

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.

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## 8442 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

### Clerk in Attendance

Ms N Morgan

## 8443 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs A Cornwell  
Cllr R Gough

## 8444 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mrs Boyle reminded councillors of the surgery on 27<sup>th</sup> April; however she gave her apologies as she will not be able to attend, as did Mrs Haxby and Mr Kirby. Mrs Boyle noted that if any other councillor wished to stand as chair she would be happy to stand down.

## 8445 CLERK'S COMMENTS

Ms Morgan, reminded councillors to complete their expense forms, even if they are Nil.

## 8446 GOVERNANCE

### a) Declarations of Interest

Mr Richardson declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8446 (f) as a trustee of Eynsford Village Hall.

Mrs Boyle & Mrs Haxby declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8449 (f) as a member of Eynsford W.I

#### b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019 were presented for approval. Mr Richardson noted that the declarations of interest did not note what number he declared an interest in.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes are accepted as a true and complete record once xx had been replaced with 8437(d) and 8438 c & d, and that the recommendations are approved.

#### c) Finance Notes

The clerk submitted a list of accounts, and a budget report, for March 2019, as per Appendix A. Councillors noticed that the profit and loss in detail report showed all duplicate entries. It was agreed that the clerk would check the system and re-produce the reports for the next main meeting

**RESOLVED:** That the accounts are brought back to next month, but the payments made.

#### d) Outstanding Actions

Mr Baker agreed to follow up on the group TPO on Crockenhill Lane.

Mr Richardson & Mr Cooke noted that the flood plan had yet to start and will carry this over.

Mr Cooke noted that the quotes for the repairs to Harrow Meadow Playground are not ready to come onto an agenda but will write a report for next month to show what is needed etc.

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

#### e) Proposed closure of St Martins of Tours Churchyard, Eynsford

We had received a draft notice from the Ministry of Justice of the discontinuance of burials in St Martin's churchyard. Councillors were asked to discuss the proposed closure and make comments within 21 days of the notice being published. It was noted that anyone that had already purchased a grave would still be buried and the rose garden will still be available for cremations.

**RESOLVED:** That the council still does not object to the closure of the churchyard or wish to change their previous comments.

#### f) Eynsford Village Hall

Following the discussions at the last main meeting and at the committee meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April, the council were asked to agree the following:

1. That the council supports the project to build a new village hall at Harrow Meadow including landscaping and realigning the football pitch;
2. That a memorandum of Understanding/Agreement is created between the parish council and the village hall trustees to be legally approved once planning permission is in place;
3. That the parish council agrees to pay planning application fees in relation to the project at Harrow Meadow estimated to be £1848 (from the Village Hall Budget)
4. That the parish council confirms with the village hall trustees that it cannot pay (and reclaim VAT) on any invoices for work it has not commissioned until a joint project has been formally instigated and planning permission is in place.

**RESOLVED:** (1) That the council agree in principle to support the project;

(4) That the parish council formally advises the village hall trustees that they are unable to pay for any invoices for work that it has not commissioned.

(3) That the parish council agree to pay for the planning fees in principle, subject to costs.

(2) That the Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement needs to be in place once planning permission is granted. That the council will draft and discuss the Memorandum, with the village hall trustees.

#### g) Office Lighting

Quotes have been received to replace the existing two fluorescent strips with LED strips and to install an additional smaller LED strip in the filing cabinet corner. MTR Electrics quoted £293.15 + VAT and ATI Systems quoted £420.00, however ATI's quote included the upgrade of the existing lighting circuit breaker to RCBO device as required – as this is a requirement for all alterations or additions under the current electrical regulations.

**RESOLVED:** That ATI quote is accepted and we ask ATI to provide the council with an electrical certificate for the wiring of the office.

### **8447 PLANNING**

#### a) Planning Committee 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019

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

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

#### b) Planning Notifications

SE/19/00313/DETAIL – Land to the rear of Lydith, High Street, Eynsford – GRANTED

SE/19/00305/HOUSE – Quince Cottage, Riverside, Eynsford – GRANTED

SE/19/00026/LBCALT – Bower Farm House, Bower Lane, Eynsford – WITHDRAWN

SE/19/00025/HOUSE – Bower Farm House, Bower Lane, Eynsford – WITHDRAWN

SE/19/00547/FUL – Land North East of Park Hose Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford – WITHDRAWN

#### c) Tree Work Application SE/19/00844/WTPO – Street Record, Old Mill Close, Eynsford

Plans relating to 0971a/0560 Alder & Ash Group – remove 200mm stem from alder over water, remove 2 x 250mm stems from ash over water, reduce height of both ash and alder by 3m, remove 40mm stem over pathway. 0565 – Ash – reduce laterals on south east side over dwelling by 2-3m were tabled for discussion.

**RESOLVED:** That no objection is made.

#### d) Planning Application SE/19/00874/HOUSE – Little Denes, Tower Croft, Eynsford

Plans relating to the demolition of rear conservatory, erection of a single storey rear extension with roof lantern were tabled for discussion.

**RESOLVED:** That no objection is made

e) Tree Work Application SE/19/00894/WTCA – Russell Garth Cottages, High Street, Eynsford

Plans relating to various works to trees were tabled for discussion. No Objection as lodged.

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

f) Planning Application SE/19/00792/HOUSE – 31 Saddlers Park, Eynsford

Plans relating to the removal of the existing single storey rear building and construction of a new single storey rear extension were tabled for discussion

**RESOLVED:** That no objection is made

g) Cherry Tree

It has been suggested that the Cherry Tree at the war memorial is in need of pruning, particularly in relation to branches being hit by vehicles. The Tree Warden has suggested the following is needed 'to ensure that the large milk lorry has a clear path and cannot damage any branches. It was suggested a 15 to 25% total reduction of the crown, and if line of sight is an issue certain low branches be raised. Council need to check for any dead wood and remove as required, the last time the tree was observed no fungal infections were present. Councillors are asked to agree to quotes being sought for this work, and that the Clerk applies for permission from SDC so that the work can be carried out in June/July

**RESOLVED:** That quotes are sought for the work and that the Clerk applies for permission from SDC.

h) Lullingstone Liaison Group

Mr Ward gave a verbal update on the recent Lullingstone Liaison Group he attended. He noted that:

- a) a new cycle path to take cyclists away from pedestrians is to be installed.
- b) an oak tree had recently fallen into the children's playground, damaging some of the play equipment and that it was hoped that the oak could be re-used in some way.
- c) DVLP are in negotiation with the owners of the Lion Hotel in Farningham, re their proposal of barring access to the river footpath, and hope to pursue other options.
- d) The Visitor Centre is desperate for volunteers' It was suggested that an article in our newsletter may help.
- e) The Samuel Palmer trail will be launching this month.

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

**8448 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION**

a) Water Leak at Village Sign

Mrs Durrant provided an update on the situation; she noted that it would seem the leak at Fountain Court is not the culprit for the puddle around the Village sign. Thames Water has confirmed that the leak repair did go ahead as planned. Mrs Durrant had been monitoring the pavement over the last couple of weeks, but cannot see any signs of the water slowing down. However workmen had

carried out general maintenance and resurfacing to an area of pavement by the retaining wall last week, Mrs Durrant spoke with the workmen doing this work, they noted as they had lifted the pavement, a fairly steady trickle of water coming out of the bottom of the steps to the right of the village sign/BY box, the workmen noted that this would be reported back to their Head Office. The natural spring has been mentioned and Mrs Durrant has advised KCC. Mr Baker suggested that it could be coming from the old school pipes which was serviced by Lullingstone Water. Councillors discussed this in detail and agreed that Lullingstone Water should be contacted to ascertain if they had supplied the old school and had diagrams of the pipe layout. Mrs Durrant noted that KCC will be putting filters under the pavement to take water from the pavement to the gulleys, and she advised that EVS have been advised to look at costs to move the village sign.

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

#### b) Pavement Parking

Councillors were asked to discuss the new government inquiry into pavement parking in England and to agree a response. A discussion was held re the need for pavement parking in Eynsford as there are areas where parking would be very difficult if parking on pavements was not allowed and would add significantly to obstruction of traffic. In addition, Eynsford, in common with many other villages, has many houses without parking facilities for whom on street parking is a necessity. Councillors agreed that they have no objection to people parking on pavements as long as there was sufficient room for people with pushchairs or in wheelchairs.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Richardson and the clerk draft a response to the inquiry.

#### c) Extra Traffic Wardens

Councillors were asked to consider the possibility of hiring extra traffic warden coverage for Eynsford (possibly in partnership with other villages) to help tackle illegal parking. The Clerk had started enquiries and had received information from SDC saying they are not aware that they have ever entered into this type of arrangement with and that did not feel that it was something they could do as, with limited resource, it was unlikely that such an “informal” arrangement could contribute to increasing resources available. It was noted that they are happy to pay more attention to enforcement hot spots to improve road safety and prevent obstruction and had advised us to contact SDC to request a traffic warden at the hot spots and busy times.

**RESOLVED:** That we keep in contact with SDC to request traffic wardens to our hot spot areas.

### **8449 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT**

#### a) Police Report

The Clerk had found the following crime figures

1 x bicycle theft – Eynsford Station

1 x burglary – Birch Close

1 x criminal damage/arson – Riverside

1 x vehicle crime - Riverside

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

b) St Botolphs Churchyard maintenance donation

St Botolphs church had requested a donation towards their grass cutting for the financial year 2018/2019, this was not paid within that financial year, and will be brought forward to this financial year, the council had budgeted £200.00

**RESOLVED:** That a donation of £200 from the churchyard maintenance budget for financial year 2018/2019 is made.

c) Kent Wildlife Trust

Membership for the Kent Wildlife Trust is due for renewal on 30<sup>th</sup> April, councillors are asked to consider renewing the membership at a cost of £50.00

**RESOLVED:** That the membership is renewed

d) KALC Membership

Membership for KALC is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019, councillors are asked to consider renewing the membership at a cost of £630.72

**RESOLVED:** That the membership is renewed

e) Donation request – Farningham & Eynsford Local History Society

A request had been received from F&ELHS for a donation of £200 towards the costs of hall hire or their events during 2019. Mrs Boyle proposed a donation of £100.00; Mr Ward raised concern that this is more running costs rather than capital expenditure. All councillors agreed with Mrs Boyle's proposal

**RESOLVED:** That a donation of £100.00 is made.

f) Donation request – Eynsford W.I

A request had been received from Eynsford W.I for a donation of £100.00 towards the cost of speakers for the coming year. They have a small budget and struggle to cover the cost of the hall hire and speakers.

**RESOLVED:** That a donation of £100.00 is made.

g) Donation request – Eynsford & Crockenhill Rights of Way

A request had been received from Eynsford & Crockenhill Rights of Way towards help funding their work. In previous years the council had donated £70.00

**RESOLVED:** That a donation of £70.00 is made.

**8450 RECREATION**

a) Report & recommendation of the Last Recreation Committee Meeting

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.

The meeting of the council closed at 9:15 pm

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Chairman: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019