

# Minutes of the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 7.30pm.

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## 9075 PRESENT

### Members Present

Mr A Cooke

Mrs F Haxby

Mrs J Laird

Mr D Naylor

Mr N Rix

### Others Present

Mr J Gee, Mrs P Penney (from 8.05pm)

### Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

## 9076 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr M Barker, Mr V Robson, Mr R Gough

## 9077 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mrs Haxby said that she would be attending the KALC AGM on Saturday on behalf of the council.

## 9078 CLERK'S COMMENTS

None.

## 9079 GOVERNANCE

### a) Election of a Vice Chair

Councillors were asked to elect a vice chairperson for Eynsford Parish Council.

**RESOLVED:** That Mrs Ferne Haxby is elected as vice chair.

### b) Declarations of Interest

None

### c) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on 18th October 2023 and the extraordinary general meeting held on 6th November 2023 were presented for approval.

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

d) Finance Notes

The clerk submitted a list of accounts, and a budget report, for October 2023, as per Appendix A.

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

e) Casual Vacancy

No co-option took place as councillors had not been able to meet with all candidates prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the co-option is deferred to the next suitable meeting.

f) Outstanding Actions

The clerk was asked to recirculate the list of outstanding and completed actions.

**RESOLVED:** That the information is noted.

g) Lullingstone Liaison Group

Mrs Laird provided a verbal update on the recent meeting of the Lullingstone Liaison Group: The plans for the multi-use path along the river were progressing and KCC would be in charge of maintenance; Kent Wildlife Trust is working on a new project connected with the Darent Valley path and would be in touch with parish councils; Lullingstone Park is doing well and its events have been popular; Preston Hill is developing well and now has goats and cows grazing.

**RESOLVED:** That the information is noted.

**9080** **PLANNING**

a) Report of the Last Planning Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved.

b) Notifications of Planning Consents/Refusal

Councillors were told of the outcome of the planning applications as follows:

23/02651/FUL – Park House Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford – Granted

23/02474/HOUSE – 7 Willow Terrace, High Street, Eynsford – Granted

23/02517/HOUSE – 23 Pollyhaugh, Eynsford – Granted

23/02202/HOUSE – 19 – 21 Eynsford Rise, Eynsford - Granted

**RESOLVED:** That the information is noted.

## 9081 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

### a) Report of the Last Highways & Transportation Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the Highways & Transportation Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved.

## 9082 COMMUNITY

### a) Report of the Last Community Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the Community Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved.

### b) Police & Crime Report

The Clerk provided details of crime statistics. In September there were 20 crimes were reported as follows:

Lullingstone Visitor Centre	1 x ASB
Lullingstone Park	4 x public order
	6 x bicycle theft
	1 x other crime
	3 x violence & sexual offences
Eynsford Station area	1 x ASB
	1 x burglary
St Martin's Drive	1 x violence & sexual offence
Edwards Court	1 x vehicle crime
High Street	1 x public order offence.

**RESOLVED:** That the information is noted.

### c) KALC Community Awards

Councillors were asked to consider participating in the KALC community awards again which award a person or group who has significantly contributed towards the community, a certificate and recognition.

**RESOLVED:** That nominations are sought for the award, with a vote being taken at the January council meeting.

## 9083 OPEN SPACES

### a) Report of the Last Open Spaces Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved.

b) Leak at Harrow Meadow

Councillors were told that since the last meeting, despite frequent calls, Thames Water had still not visited to investigate the leak.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contacts the private contractor M&S Water Services to query the estimate, seeing as the leak is in the chamber, and to ask if they suspected the leak was in a particular place. Also, to ask about the leak repair they carried out in the winter and if it could be linked to this one. That the Clerk contacts Castle Water to inform them about the previous leak that was fixed in January. That the stop cock is kept turned off until the leak is fixed.

**9084 FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENT**

a) Report of the Last Facilities & Environment Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the Facilities & Environment Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved.

b) Bench Policy

Councillors were asked to consider creating a bench policy for future installation of benches throughout the parish and how requests for memorial benches are considered.

**REOLVED:** That Mrs Laird drafts a bench policy.

c) Lucy Box

Councillors were asked to approve wording provided by Mrs Haxby for a new sign board to be installed adjacent to the Lucy box. The suggested wording was: *'Lucy Box' An increasingly rare survival grade II listed Victorian electrical box manufactured by Hardy and Padmore, around 1861. Commonly known as a 'Lucy Box'. The decorative styling reflects the romance and respect which was given to such infrastructure of the era. The junction box, or feeder pillar, was designed to take power from the grid and control the electrical supply to a number of buildings in the surrounding area such as workhouses and early schools.*

**RESOLVED:** That subject to a few small revisions, the wording is approved, and research is carried out into the type and costs of potential signs.

At this point, 8.24pm, the meeting was opened for questions from the public (see Appendix Q). The meeting resumed at 8.34pm.

The meeting ended at 8.34 pm.