Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at 6.30pm on Wednesday 7th January 2015 in Eastling Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence.

Present: Cllrs. Jimmy West, Peter Cheeseman, Nigel Bickerdike, Julia Bailey and Jill Seaman (Clerk). Cllr Colin Prescott was also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Andrew Bowles, Helen Higgs and Alan Willson.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th November 2014

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

3. Matters Arising

Footpaths – Cllr West said that Ben Binder had spoken well at the meeting and explained why things had gone badly last year. It was agreed that the Church footpath was urgent to maintain. Cllr Bailey advised that Harry Kyte had been appointed by the KCC as a ranger. Cllr Cheeseman said that the verges had not been cut at all, possibly the responsibility of Kent Highways. Cllr West advised that Hugh Perks was to meet with Highways and Cllr Bowles on 9th January to discuss areas of pooled water and blocked drains amongst other Highway matters. Cllr West would contact Hugh to find out time of meeting. Cllr Bailey said that another resident was concerned about mud on the road being dangerous. Cllr Prescott would take up the matter when the outcome of the meeting was known.

Pub Amenity Application - This had been submitted some weeks ago. The new tenants at The Carpenter's Arms (Darrel & Ange) had not been in the trade before.

A letter had been sent to Mr Hadley Polhill thanking him for the work undertaken so far but hoping that the remainder of the work behind Glebe Cottages would take place shortly. Cllr Cheeseman said that it might be worth sending a copy of the letter to Mote Housing for their information.

4. Village Warden's Report.

There was no report due to Alan Willson's absence.

5. Chairman's Report

Cllr West advised that Cllr Cheeseman would be resigning and therefore not be standing at the election although he would complete the audit at the end of the financial year. Cllr Bailey understood that John Payne may be interested in standing for election and possibly as Treasurer. The clerk would advertise the election and find out dates for nominations.

6. Treasurer's Report and precept.

The Treasurer advised that the balance on account to the end of December 2014 is £3205. Cllr Cheeseman circulated a copy of the forecasted expenditure to 31st March 2015 and a budget for the year 2015/16. It was proposed that a 1p increase to 19p equating to 5.6% would be necessary. The clerk would check the tax base with SBC and confirm the next day. The CAB had asked for a donation.(Cllr Cheeseman declared an interest.) It was agreed to donate £100 the same as the previous year. Other donations were be Kent Air Ambulance, Victim Support and CPRE.

7. Planning Report.

There were no applications.

8. Correspondence

- a) Lord Leiutenant of Kent Annual Civic Service 10th March no one wished to attend.
- b) Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of KCC.
- c) SBC Bearing Fruits 3031 DVD published version Dec 2014.
- d) Mid-Kent Astronomical Society poster to display.

All correspondence was available to read.

9. Any Other Business

Cllr Higgs had asked that Cllrs were reminded about the fundraising Corrine's Indian Supper on Saturday 7th March in Eastling Village Hall - £15 each.

Cllr Bickerdike mentioned the item in Good News about 'Your Church Use it or Lose it'. The first meeting would be on 28th February.

10. Date of Next Meetings

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Thursday 23rd April 2015 at 8pm (following the Village Hall AGM).

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th May 2015 at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting finished at 7.40pm.