken post on the fence by the kitchen door of the Millennium hall, as quoted.

5) Roles and responsibilities and interface with the Clerk

The Chairman had circulated a private and confidential paper outlining accusations made against the council by a councillor in a series of emails. He believed the great majority of the allegations were without foundation and were a regrettable (and hurtful) criticism both of councillors and the clerk. There were also other issues which he had detailed. The paper outlined an internal resolution procedure, and as attempts to engage with the councillor concerned on an informal face-to-face (but socially distanced) basis had been rejected, he suggested that the complainant be invited to place the matter in the hands of the Monitoring Officer at Ashford Borough Council. The Chairman had been in touch with KALC's Legal Advisor who had discussed the issues with him on the phone and who had then emailed the council with advice. All members of the council had been circulated with the Legal Advisor's email, and this was his suggestion. Following a short discussion during which each councillor was specifically invited to express a point of view, members unanimously agreed that this was the correct action to take and the councillor was then invited to take this forward.

6) Public Discussion

Richard King closed the meeting at 8.38pm for the public discussion, the meeting re-opened at 8.45pm.

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

7) 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

20/01367/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Ragged Barn, Mundy Bois Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9ER Creation of a new access and associated driveway to serve Ragged Barn.
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Recommendation: Kent Highways' views should be followed. Additional hedging should be planted as a condition of development if approved.

John to request help from Charlie Simkins to extend the speed limit along route from Ragged Barn.

20/01341/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Rock Hill Barn, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DP Change of use of the Cottage (annexe) to form an independent new dwelling
20/01342/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Rock Hill Barn, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DP Works of conversion for the separation of the Cottage (annexe) to form an independent new dwelling.

No objection

20/01337/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Poplar Farm, Forge Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9EJ Front porch extension and single storey rear extension
20/013378/AS	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Poplar Farm, Forge Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9EJ Front porch extension and single storey rear extension

Recommendation: No objection

Decided planning applications:

20/01206/AS Permit	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Agricultural Building known as Tyler Barn, Old Harrow Farm, Link Hill Lane, Egerton, Kent Alternative scheme to prior approval granted under 18/01206/AS for the conversion of barn to residential incorporating minor changes in fenestration and solar panels. Addition of flue to woodburning stove. Construction of 2-bay
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EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

			car port and relocation of existing outbuilding. Formal change of use of land to domestic curtilage.
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20/01062/AS Permit	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Spring Cottage, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DR Installation of 3 no. purpose-made conservation roof lights to rear roof slope
20/01063/AS Grant Consent	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Spring Cottage, Rock Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DR Installation of 3 no. purpose-made conservation roof lights to rear roof slope

20/00903/AS Grant Consent	Egerton	Weald North Ward	Stone Hill Oast, Stone Hill Road, Egerton, Ashford, Kent, TN27 9DU Single Storey Oak Framed Garden Room Extension to Rear.
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8) Revised Statutory Documents

Financial Regulations, Standing Orders. Sarah noted that the documents circulated for approval were not the latest versions available from NALC. It was agreed to defer this item and Richard would produce revised documents for approval at next meeting. Sarah would email copies of the new model documents to Richard.

9) Neighbourhood Plan Update

Jane reported that the Steering Group are now working through the responses to the Reg.14 consultation from statutory and other external bodies, in particular the KCC guidance on Minerals Assessment and the Natural England requirement for an Appropriate Assessment on the allocated sites. The interactive map of the sites, with summary site assessments, is progressing and will appear on the web site later this month. Analysis of the feedback from village residents has been completed, and re-drafting of the Plan is under way.

10) Barrow House and Sale of the Shop

Richard noted that he and Peter had tried to arrange a meeting with the landlords of the pub but to date this had not happened. It seems the pub could be closed until next Spring dependant on Government regulations. The freehold of the pub is up for sale and a prospective buyer has come forward but who has a property to sell first. Peter went to the Milk House (sister pub to Barrow House) recently as a member of the public and it was clear it was taking all the landlord's time to keep this pub going at this difficult time. The sale of the shop; there is a prospective purchaser who has put in an offer but who has a property to sell before they can proceed.

11) PCSO

Kyle Farnfield PCSO 46061547-A report has been received and it was noted that Kyle has visited Egerton Primary School. There will be an article on the event in the next Update magazine. Richard asked Peter to pass on the Council's thanks to Mel and the team for producing the excellent magazine which informs villagers of news and information within the village. Peter noted that more

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

people obviously read the magazine and comment on the minutes of PC meetings which hardly ever happened before the magazine started showing minutes. The magazine is also very useful for businesses to advertise locally with extra money after costs to be put to good causes within the village.

12) Risk Assessments and maintenance

Claire explained that Tim Kent had inspected the skate park and had supplied a sketch as to his solution to fix the ramp to the tarmac. Claire discussed EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL 5 EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL 3rd November 2020 the sketch with Graham Howland who had been involved with the installation of the skate park at Pluckley. Tim could start the work at the end of November. Tim is to contact Wicksteed to try and acquire the rivets needed to carry out repairs on the play area. Also, if it is possible to obtain the correct tool to carry out repairs to the base boards. It was suggested that the sketch done by Tim for work on the Skate park could be sent to Wicksteed to check it conforms to their criteria. Claire proposed, Richard seconded. All agreed. Claire had emailed Wicksteed about having an inspection carried out on the play park and skate park. Cost unaccompanied £60 for each area inspected. But due to a back log this would not be done until Christmas.

13) Website Update

John and Sarah have made the web site accessible and compliant to new rules. John has helped the Clerk upload minutes and agendas to be accessible. KALC advice is current policies and files uploaded from October 2020 need to be in an 'accessible format'. Sarah is happy to update current policies into an accessible format once she has found out how to do so and /or got the appropriate software, but John said he could make all documents accessible and is happy to carry out this work. Thank you, John.

Claire suggested that the laptop used by the Clerk should be updated. All agreed. John offered to assist the Clerk.

Sarah will continue to carry out maintenance on the web site. Sarah suggested that although at the present time the PC uses the Hugofox free service whether it would be wise to upgrade and pay for a more superior service. John will check what the cost would be. Lois checked on line and found that Hugofox offer bronze-free, silver -£19.99 per month, gold-£33.25 per month.

Richard thanked John and Sarah for all their work on making the web site accessible to comply with new regulations.

Action: John Lawton, Sarah Elworthy

14) Correspondence

All circulated by email in advance unless marked with a *

Action

*Clerk upgrade laptop-Claire

Note

Leader's Briefings – Sevington Consultation: All 8/10

FREE - KALC/KCC/ KENT and Medway environment board - net zero environment event: All 13/10

Leader's Briefing – Test and Trace Grant Payments: All 13/10

Rural Bulletin News CPRE newsletter: All 13/10

Local Electricity Bill – Parliamentary Debate next Wednesday: All 13/10

Leader's Briefings – Waterbrook Engagement and Supporting the Voluntary Sector: All 20/10

KALC CEO Bulletin for October 2020: All 20/10

Came & Co newsletter: All 22/10

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

Leader's Briefings – Kent Police: All 27/10
 Autumn in the Kent Downs ACRK newsletter: All 27/10
 Committee on Standards in Public Life consultation: All 27/10
 Leader's Briefings – Remembrance Day: All 3/11

Web Items

September minutes
 November agenda
 Draft October minutes

15) Accounts

Approval of the accounts for the month, for cheques to be signed and Internet transfers to take place.

Proposed Pat Parr; **Seconded:** Peter Rawlinson
All agreed

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Tegra	Shot blast and treat sign	BACS	120.00
Reimburse Malcolm Laws	Egerton domain name	BACS	139.91
Tim Kent – Steps	Fixing anti-slip plates	BACS	35.00
Reimburse Claire Foinette	H&S events	BACS	16.80
Mrs H James	November Salary	BACS	771.64
HMRC	November	BACS	223.59
			1306.94

Income			

Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 30th October 2020 £9,709.72 less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £9,709.72 as at 30th October 2020

Accounts for Egerton Update magazine

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			
Advertising			

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

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Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 30th October 2020 £5,378.20 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £5,378.20 as at 30th October 2020

Accounts for Village Projects

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			£
Interest			0.17
			0.17

Bank Reconciliation

Balance as at 30th October 2020 £20,602.78 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £20,602.78 as at 30th October 2020

Village Projects fund

Pre-school move	£11,288.65
Village Hall	£9,314.13
Total	£20,602.78

Accounts for Neighbourhood Plan

Expenditure		Cheque No	£

Income			£

- a) Total Budget 2019-2020 £37,055
- b) Precept and Grant £19,540
Actual amount spent to date is £18,904.47

Action: Clerk

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

16) Mundy Bois Broadband

Peter reported that although going ahead it would be better to await further news so as not to jeopardise the scheme. Peter will report at a later date.

Action: Peter Rawlinson

17) Any other business/information

- Defibrillators- Peter checked with Stratton Richey that the defibs are checked and up to date. Stratton has requested that Peter put a defib on the side of his house which is between the defib at the Forstal and the defib at the Millennium hall. Richard requested a letter of thanks be sent to Stratton for his work. The Clerk will send the letter.
- Planters- Claire had requested £200 from the 100 club to purchase planters to be placed around the base of the newly refurbished Egerton sign. This has not yet been received.
- Geoff Wickens legacy- At last the paperwork has been finalised and the charity set up. Hopefully the storage unit at the Games barn can now go ahead.
- Voluntary Scheme- Pat has re-registered onto the ABC scheme following the Country going into 'lockdown 2'.
- Village sign-Claire asked when the Egerton sign might be back into position. The Clerk noted that a new post needed to be purchased but wasn't sure of the height. Peter has pictures of the old sign and will assist with calculating the length of post needed.

The meeting closed at 10.02pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 1st December 2020

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

Report No. 126 of the Egerton Footpaths Representative – October 2020

Report no. 127 of the Egerton footpaths representative – November 2020

2 issues from the October 2020 report have been closed, 3 issues have a change in their status – issues 5, 6 and 7.

0 new issues reported since the October 2020 report.

7 outstanding issues from the October 2020 report remain. Items 5, 6 and 7 marked with an asterisk have a status change. The outstanding issues below are listed with the KCC Reference, the date reported, the footpath number, the location, the difficulty experienced and the status of action

Outstanding Items

1. **PROW549664**. 14/05/19. AW84 Egerton House Road/Coach Road from the Court Lodge orchard. Erosion of steps down to the road. Still “Work Scheduled”
2. **PROW359025**. 09/09/19. AW94 Coldbridge. Broken stile on the right-hand side of the lane, (just before woodyard). Still “Awaiting Allocation”
3. **PROW191180108**. 06/11/19. AW65 Behind Jollis Field, Coldbridge Lane, at river bridge, a tree has fallen. Now “Awaiting Allocation”
4. **PROW 200491079** and **PROW 200484748**. AW90 Green Wickets, Rockhill Road. The outcome of the complaints received about being unable to use the public right of way at Green Wickets is that KCC said that due to the circumstances of the spread of the virus where they might be able to catch the virus from ramblers a temporary block was put on that part of AW90 with signs either end because there was an alternative footpath nearby. No issues since the last report. Keep on list to reinstate access once the situation changes back to normal. This part of footpath AW90 is still closed.
5. ***PROW 200748060**. 31/07/20. AW20 Stour Valley Walk at Iden Lane area. A new footpath sign has been erected by KCC at the footpath crossroads by the River Stour which leads walkers to an uncrossable ditch and dangerous bridge. Locals like walkers have been using a tiny diversion to avoid these problems for a very long time. Now “Resolved - Work Complete”
6. ***PROW 200835819**. 13/08/20. Related to Item 6 above. The signpost at this footpath crossroads has been removed and replaced pointing the wrong way. This is presumably because the farmer needed to plough his two fields either side of the river and couldn't get across the bridge without removing the footpath sign so when he replaced it he put it the wrong way round! Now “Closed – No Action Required”
7. ***PROW 200992767**. 01/09/20. Claire Foinette. AW88 Greensand Way at Elm Close. Wooden fingerpost at the steps down to the hall is rotten and needs replacing. Now “Work Added to Forward Maintenance Plan”

New Footpath Items:

None

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

Report no. 16 of the Egerton Highways Representative - November 2020

Summary

Closed Items 2

Open Items 9

New Items 2

Closed Issues

527407 Crocken Hill Road – Multiple Potholes

Status Works completed

527110 Forstal Road – finger post sign – indicating Egerton to be found along Wanden Lane

Status Works completed

Outstanding Issues

489008 Chapel Lane - Drainage & Flooding - Ditch Problems

Logged 14th February 2020

Status Enquiry attended – more work required

505386 Crocken Hill road -Blocked Drain/Gully

Logged 12th May 2020

Status Works being programmed

507083 Forstal Road/Bedlam Lane – Flooding

Logged 26th May 2020

Status Enquiry under investigation

517224 Munday Bois Road – Flooding & Drainage

Logged 3rd August 2020

Status Works being programmed

525179 Field Mill Road, by Field Mill – Drainage & Flooding, Blocked drain/gully

Logged 16th September 2020

Status Works being programmed

494493 Kingsland Lane – Drainage and Flooding, Carriageway flooded

Logged 29th February 2020

Status Works being programmed

527650 Forstal Road/Bedlam Lane – Multiple Potholes

Logged 30th September 2020

Status Works being programmed

527709 Bell Lane – Finger post sign knocked over at junction of Green Hill Lane and Bell Lane

Logged 30th September 2020

Status Works being programmed/Order raised

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

3rd November 2020

New Issues

Reference Description & Status

42002953 Greenhill Lane – upper – Multiple Potholes

Logged 13th October 2020

Status Works being programmed

No ref Comment from Lisa Willoughby, KCC Highways, District Manager, Ashford

Verges – Greenhill Lane junction with Munday Bois and Green Hill Lane was inspected yesterday, in particular the verges adjacent to Orchard Cottage. Whilst there is evidence of some vehicle overrun of the verges the damage isn't to the extent that we would carry out verge fill repairs at this stage, largely due to the weather and the time of year. JL to raise with Highways in the spring when works can be planned.