

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.**

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**8402 PRESENT**

Members Present

Mr A Cooke  
Mrs T Durrant  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson  
Mr P Ward

Other Officials Present

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

**8403 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mrs A Cornwell  
Mrs F Haxby

**8404 CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Mrs Boyle thanked members for their support during her absence, particularly Mr Ward who was acting chair during this period.

Mrs Boyle thanked the councillors that were part of the parish council team at the Eynsford Village Society quiz on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Mrs Boyle suggested that there could be a surgery session on 29<sup>th</sup> December if any councillors are available.

**8405 CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Mrs Ivaldi noted that the parish office would now be closed for the Christmas period, reopening on 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

**8406 GOVERNANCE**

a) Declarations of Interest

Mrs Boyle declared a non pecuniary interest in 8407c as the owner of a neighbouring property.  
Mr Richardson declared a non pecuniary interest in 8410c as a member of the Eynsford Gardeners Club committee.

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 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 November 2018, as per Appendix A.

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

d) Changes to the Budget for 2018/19

Councillors were asked to approve changes to the budget for the current financial year suggested at the recent budget meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the following changes are made to the 2018/19 budget:

Increase Harrow Meadow Building Maintenance Fund by £710 to £1710.

Increase Street Lighting Maintenance Contracts by £69.76 to £3234.76.

Increase Website Maintenance Budget by £20 to £120

That it is noted that the increases are covered by reductions in proposed expenditure in other budget headings.

e) Budget for 2019/20

Councillors were asked to approve the budget for 2019/20 and to agree the precept request.

**RESOLVED:** That the budget for 2019/20 is approved (as per Appendix B), and that a precept of £79,763.20 is requested from Sevenoaks District Council (an increase of approximately 3%).

f) Outstanding Actions

Mrs Ivaldi confirmed that she had chased the handyman again about the sleepers and that he would be cleaning and repainting the sleepers within the next two weeks. Councillors suggested that this work could be left until the weather improves.

Mr Baker said he would speak to Mr Gee about the group TPO for woodland off Crockenhill Lane.

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

g) Sevenoaks KALC Meeting

Mrs Durrant reported on the recent Sevenoaks KALC meeting that she and Mr Ward had attended. The meeting focused on the Sevenoaks District Council Local Plan with a presentation by Cllr Robert Piper. He said that the main priority was to build on the 7% of non-Greenbelt land but noted that there was very little of this free. There was also an aim to increase housing density by 10%. Sustainable building on brownfield sites was encouraged, but sites for 5 or fewer homes were not being considered. Greenbelt would only be considered when there are social and community benefits that meet existing needs. They will also consider re-zoning Greenbelt land.

Some Greenbelt sites had been thrown out following the first consultation. Although there were 479 comments on Pedham Place, Farningham, this was still being kept in as a site subject to a full

traffic consultation. However, this would not go ahead in the first phase but would be reconsidered in 2020. The current consultation on the revised draft plan ends on 3 February 2019.

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

h) Annual Parish Meeting date

Councillors were asked to agree on the date and venue for the Annual Parish Meeting for 2019.

**RESOLVED:** That meeting is held on 28<sup>th</sup> March at St Martin's Church, Eynsford

i) Tidy-Up Day

Councillors were asked to agree a date for a tidy-up of the parish office and outside areas.

**RESOLVED:** That this is carried out on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January with all available councillors and clerks.

j) NALC Pay Award 2019/20

Councillors were asked to consider approving the NALC Pay Award for the Clerks from April 2019.

**RESOLVED:** That current pay scales and the proposed increase are clarified before this is considered.

**8407** **PLANNING**

a) Planning Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> December 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) Planning Notifications

SE/18/03079/ADV – The Plough Inn, 24 Riverside, Eynsford – Granted

SE/18/03092/FUL – The Plough Inn, 24 Riverside, Eynsford – Granted

SE/18/03137/LBCALT – Willow Cottage, Station Road, Eynsford – Granted

SE/18/03037/MMA – Willow Cottage, Station Road, Eynsford – Granted

SE/18/03168/HOUSE – 1 Upper Austin Lodge Farm Cottages, Upper Austin Lodge Road, Eynsford - Granted

c) Planning Application SE/18/03187/HOUSE – Heather Croft, Station Road, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for removing and replacing a broken fence along the boundary.

**RESOLVED:** That no objections are made.

d) Planning Application SE/18/03624/HOUSE – The Lodge, Station Road, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for a rear single storey extension to the main house and partial demolition of the existing garage and creation of annexe in the first floor space over the garage area.

**RESOLVED:** That no objections are offered.

e) Planning Application SE/18/03597/LBCALT & SE/18/03596/FUL – Ford House, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application for change of use from residential to C1 and A3 rebuilding and extending rear ground floor extension with glazed lantern light. Removal of chimney stack internally in the cottage, replacement of the existing lean-to conservatory with a r-storey extension. The replacement of the existing UPVC windows with traditional sash windows. Refurbishment and replacement of the casement windows to side and rear elevations. New ensuite bathrooms and a new parking area to facilitate use.

**RESOLVED:** That councillors support this application subject to the listed building and access issues being resolved.

At this point, 9.03pm, the meeting was opened up the questions from the public (see Appendix Q). The meeting resumed at 9.20pm.

f) Planning Application SE/18/03652/HOUSE – 20 Eynsford Rise, Eynsford

Councillors considered an application to re-render the rear of the house.

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

**8408** **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION**

a) Highways and Transportation Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

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) Bollard, Scout Hall Car Park

Councillors considered three quotes to install a new wooded bollard outside the pedestrian gate to the scout hall, to keep access clear.

**REOLVED:** That the quote for £140 from Mr S Gray is accepted.

c) Bench at Common Meadow

Councillors were asked to consider designs and prices of benches in order to choose one to be installed at Common Meadow in memory of Guy Hart Dyke. Contributions have been promised by Eynsford & Farningham Scout Group and Eynsford Cricket Club.

**RESOLVED:** That a Victoria Seat is ordered from Broxap at a cost of £665 + VAT, fittings and installation.

d) Rents for Castlefield Car Park

Councillors were asked to consider an increase to the annual rent at Castlefield Car Park.

**RESOLVED:** That an increase from £120 to £125 is agreed from 1 April 2019. That users are informed that the increase is in line with the RPI and the fee will be reviewed annually.

e) Castlefield Car Park – Illegal Parking

Councillors were informed that recently there had been cars/vehicles parked overnight in the allotment spaces, and also, that parents on the school run sometimes park in the allotment and private spaces. The Clerk had put notices on a van that had parked for a number of nights, asking it not to park there. These had been ignored but the van was now parked elsewhere. The school have sent out a note to parents asking them not to park in these spaces, following our request.

**RESOLVED:** That the DVLA is asked for details of the owner of the van so that a letter can be written.

**8409** **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT**

a) Police Report

The Clerk had found the following crime figures:

October 2018 (latest)

Lullingstone Roman Villa Car Park 1 x criminal damage, 1 x vehicle crime

St Martin's Drive 1 x vehicle crime

Walnut Close 1 x criminal damage/arson, 1 x violent crime

Riverside 1 x vehicle crime, 1 x criminal damage/arson, 1 x violent crime

TOTAL – 8

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

b) Emergency/Flood Plan

Councillors were asked to discuss whether to write an emergency/flood plan for the village. A template from the Environment Agency is available.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Cooke and Mr Richardson (Flood Wardens) review the template and report back on whether they will be going ahead with a flood plan.

c) Lost Words Kent Campaign

Councillors were asked to consider donating towards the Lost Words in Kent Campaign for Books in Schools which aims to donate a copy of the book 'The Lost Words' to every primary and special school in Kent. £10 would purchase one book.

**RESOLVED:** That more information is found out on this scheme, including from Mr Gough who is supporting it, before a decision is made.

d) Village Sign

Councillors discussed the state of the village sign following an email received from Eynsford Village Society who were concerned about water damage due to an ongoing leak, also about the possibility of moving or reinforcing the post and about public liability insurance.

**RESOLVED:** That Mrs Durrant works with Mr Blakemore (secretary of Eynsford Village Society) on a solution to the issues around the village sign.

e) Trees from Kent Downs AONB

Councillors had previously agreed to purchase 45 saplings from Kent Down AONB but had since been offered around 100 saplings for free by Mr Penney. He has trees ready for planting out including Service trees, ash trees, oak trees, whitethorn and hawthorn trees. Councillors were asked to consider changing their recommendation in light of this new information.

**RESOLVED:** That the council accept the trees offered by Mr Penney and that the previous decision to purchase trees from Kent Downs AONB is revoked. That Mr Penney is asked about the number of variety of trees and is thanked for his offer. That landowners are contacted and that the offer is publicised to members of the public.

f) Eynsford in Bloom Donation

Councillors considered a request for funding from Eynsford in Bloom towards their expenses for 2018 totalling £1038.14 + VAT.

**RESOLVED:** That a donation of £1245.74 is made to Eynsford in Bloom.

g) Baptist Church – Community Asset Listing

Councillors were informed that a letter had been received from the Baptist Church regarding the parish council's application to Sevenoaks District Council for their building to be listed as a community asset. The leaders of the church were not happy with the application and that they had not been consulted in advance.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Ward drafts a reply, explaining the reasons and the process of listing a building as a Community Asset, and offering a meeting if this is helpful.

**8410** **RECREATION**

a) Recreation Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

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

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

b) Allotment Fence

Councillors were asked to approve a quote received to replace 4 posts and repair the fence between Castlefield Car Park and the allotment site. A quote of £130 had been received from Mr S Gray.

**RESOLVED:** That the quote of £130 to repair the fence is approved, to be paid for from the Allotment Maintenance Budget.

c) Use of Common Meadow – Eynsford Gardeners' Club

Councillors considered a request from Eynsford Gardeners' Club to use Common Meadow for a fete-style event on 15<sup>th</sup> June. The cricket club had been consulted on dates when they are not using the meadow.

**RESOLVED:** That permission is granted subject to the site being cleared by 7pm and the usual conditions regarding dogs, vehicles and litter which the Clerk will confirm with the Club.

4) Roof Repairs

Councillors were asked to approved quotes received to replace broken tiles on the roof of the Harrow Meadow changing room (£100) and on the History Archive centre (£75). It had been difficult to source matching tiles and other quotes were not available.

**RESOLVED:** That the roof repairs are carried out by Mr P Menditta as quoted.

5) Rents for Castlefield Allotments

Councillors were asked to agree an increase to the annual rent of an allotment plot from £20 to £21 from 1 April 2019.

**RESOLVED:** That the increase of £1 is approved and allotment holders informed that the rent will be reviewed annually.

The meeting of the council closed at 10.15 pm

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Chairman: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019