

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Thursday 19th December 2019, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.

8534 PRESENT

Members Present

Mrs S Boyle
Mr A Cooke
Mrs F Haxby
Mr G Kirby
Mr M Richardson
Mr P Ward

Other Officials Present

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

8535 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr M Barker, Mrs T Durrant

In the absence of Mrs Durrant, Mr Ward chaired the meeting.

8536 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mr Ward wished Mrs Durrant a speedy recovery from her recent operation. Mr Ward noted that this was the last meeting of the year and thanked both councillors and clerks for their hard work throughout the year.

8537 CLERK'S COMMENTS

Mrs Ivaldi told councillors that the planned tree work on the access road to Castlefield had been delayed until 3rd January.

8538 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

None.

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 21st November 2019 were presented for approval.

RESOLVED: That the minutes are accepted as a true and complete record and that the recommendations are approved.

c) Finance Notes

The clerk submitted a list of accounts, and a budget report, for November 2019, as per Appendix A. A schedule of payments was also presented.

RESOLVED: That the accounts are approved, and the payments made.

d) Outstanding Actions

None

e) Budget 2020/21

Councillors were asked to approve the draft budget for 2020/21 and to request a precept of £81,757.00.

RESOLVED: That the budget is approved and that a precept of £81, 757.00 is requested.

f) Annual Parish Meeting

Councillors were asked to agree the date, venue and timing of the Annual Parish Meeting for 2020.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Parish Meeting is held on 1st May in Eynsford Village Hall from 6.30-8.30pm, with a reserve date of 24th April.

g) Newsletter Articles

Councillors were asked to agree articles to include in the next quarterly Parish News due out in January 2020.

RESOLVED: That the following articles are include, to be submitted by 12th January:

Call for volunteers for Eynsford in Bloom – Mr Kirby

Speedwatch – Mrs Durrant

Meet your new Councillor – Mr Barker

Village Hall Update – Mr Cooke

Flood Plan – Mr Richardson

Green Working Party – Mrs Haxby

Twinning News – Mrs Ivaldi

Community Rail Partnership – Mr Kirby

ATM for Eynsford – Mr Ward

h) Business Debit Card

Councillors were asked to agree a daily limit and overall limit for a council debit card.

RESOLVED: That cash withdrawals are limited to £100 per day. That a limit of £150 per transaction is made, in line with the current financial regulations.

i) KALC Update

Mr Kirby gave an update on the motions passed at the recent KALC AGM which he had attended. These were: approval of a small increase in the subscription scale for KALC membership; approval of a review of the nomination and election packs for prospective councillors in order to make it simpler; approval of a motion to request a reduction in housing targets for Kent due to special circumstances which make them unachievable; approval of a motion to call on central government and local planning authorities to include a robust air quality assessment to proposed developments.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

8539 PLANNING

a) Planning Committee 2nd December 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 2nd December 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved, and the recommendations accepted.

b) Notifications of Planning Consents/Refusal

SE/19/02339/FUL – Park House Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford - GRANTED

c) Tree Work Application SE/19/03263/WTCA- Eynsford House, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors were informed that an application had been submitted to fell one Lombarde poplar tree. Details had been sent to the Tree Wardens. No objections had been lodged with Sevenoaks District Council.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

d) New TPO: TPO/15/2019- Parsonage Bank, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors were informed that Sevenoaks District Council had made a Tree Preservation Order on the Field Maple in front of 5 Parsonage Bank. This was initially on a preservation basis until confirmed by the council. Councillors could comment on the TPO by 3rd January 2020.

RESOLVED: That no comment is made.

e) Planning Application SE/19/03345/FUL – Harrow Meadow, Bower Lane, Eynsford

Councillors discussed the application to erect a new village hall, football pitch, viewing platform and associated parking at Harrow Meadow.

RESOLVED: That the council supports the application. The council recognises that it has an interest as this is a joint application between Eynsford Parish Council and Eynsford Village Hall trustees, however, on behalf of the community, the parish council wholly supports the application.

8540 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

a) Highways & Transportation Committee 4th November 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Highways & Transportation Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved, and the recommendations accepted.

b) Speed Watch Signs

Councillors were informed that Farningham Parish Council had asked if Eynsford Parish Council would consider getting Speed Watch signs for Eynsford as they were considering this. The signs are free but locations would need to be approved.

RESOLVED: That this item is deferred until a committee meeting when Mrs Durrant (our speedwatch co-ordinator) can be involved. That more information and images are brought to this meeting.

c) Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership

Mr Kirby gave an update on the Rail Partnership. The project is progressing well and there is a project officer. All ideas from the different parishes have been put forward and this includes bus services. Mr Kirby noted that we are still awaiting the results of our bid for funding via the Passenger Benefit Fund compensation scheme. There are plans to improve the station including new sign boards at the station which can include information about upcoming events which will be changed periodically.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

d) Joint Transportation Board

Mr Kirby reported that via the KALC committee he had volunteered to sit on the Joint Transportation Board as one of three parish councillors from the district. The Joint Transportation Board is run by Sevenoaks District Council and has delegated authority from Kent County Council Highways Services.

RESOLVED: That Mr Kirby is thanked for taking this on.

8541 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

a) Community & Environment Committee 4th November 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 2nd December 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the minutes are approved, and the recommendations accepted.

b) Police/Crime Report

The Clerk had found the following crime figures for November 2019

1 x Public Order Offence – Lullingstone Country Park
2 x Violence/sexual offence – Nr Lullingstone Castle
1 x Other Theft – Nr Lullingstone Roman Villa
1 x Burglary – Station Road
3 x Violence/sexual offence – St Martin’s Drive
1 x Burglary, 2 x Public Order, 1 x Violence/sexual offence – Nr Knights Field
1 x Other Theft, 1 x Violence/sexual offence – Nr Priory Lane
1 x Criminal damage/arson – Bower Lane

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) Eynsford in Bloom Donation

Councillors were asked to consider making a donation to Eynsford in Bloom to cover the costs of plant purchases over the past year. Costs incurred had been £1245.03.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £1245.03 is made with £1200 from the Eynsford in Bloom budget and £45.03 from Contingency.

d) Donation to Anthony Roper Pre-School

Councillors were asked to consider making a donation to Anthony Roper Pre-School towards building blocks. £595.89 was needed to fund this project.

RESOLVED: That more information is requested about the blocks, how much they cost and how funds will be raised.

e) ATM Machine for Eynsford

Councillors discussed whether to request an ATM machine for Eynsford. LINK were offering some machines for free subject to a suitable location being found.

RESOLVED: That letters are written to Raffertys, Castle Hotel, Five Bells, Tea Room and the Station to see if they would consider having a cash machine installed on their building.

f) Flood Advice Leaflet

Mr Richardson reported that he and Mr Cooke had produced two versions of a flood advice leaflet including information about what to do before, during and after a flood, and, also, the responsibilities of the parish council and residents.

RESOLVED: That the draft copy is circulated before the next meeting.

8542 RECREATION

a) Eynsford Football Club

Mr Cooke reported that he had met with the manager of Eynsford Football Club about the rent they pay for the use of the pitch and changing rooms. The council had previously agreed to charge £55 per match but had since found that this was making use of the pitch difficult to justify for the

club. Mr Cooke suggested putting the rent back down to £50 per match, and that if the end of season balance was healthy, that an adjustment amount is charged.

RESOLVED: That the proposal is approved and that the rent is changed to £50 per match.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.34pm

Chairperson: 22nd January 2020