

# Eastling Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held in Eastling Village Hall on 15 January 2024

Present: Cllr Julia Bailey (Chairman), Cllr Annie Adams and Cllr Barrie Neaves; and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present was one member of the public.

Cllr Bailey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr John Payne (car breakdown) and Cllr Caroline Gilbert (holiday): apologies accepted.

Apologies had also been received from County Councillor Rich Lehmann (KCC business) and Ward Member Terry Thompson (holiday): apologies noted.

### 2. Declarations of interest

None were declared.

### 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 16 November 2023

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were duly signed by Cllr Bailey.

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

#### Village Green

Cllr Bailey said the Council is waiting for the outcome of the Trustees decision regarding leasing the land to the pub.

Cllr Adams said if successful, planning permission may be required for change of use.

#### Black structures at Orchard View

Cllr Bailer reported that it has been ascertained that they are field shelters.

#### KALC Award

Cllr Bailey said she will draft the citation.

*ACTION: Clerk to send details of scheme.*

### 5. Public Time

*The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time.*

*A resident a village green could be lovely and asked what would happen if neighbours were not happy if events are too noisy or a nuisance.*

*Cllr Neaves said conditions could be put in place regarding the number of events.*

*Cllr Adams said there would be conditions in the lease. Planning permission would be a safeguard.*

*ACTION: Clerk to contact agent for an update*

*It was reported that the QR code on the noticeboard does not work.*

*ACTION: Cllr Neaves to check.*

*The meeting was reconvened.*

## 6. Website

The Clerk reported the website is being updated regularly.

Cllr Adams said the shutting down of the village website needs to be finalised and that she will check if there is anything else to add to the Parish Council website.

*ACTION: Clerk to contact webmaster when finalised and also thank him for his sterling work.*

## 7. Chairman's Report

Cllr Bailey reported that she had attended the KALC AGM on 18 November. Roger Gough, the leader of Kent County Council informed the meeting that KCC will receive £134,000,000 over the next ten years from Central Government to repair potholes which are a big issue for the county. The Council is not close to bankruptcy and the funding will help.

## 8. Finance

### i. Finance Report

The bank balance is £11,652.

### ii. To consider invoices and cheques raised

There were no invoices to pay.

### iii. Statement of Internal Control

Having been satisfied that sound protocols were in place, Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the Statement of Internal Control.

### iv. To consider budget and set precept for 2024-25

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to set a budget of £5340.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to set a precept of £5197 and to take the balance from reserves, this will keep the precept for Band D property the same at £35.

## 9. Planning Matters

Ref: 23/504864/FULL Address: Seven Acres Newnham Lane Eastling Faversham ME13 0AS

Proposal: Erection of side porch, single storey side extension, creation and extension to first floor and internal alterations.

Application refused.

## 10. Parish Highways Improvement Plan

Cllr Bailey said the Council decided not to progress extending the speed limit for a short stretch of Newham Lane. The Highways Improvement Plan will be reviewed annually.

Cllr Bailey said the pub has agreed to ask customers not to park on the opposite junction and needs to approach the Village Hall for use of its car park which could be used for staff parking.

*ACTION: Clerk to respond to the pub.*

## 11. Telephone Box

Cllr Bailey said the Christmas tree and lights looked lovely.

## 12. Defibrillator

Cllr Bailey reported that every parish newsletter has an item about the defibrillator.

## 13. Correspondence

1. 20.11.23- SBC: JKC policy round-up
2. 21.11.23- KCC Parish Highways seminars
3. 24.11.23- NALC CEO bulletin
4. 29.11.23- NALC newsletter
5. 29.11.23- KALC: training bulletin

6. 01.12.23- NALC CEO bulletin
7. 06.12.23- KALC Newsletter
8. 06.12.23- KALC: training bulletin
9. 08.12.23- NALC CEO bulletin
10. 15.12.23- NALC CEO bulletin
11. 20.12.23- Kent Police: Rural Matters newsletter
12. 10.01.24- KALC: training bulletin
13. 10.01.24- KALC Newsletter
14. 11.01.24- NALC CEO bulletin

#### **14. Any Other Business**

Cllr Adams would like the Parish Council to set a date for the Annual Parish Meeting.

It was agreed to be held on 11 April and the Parish Council will supply the food.

Cllr Adams said the Village Hall Management Committee is considering removing the recycling bins in the car park. It had been a good source of income but this has declined now that kerbside collections are made.

Cllr Adams said there is a quiz being held in the village hall on 24 February.

#### **Date of next Meeting: 18 March 2024**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Chairman

Date: 18 March 2024