



## EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held.

on 12 July 2023 at 6.30 pm, Elvington Community Centre, Eythorne.

**Present:** Cllr M Ledger (Chair), Cllr C Ledger, Cllr Morgan-Lovett, Cllr Hansell, Cllr Whitehead (Vice Chair), Cllr Martin, Cllr French, and Cllr Luckhurst.

**Also, present:** Community Support Officer Juliette West, DDC Cllr M Mamjan, Louise Sills Stagecoach Dover Depot Operations Manager, Jo Pannell (Clerk to EPC), and 5 Members of the public.

#### **07/39/23. Chairmans welcome and opening comments**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked residents for their attendance.

#### **07/40/23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Wright due to another appointment and Cllr Beaney. Apologies received and accepted.

#### **07/41/23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

#### **07/42/23. MINUTES**

The minutes from the Council meeting held on the 14 June 2023 had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Luckhurst requested the following corrections to the minutes. On page 3 under application numbers 23/00679 and 23/00693 change vehicle access to pedestrian access and page 4 under Finance Matters c) purchase of Speedwatch equipment to July not June. Following these amendments, the minutes were agreed as a true record. **RESOLVED:** proposed by Cllr R Luckhurst seconded by Cllr C Ledger and unanimously carried. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

#### **07/43/23. COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE JUNE MEETING/MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk explained that all the actions from the June meeting had been addressed.

#### **07/44/23. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS**

##### **The Community Wardens issues reported during the month:**

Antisocial behaviour nuisance youths  
Antisocial behaviour nuisance motorbikes  
Noise nuisance  
Bonfire smoke nuisance  
Theft from vehicle  
Theft of parcel  
Straying dogs  
Dog fouling  
Overgrown vegetation footpaths  
Potholes  
Community welfare  
Individual welfare issues  
Social prescribing

Agency referrals  
Positive wellbeing  
Community volunteer group Let's Eat lunch club.

Please contact me direct on 07969584174 for further enquires or log on to [Kent.gov.uk/positive](https://kent.gov.uk/positive) wellbeing for further information.

Cllr D Ledger asked if the antisocial behaviour reported was in all three Villages? The Community Warden explained that it was primarily in Elvington. The Community Support Officer explained that KCC is carrying out a public consultation on the future of the Community Support Officer service online, but if residents were unable to access the online consultation, she has hard copies of the consultation document and that she was happy to meet with residents to assist them completing the forms. The consultation runs until October 2023. Cllr M Ledger asked if the Parish Council and individuals could take part in the consultation? The Community Support Officer confirmed that both could take part. She further explained that Elvington meets a lot of the criteria, such as an area of high deprivation, limited public transport and the number of school children receiving free school meals, which would need investigating. **ACTION – the clerk will do some profiling and prepare a response to the consultation.** Cllr Mamjan asked if there was any update on the shooting incident in Elvington? The Community Support Officer said that she had no update and suggested the Cllr contact the Rural Police Task Force.

Cllr French explained that nuisance motorbikes had been a long-standing issue, and asked how this could be addressed? The Community Support Officer explained that Kent Police have the power to seize nuisance bikes. This is down to the Police Rural Task Force to intervene. The Community Support Officer also explained that DDC had a duty of enforcement with regards to social housing tenants and antisocial behaviour such as noise.

Cllr M Ledger invited Cllr Mamjan to give any updates from DDC. Cllr Mamjan explained that she was still a new Cllr and was still finding her feet. She explained that she had been assigned to the Aylesham Development Committee, Kent Police and Children and Safeguarding, initial meetings of these will take place next week.

Cllr Mamjan explained that the dog bag dispenser near the woods had no bags left in it, but she would be happy to replenish the bags. Cllr Whitehead explained that there was a dispenser at Woodpecker Court on the Public Right of Way, but there is no waste bin along Adelaide Road. Ideally this should be sited between the school and shops. Cllr Whitehead also explained that dog waste bags can now go in with the general waste bins. Cllr Mamjan requested that the Parish Council should identify the location and number of new bins required. **ACTION – the Parish Council to identify the location and number of new bins required and forward to her for action at DDC. ACTION - The clerk will put the dog poo posters up in the noticeboards, on the website and Facebook.**

The Community Support Officer also suggested reporting dog fouling to DDC with the location. DDC can issue on the spot fines to dog owners not clearing up after their dog. Cllr Mamjan requested members of the public to take a photograph and address of any concerning potholes and send them to her for action.

#### **07/45/23. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS**

Cllr M Ledger introduced Louise Sills Stagecoach Dover Depot Operations Manager and welcomed her to the meeting. Louise explained that at the previous June meeting Matthew from Stagecoach had confirmed that KCC funding had ceased on 30 June 2023. She also explained that there was to be a public consultation on closing the Folkestone Stagecoach Depot but was not expecting many redundancies. As far as future bus service provision is concerned Matthew had been in discussions with KCC with regards to the School Transport service. Louise explained that the Travel Saver card prices had been frozen, and the current

park and ride service in Folkestone will move elsewhere, she also explained that existing staff from Folkestone will be re-deployed to the Dover Depot.

Louise explained that the Connect bus service has received positive feedback but admitted that marketing the service and the issue of accessibility still needed to be addressed to get the word out about the new service. Louise explained that at the previous meeting it had been requested that the cost of using the service could be reduced, but this is not feasible to do currently.

Cllr Mamjan asked why the school bus did not turn up on occasions? She had heard that it was due to school children throwing stones at the buses. Louise explained that this had not come to her attention to date, she had heard about concerns with the number 95 service, but not to this degree. Louise is happy to be contacted via email at: [Louise.Sills@stagecoachbus.com](mailto:Louise.Sills@stagecoachbus.com) and is happy to return to a future meeting.

Cllr Whitehead asked about the school bus services for the September return to school. Louise replied that Stagecoach believe that they will be providing the same services that they do now. Cllr Mamjan asked if any additional services could be added? Louise replied that this was not an option now, but maybe in the future. Cllr Whitehead asked for some posters and leaflets to advertise the new connect service to put through all doors. Louise will call in at the marketing team and pick some up to deliver to Elvington.

Cllr Whitehead explained that previously the bus stop halfway along Adelaide Road had been agreed to be moved nearer to the school, but this has never happened. She explained that for those that have mobility issues the bus must stop in the middle of the road, and they cannot access the bus. Louise explained that it was not easy to move a bus stop and make it fully accessible, we could look at getting some 'hatchings' done if possible. **ACTION: Louise will come back to the clerk to clarify one way or the other.** The Chairman thanked Louise for her time this evening.

A member of the public explained that the Church wall in Barfrestone had been damaged by an HGV during the earlier hours of the morning last month and there is no one to pay for repairs except the Church. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had previously tried to get signage on the A2 saying that it was unsuitable for HGVs, but Highways England refused this request. It was suggested that such signage should be erected at each entry to the village. Cllr Luckhurst explained that this was not just an issue with foreign lorries. Cllr Whitehead also explained that when the A2 is shut at Lydden the diversion route is not clear, ideally there needs to be someone on site at the Shepherdswell turning off the A2 to explain the diversion routes should not go through the villages. Cllr Mamjan had made a similar complaint to DDC about this issue but was shut down. She suggested contacting Cllr Pout. **ACTION: The clerk will contact Cllr Pout at DDC and suggest a traffic management review of these issues.**

**ACTION: the clerk will draft a letter to MP N Elphick and the KCC Highways portfolio holder and copy in other organisations such as National Highways, Matthew Scott, DDC Cllrs, Haulage Association etc.**

The meeting reconvened

## 07/46/23. PLANNING

### Applications:

There were no new applications to discuss
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**Applications commented on under the scheme of delegation – None.**

### Decisions:

There were no new decisions to note
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## 07/47/23. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

- a) Authorisation of payments/bank reconciliation, the invoices detailed below were agreed for payment, by all Cllrs present.

<b>Finance Report Payments</b>		
Jo Pannell	Salary (June)	
S Thomson	Salary (June)	
KCC LGPS	Pension	£315.70
HMRC	National insurance	£431.11
S Thomson	Expenses	£26.44
Iverde	June grass cutting	£67.94
KCC Highways	2 x Village gateways design fee	£1,068.00
Wicksteed	Annual playground safety report	£356.40
Freshair Fitness	New stickers for outdoor gym equipment	£116.10
Lloyds Corporate Cards	Final payment to close the credit card account	£88.99
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,470.68</b>
TO NOTE payment to FH Brundle	Purchase of the playground fencing paid in June	

- b) The bank reconciliation for June was RECEIVED and RESOLVED and duly signed by Cllrs Whitehead and Morgan-Lovett.
- c) The purchase of the new Speedwatch equipment had been deferred to the June meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Luckhurst would speak to The Speedwatch Co-ordinator in Great Mongeham about the equipment that they are using on a trial basis. This will come back to the September agenda for RESOLUTION, all Cllrs agreed with this course of action.

## 07/48/23. Alternative Energy Project

Cllr Martin explained that one of his actions from the previous meeting had been to look at registering with a community interest company. These are managed by the company Energy Local and link up groups of residents with local energy suppliers. The company manages the pricing and recording of the electricity used by the residents and the matching with the generation of electricity by the local generator. However, Cllr Martin explained that there were several local energy generators in Kent but no Energy Local Clubs, the nearest is Essex. He also explained that there were other forms of energy such as biomass, but this leaves a sludge residue to be disposed of, so not really a viable option. Other examples are wind turbines and heat pumps It was agreed to defer this item was deferred to the next meeting.

## 07/49/23. Allotments

Cllr Martin explained that two new tenants had commandeered the two new water tanks. He also explained that seven of the plots had their own water harvesting equipment, so did not see the need for the Parish Council to invest in the project. Cllr Martin suggested and advertising the allotments on Facebook and the website **ACTION: the clerk will put an advert on to Facebook and the notice boards re: allotments.** Cllr Martin also explained that plots 03, 09 and 11 were very overgrown. ACTION the clerk will write to the allotment holders asking

them to address the overgrown state of the plots or the Parish Council will consider terminating their tenancies. **ACTION: the clerk to write to the allotment owners as noted above.**

### **07/50/23. Play Areas**

The Chairman explained that the fencing project in Eythorne playground will start on Monday 17 July. It was noted that the clerk had purchased some more safety stickers for the outdoor gym equipment. Cllrs were exasperated about the amount of money that had been spent on repeatedly replacing these. A Cllr suggested purchasing some anti vandal paint or tape to stop them being removed. **ACTION: The clerk will speak to Stuart about this.**

### **07/51/23. Tilmanstone Welfare update**

Cllr Hansell explained that no further meetings had been held, but they are now scheduled for the last Thursday of the month.

### **07/52/23. HIP**

**ACTION: The clerk will circulate the revised HIP to Cllrs**

### **07/53/23. Councillors' items**

Cllr Luckhurst had spoken to Mr Watson about the speeding issues on Adelaide Road. Mr Watson will attach the box that records traffic speed to the bus stop near the entrance to Woodpecker Court but cannot due this until 16 July. Cllr Luckhurst had also researched the possibility of installing rubber strips across the road to record traffic speeds in Adelaide Road by the School. He noted that the cost used to be in the region of £800, but now it was only £260.00, so suggested hiring them for a week in September. The trips can differentiate between different vehicles such as cars, lorries, and motorbikes etc recording speeds every two hours. He is waiting to hear back from the company about the hiring of the strips.

Cllr Luckhurst also asked for the September agenda a Resolution to RESOLVE the purchase of the Speedwatch equipment. He had met with the Great Mongeham Speedwatch team and was impressed with the equipment they were using it was the same as a laptop and the battery pack clips into the back of the device.

### **07/54/23. Public Rights of Way**

Cllr Whitehead had carried out some research on the PROW faults in the village as follows:  
EE 354 – Adelaide Road, near Tilmanstone Welfare – this issue had been logged by Heather Waller on 01.04.2022 – No signage on either side.

EE 337A – from Miners path to Pike Road very overgrown and extremely dangerous underfoot.

EE 337A – from Pike Road to Barville Road overgrown at Pike Road end

**ACTION: the clerk will report these matters and those that were raised by Cllr Wright to the PROW team at KCC and will copy in Cllr Beaney.**

### **07/55/23. Any other matters**

None raised.

### **07/55/23. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST – the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 September 2023, 6.30pm at Elvington Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Chairman: Cllr M Ledger

***Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the parish council approves them at their next parish council meeting.***