

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on
Thursday 17th May 2018, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.**

8337 PRESENT

Members Present

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

Other Officials Present

None

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

8338 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs A Cornwell

8339 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mrs Boyle reminded councillors about the next surgery to be held on 26th May between 9am and 11.

Mrs Boyle said she had attended the last Dementia Café on Friday and thanked Mrs Haxby for her good work on this.

8340 CLERK'S COMMENTS

Mrs Ivaldi noted that the parish office would have reduced opening times for the next two weeks due to staff annual leave.

8341 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

Mr G Kirby declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8342f as the owner of a neighbouring property.

Mrs F Haxby declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8342c as the owner of a neighbouring property.

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 19th April 2018 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 April 2018, as per Appendix A. The clerk was asked to clarify the ‘unapplied cash income’ items.

RESOLVED: That the accounts are approved and payments made.

d) Outstanding Actions

Mr Kirby reported that he was still awaiting details from DVLP before pursuing a Community Plan.

Mr Kirby said that he has chased Mr Gough about meetings to discuss the proposed parking project south of the village and the school parking suggestion.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

e) Insurance Quotes

Councillors were asked to discuss insurance quotes for the upcoming year from 1st June. The following quotes had been received for identical cover:

Came & Co. £877.79; Zurich £864.17.

The Clerk confirmed that both quotes included cover for compensation to be made under the GDPR legislation within the Public Liability section of the policy.

RESOLVED: That a policy is taken out with Zurich at £864.17 for the year.

f) Annual Return

Councillors were asked to approve the Annual Return and Governance Statement for the 2017/18 financial year.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Return and Governance Statement for 2017/18 is signed and approved.

g) NALC Salary Review

Councillors were informed that NALC had issued their new pay scale for 2018/19. The council had previously agreed to follow these pay scales. The new scale would mean an increase in both clerks’ hourly rates as follows: Mrs Ivaldi’s would rise from £15.52 to £15.67 per hour and Ms Morgan’s would rise from £13.94 to £14.22 per hour.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

h) Microsoft 10 Pro

Councillors were asked to approve the purchase of Windows 10 Pro which would allow the council's computer to be encrypted in line with GDPR legislation. The cost is £219.99 + VAT.

RESOLVED: That Windows 10 Pro is purchased at £219.99 + VAT from the Office Equipment and Software budget.

8342 PLANNING

a) Planning Committee 30th April 2018

Minutes of the above meeting were circulated to all councillors for approval, as per Appendix B.

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

b) Planning Notifications

The following planning notifications had been received since the last meeting:

SE/18/01156/WTCA – Land South of Riverside, Riverside, Eynsford – No Objections Lodged

SE/17/03965/FUL – Land North East of Park House Farm, Bower Lane – Granted

SE/17/01914/VAR106 – Land South of Glyndel House, Bower Lane – Withdrawn

SE/18/00976/HOUSE – 55 Pollyhaugh – Granted

SE/18/00975/HOUSE – 2 Lower Austin Lodge Farm, Upper Austin Lodge Road – Granted

c) Planning Application SE/18/01298/FUL – Land to the rear of Lydith, Station Road, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for a proposed detached three bedroom dwelling to the rear of this property. A number of owners of neighbouring properties were present and made representations.

RESOLVED: That the council objects for the following reasons:

1. Infilling of the limited space between existing developments would be detrimental to the street scene and conservation area.
2. Due to the size and bulk the development would cause significant loss of light and over-shadowing to neighbouring properties.
3. Hard standing and parked cars would be detrimental to the street scene and conservation area.
4. The proximity to the bend on Pollyhaugh and the junction with Parsonage Bank will cause additional risk to traffic.
5. Councillors also have concerns about the capacity of sewers in this location that may make a new dwelling unsustainable.

d) Planning Application SE/18/01441/HOUSE – Woodhurst, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for the demolition of the existing conservatory and garage and the erection of a single storey rear extension at this property.

RESOLVED: That no objection is made.

At this point, 9.00pm, the meeting opened up for questions from the public. The meeting resumed at 9.14pm.

e) Planning Application SE/18/01445/HOUSE & SE/18/01446/LBCALT – Bower Farm House, Bower Lane, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for the Removal of timber windows, door and section of wall to NE elevation to be replaced with new painted hardwood double glazed units with a different fenestration. Windows and doors to have Lambs Tongue glazing bars. Removal of the windows to the SW elevation to be replaced with new painted hardwood double glazed windows. Fenestration to match existing windows with Lambs Tongue glazing bars.

RESOLVED: That councillors support this application which will improve the thermal betterment of this property, and support the restoration of original design features.

f) Planning Application SE/18/01456/HOUSE – 59 Eynsford Rise, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for raising of the roof to incorporate a first floor, the erection of a dormer window to front elevation. Provision of canopies to the west elevation and east elevation and alteration to the fenestration.

RESOLVED: That councillors object on the grounds that the scale of the development is not sympathetic to the original building, and that the height of the hipped roof canopy meets the pitch of the existing roof.

g) Community Assets

Councillors considered whether to submit a list of property to be considered as Community Assets, thereby giving the community a chance to bid for them if they are to be sold.

RESOLVED: That the following properties are listed as Community Assets and sent to Sevenoaks District Council:

Properties

- The Five Bells, High Street, Eynsford
- The Plough, Riverside Eynsford
- The Malt Shovel, Station Road, Eynsford
- The Castle Hotel, High Street, Eynsford
- Eynsford Riverside Club, Riverside, Eynsford
- Rafferty's, High Street, Eynsford
- Norman's Butchers, High Street, Eynsford
- Ward's Estate Agents, High Street, Eynsford
- Olivia's Hairdressers, High Street, Eynsford
- Bridge House Stores, High Street, Eynsford
- Riverside Tea Rooms, Riverside, Eynsford
- Eynsford Baptist Church, High Street, Eynsford
- St Martin's Church, High Street, Eynsford
- Olive Seal Hall, Pollyhaugh, Eynsford
- Eynsford Village Hall, High Street, Eynsford
- Edwards Hall, Priory Lane, Eynsford
- Eynsford Station, Station Road, Eynsford

Land

- Ford House Car Park
- Station Road Allotments
- Chalkhurst Wood
- Hartnip Wood
- Nine Hold Wood
- Millfield
- Harrow Meadow
- Common Meadow
- Riverside Green
- Castlefield Allotments

h) Plane Tree, Riverside Club, Eynsford

Tree Warden John Gee has suggested that the Parish Council might ‘adopt’ the London Plane tree at the Riverside Club to ensure that it is properly looked after.

RESOLVED: That councillors agree that it is important to protect and conserve this tree but do not believe that the council should adopt it. That the council contacts Mr Gee to offer encouragement and support to the club in their fundraising to support the tree. That councillors would consider a request for donation towards this work..

8343 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

a) Train Timetable Update

Mr Richardson gave a verbal summary of the correspondence with Southeastern Thameslink, Mr Fallon MP and the Sevenoaks Rail Travel Association in regards to planned timetable changes from Eynsford coming into force on 20th May. Unfortunately no positive responses were received and Southeastern were also unwilling to consider stopping one or two of their trains at Eynsford to allow an additional service. Sevenoaks Rail Travel Association advocated pushing for flexible tickets at no additional cost to allow commuters to travel via Otford of Sevenoaks. Mr Fallon promised to speak to the train operators but suggested that the council continues to lobby for improvements.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

b) UKPN Update

Mr Richardson updated councillors on his correspondence with UK Power Networks regarding the cost of connecting and disconnecting street lights during their replacement. It has been discovered that other companies can provide this service, but that they may be unwilling to do less than ten columns at a time. Mr Richardson also said that the same-day connection premium was not essential as the power would be connected, just the reparations of the surrounding pavement may take a few days longer.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) Right of Way/Priority, Riverside

A resident raised the problems with the current priority signage a Riverside, particularly during busy periods. The current priority in the narrow section between 30 and 32 Riverside is given to

traffic travelling from Lullingstone. However, due to parked cars, there is very little room for manoeuvre for the cars on the Eynsford side. However, if the priority were to be reversed, there is a passing space opposite 32 Riverside which would allow a better movement of traffic. Additional road markings may also be helpful.

RESOLVED: That Kent Highways/Sevenoaks District Council are asked to look at changing the priority in this location.

8344 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

a) Community & Environment Committee 30th April 2018

Minutes of the above meeting were circulated to all councillors for approval, as per Appendix C.

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

b) Police Report

The clerk provided the following crime statistics for councillors:
February 2018

- 1 x Criminal Damage and Arson – Roman Villa Car Park
- 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour - Station Road
- 1 x Violence and Sexual Offence – Walnut Close
- 1 x Violence and Sexual Offence –Parsonage Bank
- 1 x Burglary – Knights Field

March 2018

- 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour – Crockenhill Lane
- 1 x Theft – Mill Lane
- 1 x Public Order Offence – Harrow Meadow
- 2 x Violence and Sexual Offence – Harrow Meadow
- 1 x Burglary – Station Road
- 1 x Theft – Walnut Close
- 1 x Theft – Roman Villa Car Park

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) Action with Communities in Rural Kent

Councillors considered renewing membership for ACRK at a cost of £50.

RESOLVED: That membership of ACRK is renewed at a cost of £50 from the Regular Donations budget (Section 137).

d) Memorial Bench

Councillors were asked to consider quotes for a memorial bench for Mr Hart-Dyke to be located at Common Meadow.

RESOLVED: That, as councillors could not agree on any of the suggestions provided, Mr Richardson carries out further research into types and prices of benches/seats. That the Clerk writes to other groups with a connection to Mr Hart-Dyke to see if they would like to contribute towards the cost of a bench, e.g. The Scout Group, Riverside Players, Eynsford Cricket Club, Eynsford Village Society.

e) Rural Kent Coffee and Information Project

It was reported that Mrs Boyle had met with a representative from this project but that they had been unable to schedule Eynsford in for now, however, there may be an opportunity in the future..

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

f) Crime in the Village

Mr Ward had catalogued a list of crimes reported locally on social media and other outlets in Eynsford and Farningham, which was quite long.

RESOLVED: That a police sergeant or inspector is invited to a meeting to discuss their strategy further.

g) Donation for CPR Training

Councillors were asked to consider making a donation towards the organisation that provided CPR training at the Annual Parish Meeting.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £50 is made from Ad Hoc Donations, subject to confirmation of the details of the organisation.

8345 **RECREATION**

a) Legionella Testing Contract

Councillors were asked to agree on a Legionella Testing Contract for the Changing Rooms at Harrow Meadow. The quote from Brodex was £520 + £250 for a risk assessment. The quote from Ames Group was £195 for a risk assessment but other full costs would not be known until the risk assessment was completed.

RESOLVED: That a contract is taken out with Brodex for Legionella testing.

b) Proposed River Project

Councillors were asked to consider a new river project with North West Kent Countryside Partnership. The aim of the project would be to recruit local volunteers who would be led by an expert from NWKCP to undertake maintenance work in the river that would not otherwise be carried out by the Environment Agency, e.g. removal of invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam. The cost per session would be £240 which would be funded by the parish council, however, it is possible that this could be funded as part of the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership project.

RESOLVED: that Mr Kirby finds out whether this could be funded by DVLP before this is discussed any further.

c) Damage to Gate at Common Meadow

In September a delivery lorry caused damage to the fence and gatepost at Common Meadow. The Clerk had tried to claim for this via the company's insurance with no success. Councillors were therefore asked to agree to carry out the work. Two quotes had been received: S Gray £550 and G Keen £250.

RESOLVED: That MR Keen is asked to carry out the repairs at a cost of £250 from the Recreation General budget.

d) Lullingstone Liaison Group Update

Mr Ward gave an update on the last meeting of the Lullingstone Liaison Group held on 30th April. A new ranger had been appointed at the park and they were also looking for more volunteers. Projects were planned with the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership including a tree trail and an iron age roundhouse for children. An online booking system for meeting rooms and functions was working well, and the café and shop were doing good business.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

The meeting of the council closed at 10.53 pm

Chairman: 21st June 2018