

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Thursday 18th July 2019, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.

8491 PRESENT

Members Present

Mrs S Boyle
Mr A Cooke
Mrs A Cornwell (arrived 8.05pm)
Mrs T Durrant (Chairperson)
Mrs F Haxby
Mr G Kirby
Mr P Ward

Other Officials Present

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

8492 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr M Richardson
County Councillor, Roger Gough

8493 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mrs Durrant asked councillors to include recommendations with their agenda items. Mrs Durrant noted that the next council surgery would be held on Saturday 27th July (Mr Kirby gave apologies).

8494 CLERK'S COMMENTS

Mrs Ivaldi noted that the newsletters had been printed and would be delivered the following week.

8495 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

None.

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 20th June 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 June 2019, as per Appendix A. There were some queries over details of the accounts which will be followed up.

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

d) Outstanding Actions

TPO on Crockenhill Lane – Mr Baker will progress and Mrs Ivaldi will help if possible. Mr Richardson and Mr Cooke agreed to look at the Flood Plan before the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

e) Office Kitchen

Councillors looked at potential costs for a new kitchen unit in the office with costs ranging from £3-£5k. Mrs Cornwell noted that she may be able to donate a wall until which she had spare.

RESOLVED: That Mr Kirby looks at what could be done to improve the current kitchen and brings costs to another meeting.

f) Water Leak by the Village Sign

Mrs Durrant reported that following the water valve repair at Fountain Court and following previous recommendation, she had contacted both FELHS and DRiPS in respect of the water pooling by the village sign. FELHS were unable to locate historical information on disused pipework between the old school and Fountain Court, that may be the cause of a leak, and enquiries with water utility companies had so far gone unanswered. DRiPS had advised that their records of the river only go as far as the actual river corridor, and do not cover any feeder springs.

In addition, Thames Water were unwilling to carry out any further testing on the water, as they believed it to be caused by a natural spring and therefore not their responsibility. The parish council could carry out a water test and there are kits available to do this costing between £25 and £50, but may still prove inconclusive. There is an old water fountain at the junction of Bower Lane which was converted around 1902, but this is probably not the source. Finally, topographical and geographical maps indicate a heavy clay area, that can absorb vast amounts of water, and where water has no egress, it will exit through underground channels and natural weep holes.

Works are planned to relocate the sign and to fit drainage along the wall to prevent water pooling on the pavement.

RESOLVED: That no further action is taken to identify the cause of the leak once the remedial work is complete, unless material information comes to light about a possible source.

8496 PLANNING

a) Planning Committee 1st July 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 1st July 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

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

b) Notifications of Planning Consents/Refusal

None

c) Planning Application SE/19/01782/FUL – 1 Walnut Close, Eynsford

Councillors discussed an application to build a new two bedroom dwelling with a private garden and two parking spaces at the above property.

RESOLVED: That no objections are made. That the council ask that the existing trees and shrubs (including the Acrostic) along Station Road, be preserved.

d) Tree Work Application SE/19/01900/WTPO – Land Adjacent to Old Mill Close, Eynsford

Councillors were informed of proposed work to trees at this location and that permission had already been granted.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

e) Planning Application SE/19/01620/HOUSE – 31 Saddlers Park, Eynsford

Councillors discussed an application to demolish the existing single storey rear building and to construct a new single storey rear extension with rooflight at the above property.

RESOLVED: That no objection is made.

f) Tree Work Application SE/19/01990/WTCA – Eynsford House, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors were informed of proposed work to fell three trees at this property. The Tree Warden had no objections.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

8497 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

a) Highways & Transportation Committee 1st July 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Highways & Transportation Committee meeting held on 1st July 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

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

b) Village Car Park

Councillors were informed that in the last week or so, notices had been placed on some cars in the village car park by Sevenoaks District Council stating that cars may not be parked for more than 24hrs. Some residents who do not have off-road parking, use this car park.

Mrs Ivaldi reported that she had asked Sevenoaks District Council about this and received a response.

Sevenoaks District Council had issued the letters after it appeared that the car park was being used for long term vehicle storage. A Traffic Regulation Order had been in place since 2010 which contains a rule that vehicles can only stay in the car park for a maximum of 24hrs.

RESOLVED: That the resident concerned is informed of this Traffic Regulation Order. That no other action is taken at this point.

At this point, 9.06pm, the meeting was opened up to questions from members of the public. (See Appendix Q)

The meeting resumed at 9.13pm.

8498 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

a) Community & Environment Committee 1st July 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 1st July 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

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

b) Police Report

A report covering several parishes had been received from the PCSOs highlighting various issues that had been covered, but none in Eynsford.

The Clerk had found the following crime figures for May 2019

1 x Violent Crime	Upper Austin Lodge Road
2 x Anti-social Behaviour	Lullingstone Castle Parking Area
1 x Vehicle Crime	Station Road
1 x Violent Crime	Saddlers Park
1 x Public Order	Knights Field
1 x Other Crime	Riverside Club Car Park
1 x Anti-Social Behaviour	The Plough Car Park
1 x Burglary	The Plough Car Park
1 x Anti-Social Behaviour	Lullingstone Lane

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) High-Viz Jackets

Councillors were given costs high visibility jackets for use during parish council inspections etc. Eight jackets with Eynsford Parish Council printed would cost £42.02 including delivery; without printing this would be £15.36.

RESOLVED: That Clerks find the costs of 10 jackets with Eynsford Parish Council printed on them and order if the price is reasonable.

d) Climate Emergency

Councillors were informed that following the government's declaration of a climate emergency that many councils had made similar declarations, with many aiming to become net carbon neutral by 2030. Councillors were asked to consider what they could do. Mrs Ivaldi went through various possible measures that other councils had taken.

RESOLVED: that the council set up a working party including Mrs Durrant, Mrs Haxby and Mrs Ivaldi to identify initiatives the council could make in becoming a greener council and to encourage the community to follow suit.

e) Family Fun Day

Councillors were informed that the Clerks have booked a bouncy castle, bouncy hoppers and a circus skills workshop for the Family Fun Day on 9th August and that this has been advertised around the village and beyond.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

8499 RECREATION

a) Recreation Committee 1st July 2019

Councillors were asked to approve the minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held on 1st July 2019 and to accept the recommendations.

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

b) Illegal Parking at Castlefield Allotments

Following unauthorised parking in the allotment spaces which was stopping allotment holders from accessing their plots, councillors had asked for details of ways to restrict this. Councillors were given prices for parking bollards, traffic cones and a parking company. They were also informed that, following letters being left on the windscreen, the owner of the most recent offending car had come forward to apologise and was no longer parking in the space.

RESOLVED: That no action is taken for now unless the problem reoccurs.

c) Allotment Inspection

Mr Cooke informed councillors that he and Mrs Ivaldi had undertaken an allotment inspection the previous week. Letters had been sent to three plot holders where little sign of cultivation was evident giving them three months to make an improvement. However, in general, the allotments were in a good condition. Mr Cooke said that he had spoken to the lady who wished to keep bees and had identified a suitable position for the hive on her plot away from the path.

RESOLVED: that the information is noted.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.55pm

Chairman: 15th August 2019

Appendix Q

Public Questions from the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Thursday 18th July 2019

At 9.06 pm, the meeting was opened up to questions from the public.

Mrs Boyle reported that the 'no cycling' sign at the bottom of Butcher's Lane was obscured and needed to be re-angled.

Mrs Cornwell reported that there was a leak on the corner of Eynsford Rise and Station Road and agreed to report it to Thames Water.

Mr Baker asked about the trees affected by the fire at 1 Fernbank. Ms Morgan would be asked to check on progress.

The public questions ended at 9.13 pm.