

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on
Thursday 20th April 2017, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.**

8176 PRESENT

Members Present

Mrs S Boyle (Chair)

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

Ms N Morgan

8177 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs A Cornwell (for lateness)

8178 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mrs Boyle noted that she will be on holiday for 2 weeks and will not be at the next Saturday surgery which is to be held on 29th April 2017.

8179 CLERK'S COMMENTS

The clerk noted that the newsletter had been picked up for delivery and will be going out within the week.

8180 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

Mr M Richardson declared an interest in item

Mrs S Boyle declared an interest in item

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 16th March 2017 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 March 2017, as per Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That the accounts are approved and payments made.

d) Outstanding Actions

Councillors discussed items listed that had been outstanding for three months or more.

- Mr Cooke to write a management plan for the allotments – still in progress
- Chain to be refixed at Riverside – Mr Richardson has received a response from the Environment Agency, who has said it is possible to suspend a chain one side to the other side without a post in the middle. Further discussion was held on how to attach the chain. It was agreed that Mr Richardson would write back to the EA
- To proceed with a Community Pan – Mr Kirby is still looking into this, but advised that he currently has a verbal agreement with Farningham Parish Council.
- Install LED lighting – this has started and we will get a full programme from our contractor.
- Research funding for moving and levelling the football pitch – still on going
- Send out children's quiz for APM with newsletter- to be brought back for next year's APM

RESOLVED: That all of the outstanding actions are pursued.

e) Date for Annual Walkabout

Councillors are asked to set a date for the Annual Walkabout.

RESOLVED: That the date is set for 19th August 2017 and that each councillor is allocated a number of items to be inspected before meeting up at the council offices to continue with the remaining items. Mrs Boyle, to inspect items, 1-7 61 & 62, Mr Ward, to inspect items, 8-10 & 15-16, Mrs Durrant to inspect items, 11-14, & 17-18, Mr Kirby to inspect items, 48, 51-52 & 63-65, Mr Cooke to inspect items 89-90 & 53-60; all 66-102.

8181 PLANNING

a) Planning Committee 3rd April 2017

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) Notifications of Planning Consents/Refusals Received from Sevenoaks District Council

Planning Application SE/17/00449/FUL – Land behind Sorrento, Station Road, Eynsford – No longer valid

Planning Application SE/17/00359/LBCALT – Darenth Cottage, Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford - GRANTED

c) Planning Application SE/17/009445/HOUSE – 46 Pollyhaugh, Eynsford

Plans relating to the erection of a single storey rear and two storey side extension which connects the existing detached garage to the house, conversion of garage into habitable room enlarging of side dormer, alterations to roof and fenestration were tabled for discussion.

RESOLVED: That councillors object to this application on the following grounds; the design is unbalanced and dominant to the original dwelling. It extends significantly to the side harming the integrity of the original design. The scale of this side extension would also create unacceptable infilling between dwellings.

d) Planning Application SE/17/00877/HOUSE – 11 St Martin's Drive, Eynsford

Plans relating to the erection of a single storey and two storey rear extension with basement. Alterations to fenestration were tabled for discussion

RESOLVED: That no objection is made.

e) Eynsford Village Hall/Harrow Meadow - Update

Mr Richardson gave an update on the new village hall proposals. Mr Richardson advised that they had recently given the architects a list of ideal designs for the new hall, which included incorporating the changing rooms, and turning the football pitch. This then went out to a quantity surveyor, who came back with costs of £1.5million for just the hall, to incorporate the new football pitch and changing rooms, the cost when to £2.7 million. Turning the football pitch would cost in the region of £900,000, with a cost of £330,000 to remove the earth. The trustees have decided not to incorporate the changing rooms within the new village hall design, and the architects are now coming up with new designs for a smaller hall. Further discussions were held regarding the football pitch, with options being discussed with one possible solution, to provide a multisport area, to include, five-side pitch, and this would reduce the overall costs. Mr Richardson advised that the next step is for Mr Cooke and himself to meet with a KCC sports adviser and someone from Sports England to discuss other options. They will also be meeting with Mr H Goldsworthy for another view on the earth moving, to be able to turn the pitch around. Another meeting is set to meet with the architects on 11th May. No decision can be made regarding the football pitch until all other options are discussed.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

f) Listing of Eynsford's War Memorial

The war memorial has now been Grade II listed by Historic England following our submission. The listing can be viewed on the Historic England website. The council has 28 days to make any factual corrections to the listing

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

g) Planning Application SE/17/01059/TELNOT – Telecommunications Mast North West of Hulberry Farm, Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford

Plans relating a proposed telecommunication installation were tabled for discussion.

RESOLVED: That no objection is made.

h) Lullingstone Liaison Meeting

Mr Ward provided a verbal update on the last Lullingstone Liaison meeting, Mr Ward noted that as of the 1st April, Preston Hill Park was brought back into Kent Country Parks' management. Mr Ward advised that the park is thinking of having cattle to graze the fields and they have recently been awarded funding from DVLP for fencing. Mr Ward advised that KCC had recently gone to parliament and presented the importance of Country Parks, this received a good reception at parliament and they will be publishing their findings. Mr Ward noted that KCC are to increase the car parking fees from £40 to £50 per annum and increase the weekend charge to £2.50. KCC have also received funding to extend the canopy outside near the toilets. Mr Ward also noted that the restaurant and the shop are doing well, with 600 bookings for last Christmas lunch. Mr Ward advised the council that there would be an open day at the park on 24th June 2017, and park run have recently run their 100th race there. Mr Ward noted that with all the investment, publicity in the local community is important to making a success of the park and its facilities. Councillors were asked to consider whether Kent County Parks could submit an article for the next newsletter.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted, that we ask Kent Country Parks to submit an article for our next newsletter.

i) Planning Application SE/17/01138/FUL & SE/17/01139/LBCALT – The Barn Park House, Bower Lane, Eynsford

Plans relating to the conversion of the barn to two dwelling houses including internal and external remediation work and associated landscaping, and the erection of a boundary wall were tabled for discussion.

RESOLVED: That no additional comments are made other than that the council supports SDC in their handling of the case and that no formal gardens are made.

At this point, 9:25pm, the meeting was paused for questions from the public (see Appendix Q). The meeting resumed at 9.35pm.

8182 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

a) Highways & Transportation Committee 3rd April 2017

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.

8184 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

a) Police Report

None available.

b) Kent Wildlife Trust – Membership

Councillors are asked to renew their Kent Wildlife Trust membership at a cost of £50.00

RESOLVED: That the membership is renewed

c) Darent River Protection Society (DRiPS)

DRiPS have advised the council that they will be taking on a more pro-active community role in the protection of our vulnerable river, linking with the North West Kent Countryside Partnership, the Southeast Rivers Trust, and the Catchment Co-ordinator of the Environment Agency. They are now offering, to co-ordinate action when it is required on the river. DRiPS are asking the Parish Council, to elect their own river-warden to keep an eye on our section of the river and to report to them any concerns we might have.

RESOLVED: That Mr Richardson asks Mr Ed Holbrook if he would be interested in becoming our river-warden.

d) Darent River Protection Society (DRiPS) - Membership

Councillors are asked to renew the DRiPS membership at a cost of £20.

RESOLVED: That DRiPS membership is renewed at a cost of £20.

e) The Darent Valley Consortium Group – Donation Request

The Darent Valley Consortium Group is considering setting up a website for visitors to the area and local residents, giving details of places to visit, parks and shops etc. Current estimates are approx. £1000 to set up and £250 pa, maintenance chargers etc. Parish Councils are being asked to contribute £200 each to set up and be prepared to take a share of the maintenance (Approx. £50 p.a.).

RESOLVED: That the council does not contribute at present

f) Donation towards the Public Art Project

Councillors are asked to consider a donation to the public art initiative

RESOLVED: That we request details of specific projects and budgets from Eynsford Village Society.

h) Donation Request – Citizens Advice (Swanley & Sevenoaks)

A request had been received for financial help for Citizens Advice. The letter details that 29 residents in Eynsford were helped in 2016. £75 was donated in 2016.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £75 is made.

i) Eynsford Village Hall User Survey

Councillors were asked to complete the survey at the meeting

RESOLVED: That Mrs Cornwell will complete the survey on behalf of the council.

j) Donation to EynsfARA

EynsfARA (Eynsford Active Retirement Group) have requested a donation from the parish council. This is a new group that already has 35 members. Help is needed with hall hire and speaker fees likely to be around £860 per year with the only current income from membership fees.

RESOLVED: That £100 is donated.

k) Village of the Year (TV Programme)

Councillors were asked to consider whether to apply to take part in a TV competition to find Britain's best village 2017. There is a prize of £10,000 available for the winner.

RESOLVED: That we pass the information to Eynsford Village Society.

8185 RECREATION

a) Recreation Committee 3rd April 2017

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

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

b) Use of Riverside for Fundraiser

Councillors considered a request from Lewisham Council to use Riverside green on 18th June 2017 between 9.45am and 6pm as a base for a sponsored bike ride/walk around Eynsford & Otford. They are raising money to take 10 children in care to India to volunteer with children in Himanchal Pradesh. They wish to set out some blankets and a little table (6x6).

RESOLVED: That permission is granted subject to any litter being cleared away and dogs not being allowed on the grass.

c) New Noticeboards

A quote has now been received for two new noticeboards to be sited at Mill Lane and at Castlefield Allotments. The boards would cost £110 each.

RESOLVED: That the council purchases a notice board for the allotments but enquire as to whether a smaller board is available for the Mill Lane location.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.50pm

Chairman: 18th May 2017