**Eastling Parish Council**

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at 6.30pm on Thursday

23rd May 2013 in Eastling Village Hall

**1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence.**

Present: Cllrs. Jimmy West, Peter Cheeseman, Julia Bailey, Nigel Bickerdike, Helen Higgs, Alan Wilson (Village Warden), Jill Seaman (Clerk) and Cllr Colin Prescott.

Apologies was received from Cllr Andrew Bowles.

**2. Election of Officers**

Cllr West was nominated for the position of Chairman - proposed by Cllr Bailey and seconded by Cllr Higgs. Cllr West accepted the post.

Cllr Cheeseman was nominated and accepted the position of Treasurer – proposed by Cllr Higgs, seconded by Cllr West.

Councillors completed their Acceptance of Office forms.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th March 2012**

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

**4. Matters Arising**

Youth Club – Cllr Cheeseman advised that he had not yet spoken to Mrs Denise Turner.

Village Volunteers – Cllr Bailey expressed her gratitude for the donation of £100 from the Parish Council which helped to fund the cost of mileage for the volunteers. She said that they had £160 in total funds.

The expansion of the Church car park is due to commence on 28th May 2013.

The clerk to write to Police Commissioner Ann Barnes, regarding the withdrawal of the Rural Team.

**5. Village Wardens Report.**

The village warden Alan Wilson gave a summary of incidents in the past month. The lorry tyre in the road had been moved by Cllr West. Ben Binder would dispose of it. The Dean hole has subsided a bit and will need topping up. Incidents of fly-tipping had been reported to the police.

**6. Chairman’s Report.**

Potholes - Cllr West advised that Mill Lane was impassable (as brought up by Harry Kyte at the APM). Colin Prescott said that he would speak to the Highways Inspector Gary Gibbs tomorrow.

There are also potholes opposite New House Farm and The Street where the utilities have dug up the road and Newnham Lane needs major repairs. Cllr Prescott would take this up as Chairman of The Rural Forum.

Cllr West said that the drain away by side of road near Rose Cottage needs more substantial fencing put up. The Clerk would write to the Belmont Administrator.

**7. Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer advised that the balance on account was £2282 in the current account and £1135 on deposit. The Insurance premium has been renewed at a premium slightly less than last year. Cllr Cheeseman had completed the Annual Audit form which had been authorised by an Independent Accountant. The form was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk and would be forwarded to the Audit Commission.

**8. Planning Applications.**

SBC had forwarded a Questionnaire regarding planning applications which is an opportunity to ‘Shape the Planning Service of the Future’. Cllr Bailey said that she would take the form for Parish Council comments to look at and complete. The other form was for personal applicants to complete.

**9. Correspondence**

a) KCC - Public Rights of Way Vegetation Clearance Contracts

b)Southern Water – Water Resources Management Plan Consultation.

c) Countryside Voice – to Cllr Cheeseman.

d)KALC Swale Area Committee – Meeting 3rd June at 7.30pm.

e) Rural Forum - 28th May at Herne Hill at 7pm.

All other correspondence was available to read.

**10. Any Other Business**

Cllr Prescott mentioned that The Orchid are preparing the July onwards issues and were asking for any items to publish.

Alan Wilson advised that the Defibrillator course had now taken place and thanked Councillor Prescott for the donation of funds of £200.The course cost £400 with the

remainder funded from the village. Residents from Stalisfield were invited and they are now going to obtain their own defibrillator.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th July 2012at 6.30pm in Eastling Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting finished at 7.45pm.