

# Minutes of the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020, via an online video-conferencing session, at 8pm.

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## 8611 PRESENT

### Members Present

Mr M Barker  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke  
Mrs F Haxby  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson  
Mr P Ward (Chairperson)

### Others Present

Mr A Cheeseman (District Councillor) (attended from 9.02pm – 9.37pm)  
Mr R Gough (County Councillor) (attended from 9pm - 9.13pm)  
Ms C Brooks (resident) (left at 9.20pm)  
Mr K Baker (Tree Warden)  
Mr J Gee (Tree Warden)

### Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

## 8612 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

## 8613 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mr Ward thanked Mrs Haxby for helping to secure Harrow Meadow when there was a risk of an unauthorised encampment. Mr Ward thanked Mr Richardson for putting up the new signs at the recreation areas. Mr Ward noted that the BT phone box has now been removed. He also reported that he had had a meeting about CCTV with Mr Cheeseman and a representative from Kent County Council.

## 8614 CLERK'S COMMENTS

None.

## 8615 GOVERNANCE

### a) Declarations of Interest

Mr Richardson declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8615f as Chair of the Village Hall Trustees.

#### b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the last full council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020 were presented for approval.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes are accepted as a true and complete record and that the recommendations are approved. Arrangements were made for the minutes to be signed.

#### c) Finance Notes

The clerk submitted a list of accounts, and a budget report, for May 2020, as per Appendix A. A schedule of payments was also presented.

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

#### d) Outstanding Actions

None.

#### e) Clerks' Pensions

Kent County Council pensions had informed the Clerks that they had been overpaying their pension contributions since 2014 at 6.5% rather than 5.5%. KCC require the overpayments to be paid back rather than being kept in the pensions or reducing future payments. KCC will reimburse the council so that the council can repay the clerks via their salary.

**RESOLVED:** That the reimbursement of the clerks is approved.

#### f) Village Hall Update

Mr Cooke gave an update on the latest situation with the village hall project. He said that the application for the new hall was likely to be approved soon subject to a flood/drainage report and an archaeological report. However, Mr Cooke noted that an archaeological report that already been supplied so was awaiting advice on this. News on the existing hall site should be forthcoming soon.

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

#### g) Revised Budget 2020/2021

Due to the completion of the end of year accounts for 2019/2020, the residue in the budget had increased. Councillors were asked to allocate this increase within the budget and to make other adjustments.

**RESOLVED:** That the following changes are made:

Harrow Meadow Changing Rooms budget reduced from £1275 to £637.50 to allow for decreased usage this season.

Year End Residue budget increased from £143,228.45 to £164,006.00 due to end of year outcome.

New Allotment Extension Project £1000 to be paid from the CIL budget.

Annual Parish Meeting budget reduced from £250 to £0 due to cancellation of event.

Eynsford in Bloom budget increased from £1400 to £1600 due to increased costs.

Castlefield Car Park Maintenance budget increased from £3537.50 to £7037.00 due to change in timing of resurfacing works.  
Churchyard Maintenance budget increased from £1150 to £2300 due to late claims.  
CIL Money budget reduced from £5051.88 to £4051.88 due to money being transferred to new allotment project budget.  
Contingency budget increased from £3944.88 to £4171.43 due to increased residue.  
Dog bin budget increased from £1300 to £1550 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Ground Maintenance General budget increased from £1800 to £2040 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Grounds Maintenance Harrow Meadow budget increased from £1200 to £1258 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Harrow Meadow Building Maintenance budget increased from £5000 to £5520 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Harrow Meadow Changing Rooms Running Costs budget increased from £3000 to £3370 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Highways General budget increased from £2000 to £6250 for projects on the Highways Improvement Plan.  
Litter Warden budget increased from £1612 to £1708 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Parish Office Running Costs budget increased from £4500 to £4550 due to late invoice from previous financial year.  
Memberships budget increased from 3900 to £980 due to late payment from previous financial year.  
Summer Play Sessions budget reduced from £1000 to £0 due to cancellation of play days.  
Tree Planting budget increased from £300 to £500 to allow for additional planting.  
New budget for a village event £2000 to mark/celebrate the end of the pandemic.  
Village Hall Project Support budget increased from £95,000 to £103,000.

#### h) Trident Articles

Councillors were informed that Mrs Durrant had been writing a monthly article for The Trident. Now that she has left the councillors, councillors discussed how to cover this going forward.

**RESOLVED:** That a rota including Councillors and the Clerk is set up to write Trident articles.

#### i) Equality and Diversity

Councillors were asked to review the council's Equality policy and to consider whether any other measures need to be taken in the wake of the Black Lives Matter event. There was some discussion about the Black Lives Matter at Common Meadow on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Permission was not sought from the parish council for this event to go ahead. However, it was conducted peacefully and with appropriate social distancing. The council had informed the police and two officers were present.

**RESOLVED:** That the Equality policy is approved.

#### j) Risk Assessments/Covid-19

Councillors were asked to consider whether risk assessments should be carried out on parish office buildings/amenities with regards to re-opening safely to the public as lockdown restrictions ease. A sample pro-forma risk assessment had been circulated by National Association of Local Councils.

**RESOLVED:** That COVID-19 risk assessments are drawn up for approval as follows:  
Harrow Meadow Changing Rooms – Mr Cooke  
Parish Office – Mr Richardson/Mrs Ivaldi  
Harrow Meadow Playground – Mrs Haxby/Mrs Boyle

At this point, 9pm, the meeting paused for questions from the public. (Appendix Q).  
The meeting resumed at 9.38pm.

## **8616 PLANNING**

### a) Report and Recommendations of the Last Planning Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the last Planning Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, and to accept the recommendations made.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved and that the recommendations are accepted.

### b) Notifications of Planning Consents/Refusal

SE/20/01095/HOUSE – Little House, Crockenhill Lane, Eynsford - REFUSED

### c) Planning Application SE/20/01467/HOUSE – 16 Eynsford Rise, Eynsford

Councillors discussed an application for raising the roof to incorporate a first floor extension. An extension and alterations to existing conservatory including a replacement roof and alterations to fenestration. An amended plan showing the correct position of the windows was also noted.

**RESOLVED:** That councillors offer no objections.

## **8617 HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION**

### a) Report and Recommendations of the Last Highways & Transportation Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the last Highways & Transportation Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, and to accept the recommendations made.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved and that the recommendations are accepted.

### b) Parking Enforcement, Riverside

Councillors were informed of an email received from Sevenoaks District Council's Parking Engineer about parking enforcement at Riverside. In his email he suggested that his parking wardens would be more successful in issuing tickets to offending drivers if double yellow lines in key locations were supplemented with loading bans between 8am and 6.30pm. This would mean that tickets could be issued immediately. The council asked if it supported this suggestion.

**RESOLVED:** That Sevenoaks District Council are informed that the council supports this proposal of additional loading bans, but that the parish council request involvement in agree the exact locations.

## 8618 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

### a) Report and Recommendations of the Last Community & Environment Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the last Community & Environment Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, and to accept the recommendations made.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved and that the recommendations are accepted.

### b) Police/Crime Report

The Clerk provided details of crime statistics from April 2020:

Twenty-eight crimes were reported:

Lullingstone Country Park –	2 x Other theft
Castle Road –	1 x Criminal damage/arson
Lullingstone Castle –	4 x Anti-social behaviour
	3 x Criminal damage/arson
Lullingstone Roman Villa -	1 x Anti-social behaviour
Lullingstone Lane -	1 x Anti-social behaviour
Common Meadow -	2 x Anti-social behaviour
Ford House car park -	1 x Public Order offence
Walnut Close -	1 x Vehicle crime
Saddlers Park -	1 x Criminal damage/arson
	1 x Violence/sexual offence
Knights Field -	3 x Anti-social behaviour
St Martin's Drive -	2 x Vehicle crime
	2 x Violence/sexual offence
Eynsford Rise -	1 x Anti-social behaviour
Eynsford Station -	1 x Criminal damage/arson
Lower Austin Lodge -	1 x Criminal damage/arson

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

### c) Summer Fun Days

Councillors were informed that Sevenoaks District Council had cancelled the Summer Fun Days due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

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

### d) Membership of CPRE

Councillors were asked to renew their membership of CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) at a cost of £36.

## 8619 RECREATION

### a) Report and Recommendations of the Last Recreation Committee Meeting

Councillors were asked to approve the report of the last Recreation Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, and to accept the recommendations made.

**RESOLVED:** That the report is approved and that the recommendations are accepted.

### b) Cleaning of Play Equipment

Councillors were asked to agree a quote for the cleaning of the play equipment at Harrow Meadow playground. A quote for £390 to jet wash the equipment and surfacing, and a quote to handwash the equipment for £160 were received.

**RESOLVED:** That the council agrees that jet washing the equipment and safety surfacing would be best, but that a revised quote is sought as the council can provide a generator and a jet washer. That the timing is the equipment is delayed until it is safe to re-open the playground, in line with a risk assessment.

### c) Cleaning of Harrow Meadow Changing Rooms

Councillors considered a quote of £260 to jet wash the walls and floors of the changing rooms.

**RESOLVED:** That a decision on this quote is deferred until after a risk assessment is carried out.

### d) Annual Walkabout

Mr Cooke suggested possible dates for the annual inspection of parish assets, provided that it is safe to meet up. If this is not the case, jobs will be allocated to individuals who feel safe to leave their homes.

**RESOLVED:** That the Annual Walkabout takes place on 15<sup>th</sup> August, subject to current guidelines. That Mr Cooke draws up a plan for the inspection.

### e) Use of Riverside

Councillors were informed that Grace Church had asked if their permission to use Riverside for their Gospel Picnic could be moved from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.

**RESOLVED:** That Grace Church are granted permission to use Riverside for their Gospel Picnic on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.

### f) New Signs for Riverside and Recreation Areas

Councillors were informed that the Clerk had ordered 12 A3 signs for the council's recreation areas giving guidance on expected behaviour in these areas. Local company Print Party had offered to produce these signs at cost price. The total cost for the metal signs was £84 which the Clerk approved under delegated powers.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Richardson is thanked for putting up the signs, and that Mrs Ivaldi is thanked for organising them.

g) Use of Recreation Areas

Councillors were asked to agree whether any additional policies regarding the use of the council's recreation areas were needed. It was noted that organisations are already required to seek permission to use the areas, and that byelaws cover what is and is not allowed.

**Recommended:** That the council puts out a statement about the need to request permission to use Riverside, Common Meadow and Harrow Meadow. That the police are asked about the enforcement of byelaws.

h) Harrow Meadow Playground

Councillors were asked to consider when the playground could be re-opened and, if so, what measures would need to be put in place.

**RESOLVED:** That a risk assessment is carried out and brought back to the next meeting for approval.

i) Unauthorised Encampments

Councillors were informed that there have been several unauthorised encampments in the district in recent weeks. Councillors were asked to consider the security of parish council land.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Barker carries out a review of parish council land and brings back suggested measures to another meeting.

The meeting of the council closed at 10.27pm

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Chairperson: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## **Appendix Q**

### **Public Questions from the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

At 9pm, the meeting was opened to questions from the public.

Mr Gough joined the meeting at 9pm.

With regards to the draining issues around the village sign, he reported that the existing French drain would be extended. The job has been raised so this work should be carried out in the next couple of months.

Mr Gough said that he had been informed of the proposal to introduce a loading ban at Riverside to allow for better parking enforcement. The Clerk agreed to copy Mr Gough into the council's response to this. Mr Gough said that he was waiting for news from Geoff Bineham (KHS) about possible additional signage at the ford.

Mr Gough asked whether there had been a decrease in anti-social behaviour since the meeting with the police. The Clerk noted that initially there was an increased police presence, but that it was only occasional now.

Mr Gough left at this point (9.11pm).

Ms Brooks said that she had joined the meeting to get an update on issues around parking, CCTV the Black Lives Matter event and anti-social behaviour. Mr Ward noted that new signage had been installed and that Mr Cheeseman would be providing an update on a possible CCTV scheme. Ms Brooks said that she was concerned that problems would increase once the weather improved again. She said that updates on facebook (and other platforms) were useful.

Mr Cheeseman had joined the meeting at 9.02pm.

He reported that KCC contractors would be willing to help to carry out a survey of the village with a view to installing CCTV and would give prices and options. The cost was likely to be around £20,000. Mr Cheeseman said that if the council wished to go ahead, that he would help with fundraising. Issues may be line of sight, broadband signal and the hosting of the hub equipment. It would also need to be agreed how the information would be monitored.

Mr Ward thanked Mr Cheeseman for his work on this. The parish council would need to discuss further to identify the problems and look at possible solutions at the next committee meeting.

Mr Cheeseman said that he had been asked by the SDC planning officer about the Littlecroft application. Mr Ward explained the council's objections to the application, but noted that a version of the application had already been approved, so it would probably not be useful to refer it to the SDC Development Committee on this occasion. However, it was thought that it would be useful to write to SDC about inconsistencies in their planning decisions, particularly in relation to Green Belt conditions.

Mr Cooke asked Mr Cheeseman about the containers by the station. Mr Cheeseman said that what was needed was footage of activity going on at the site. If anyone was able to get any footage, then it could be used by enforcement officers.

Mr Cheeseman left at this point. Ms Brooks had left during Mr Cheeseman's report due to poor internet connection.

The public questions ended at 9.37pm.



# Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020, via an online video-conferencing session, at 8pm.

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## 8620 PRESENT

### Members Present

Mr M Barker (joined at 8.02pm)  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke  
Mrs F Haxby  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson (joined at 8.07pm)  
Mr P Ward (Chairperson)

### Others Present

Mr A Cheeseman (District Councillor)  
Mr T Higgs and Mrs S Curtain (Eynsford Riverside Club)  
Mr A Fletcher (Resident)

### Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

## 8621 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

## 8622 COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

### a) Declarations of Interest

None.

### b) The Plough, Riverside

Councillors were asked to discuss and consider an action plan for dealing with the opening of The Plough with outside only drinking.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the manager of The Plough and he had said that only the existing outside tables would be used, with no additional outside seating, and that there would be table service only and no takeaway service.

It was noted that The Plough was due to open on Saturday, the Five Bells on Sunday and the Malt Shovel on Monday. The Riverside Club was not planning to open until the end of July.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk requests the risk assessment from The Plough. That no further action is taken, but that the situation is monitored.

### c) Toilet Provision

Councillors were told that prior to the agenda being published, that the owner of the Riverside Tea Room had offered to finance portaloos on or near Riverside, subject to the council's agreement. However, the owner had gone ahead and installed portaloos on her own premises, that would also be available for public use. This had been done due to reports of people using public areas as a toilet while none were open.

Councillors noted that they had previously considered installing portaloos, but due to the risk of vandalism and difficulty in maintaining them, this had not been pursued.

Councillors discussed whether to install additional portaloos for the summer season. Covid regulations would require frequent cleaning and the employment of someone to do this at least every 30 minutes. With pubs and other attractions opening, it was thought that the pressure on Riverside would lessen.

**RESOLVED:** That the owner of the tea rooms is thanked for installation of portaloos for public use. That no additional toilets are installed at present, but that the situation is monitored.

### d) Rubbish Collection, Riverside

Councillors were asked to review rubbish collection at Riverside due to the increased visitor numbers and the amount of rubbish left there.

Mr Fletcher confirmed that Sevenoaks District Council empty the bins at Riverside every morning on weekdays.

Various other solutions to the litter problem were put forward including humorous signs, litter collections during busy times to encourage people to put their rubbish in the bins/bags, providing additional bin bags, getting additional bins.

**RESOLVED:** That additional black bags are taped to the bins at Riverside daily (or as required). That Sevenoaks District Council are asked whether additional bins can be installed at Riverside. That 'Don't be a Tossler' signs are created and put up on Riverside, initially as a laminated sign.

### e) Alcohol Free Zone

Councillors were asked to consider whether to research an alcohol-free zone for Riverside.

The Clerk reported that instigating an alcohol-free zone would require a lengthy legal process. It would give police additional powers to remove alcohol from people in the area. However, police already have the power to do this if anti-social behaviour is taking place. With current police levels it would be difficult to enforce.

**RESOLVED:** That no further action is taken.

At this point, 9pm, the meeting paused for questions from the public. (Appendix Q).

The meeting resumed at 9.15pm.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.15pm

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Chairperson: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## **Appendix Q**

### **Public Questions from the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020**

At 9pm, the meeting was opened to questions from the public.

Mr Cheeseman said that Laura Trott, the MP for Sevenoaks, would be visiting Eynsford Riverside at 12 noon on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Members of the council, and members of the public were welcome to meet her and raise any issues, particularly around anti-social behaviour.

Mr Higgs (Riverside Club) asked about the ice cream van that regularly parks on Riverside on double yellow lines. Mr Ward said that this had been looked at over many years without progress. However, plans to introduce a 'no loading' area would make enforcement from traffic wardens easier.

Mr Higgs also asked about community police and community wardens. The Clerk explained how policing levels had significantly decreased over the years, and that Eynsford had not had a dedicated Community Warden for over three years.

The public questions ended at 9.15pm.

## Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 8:15 p.m.

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Present: Mr M Barker  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke  
Mrs F Haxby  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson (Chair of Planning Committee)  
Mr P Ward

Non-members Present:  
Mr K Baker (Tree Warden)  
Mr J Gee (Tree Warden)  
Mr G Evans (resident)  
Ms A Parker (resident)  
Ms C Brooks (resident)  
Mr A Cheeseman (District Councillor)  
Mrs A Carter (resident) (from 8.30pm)

Clerk in Attendance:  
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:  
Mr R Gough (County Councillor)

1) Election of a Chairperson

Members were asked to elect a Chairperson for the Planning Committee.

**Resolved:** That Mr M Richardson is elected as Chairperson of the Planning Committee.

2) Declarations of Interest

Mr Richardson declared a pecuniary interest in item 5 as the applicant.

3) Former Railway Goods Yard, Upper Austin Lodge Road

Members discussed reports from residents about activity at this site relating to storage or business materials and whether or not this was allowed at this site.

Mr Evans reported that three shipping containers had arrived on site in February and were being used to store bricks/stones. Also, that people had been seen loading and unloading on the site in recent months.

Mr Cheeseman said that he had been in touch with Planning Enforcement at Sevenoaks District Council who had visited the site and had chased the owners about a potential application for use of the land for storage. Mr Cheeseman agreed to chase Sevenoaks District Council about the use of the site and to find out what permissions were in place.

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

4) Planning Application SE/20/01322/FUL – Littlecroft, Eynsford Road, Eynsford

Councillors discussed plans for the demolition of the existing tennis court, change of use of existing annex to part of the existing dwelling known as Littlecroft, alterations to the existing garages, subdivision of the existing plot, and construction of a new self-contained residential dwelling with associated landscaping.

**Resolved:** That the council's previous comments are repeated as follows:

The council strongly objects to the application with the following observations.

The proposed site is between and outside of the built areas of Eynsford and Farningham. This location represents an important green and open buffer between the two villages. Development here could in no way be considered as limited infilling.

When considering the previously developed land, the proposal would have a significant adverse impact on the openness of the Greenbelt compared to the existing garage and tennis courts.

Being sited within the Greenbelt and AONB, the proposal represents inappropriate development and does not align with any of the stated NPPF exceptions for development in the Greenbelt.

No case or justification for Very Special Circumstances has been presented for new development within the Greenbelt.

The new dwelling does not align positively with any existing Local Plan Greenbelt policies and should therefore be considered as inappropriate.

It fails to enhance the AONB through its size and bulk.

For the reasons stated above the Council asserts that planning permission be refused.

5) Tree Work Application SE/20/01270/WTCA – Old Manse, High Street, Eynsford

Councillors were informed that an application had been submitted to fell a birch tree.

The Tree Warden had looked at the application and had submitted No Objections to Sevenoaks District Council.

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

The meeting of the Planning Committee closed at 8:44pm

## Minutes of a meeting of the Highways & Transportation Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 9.28p.m.

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Present: Mr M Barker  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke  
Mrs F Haxby  
Mr G Kirby (Chair of Highways & Transportation Committee)  
Mr M Richardson  
Mr P Ward  
Mr K Baker  
Mr J Gee

Non-members Present:

Clerk in Attendance:  
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:  
Mr R Gough (County Councillor)

1) Election of a Chairperson

Members were asked to elect a Chairperson for the Highways & Transportation Committee.

**Recommended:** That Mr G Kirby is elected as Chairperson of the Highways & Transportation Committee.

2) Declarations of Interest

None.

3) Highways Improvement Plan

Members discussed the Highways Improvement Plan in detail including the priority of schemes. A new item to extend the 30mph limit on Crockenhill Lane was added.

**Recommended:** That the updated Highways Improvement Plan (attached) is submitted.

The meeting of the Highways & Recreation Committee closed at 10.15pm

**Minutes of a meeting of the Communities & Environment Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 10.15p.m.**

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Present: Mr M Barker  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke  
Mrs F Haxby (Chair of Community & Environment Committee)  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson  
Mr P Ward  
Mr K Baker  
Mr J Gee

Non-members Present:

Clerk in Attendance:  
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:  
Mr R Gough (County Councillor)

1) Election of a Chairperson

Members were asked to elect a Chairperson for the Community & Environment Committee.

**Recommended:** That Mrs F Haxby is elected as Chairperson of the Community & Environment Committee.

At this point, 10.18 the meeting opened up for questions from the public, ending at 10.25pm.

The meeting of the Community & Environment Committee closed at 10.25pm

## Minutes of a meeting of the Recreation Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 8:45 p.m.

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Present: Mr M Barker  
Mrs S Boyle  
Mr A Cooke (Chair of Recreation Committee)  
Mrs F Haxby  
Mr G Kirby  
Mr M Richardson  
Mr P Ward  
Mr K Baker  
Mr J Gee

Non-members Present:  
Mr G Evans (resident)  
Ms A Parker (resident)  
Ms C Brooks (resident)  
Mr A Cheeseman (District Councillor)  
Mrs A Carter (resident)

Clerk in Attendance:  
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:  
Mr R Gough (County Councillor)

1) Election of a Chairperson

Members were asked to elect a Chairperson for the Recreation Committee.

**Recommended:** That Mr A Cooke is elected as Chairperson of the Recreation Committee.

2) Declarations of Interest

None.

3) Common Meadow and Riverside

Members discussed the current issues of large numbers of tourists visiting Eynsford, in particularly Riverside and Common Meadow, and the ensuing anti-social behaviour.

Mr Ward summarised that there had been lots of visitors to the village due to good weather and people having more free time. Mainly they had been well behaved apart from some lack of social distancing. However, there had been some instances of anti-social behaviour including threats of violence, damage to flower baskets, threats to workers as well as general littering etc.

There was a discussion including members of the public present covering the following points. Other points were raised via email:

- Problems included littering, swearing, loud music, lack of social distancing, broken glass, BBQs, people urinating and defecating in public areas, horses and traps being raced in the village.



- Local people feel unsafe due to behaviour and lack of social distancing.
- Local people are concerned about lack of police presence, lack of enforcement of social distancing/anti-social behaviour, lack of enforcement of parking on double yellow lines- in particular the ice cream van, signs and by-laws being ignored, lack of toilet facilities.

Mr Cheeseman said that he had been in touch with Kent County Council about the possibility of having CCTV in the area. They would be carrying out a survey of the area to see what would work. He said he was in contact with an officer at Sevenoaks District Council about why the public toilets were closed down. Mr Cheeseman said he was trying to set up a meeting with the local MP about policing and other issues.

It was noted that people should report all incidents to the police in order to gain a better police presence but that the parish council would continue to press for this.

**Recommended:** That the council contacts the police about increased presence and enforcement. That the council contacts Sevenoaks District Council about enforcement of illegal parking. That the council looks into better signage for Riverside and surrounding areas.

The meeting of the Recreation Committee closed at 9.28pm

## **Appendix Q**

### **Public Questions from the Committee Meetings of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.**

At 10.18pm, the meeting was opened up to questions from the public.

Mr Baker asked about a Tree Work application for 4 Willow Terrace. Mrs Ivaldi said it must have come in during the last few days as it had not been circulated yet.

Mr Gee said that he had injected stump killer in the stumps on the land behind Bank Cottages to prevent re-growth.

Mr Cooke said that there was a rough sleeper in Chalkhurst Woods and that local people had donated food and clothing. He had allowed the man to use the showers at the changing rooms. The man had been given details of Sevenoaks District Council to speak to them about housing/work.

The public questions ended at 10.25pm.