

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Thursday 21st May 2020, via video conferencing at 7.30 p.m.

8579 **PRESENT**

Members Present

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

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

Other Officials Present

Mr A Cheeseman, District Councillor

8580 **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

Nominations were invited for the post of Chairperson. It was RESOLVED that Mr Ward be elected Chair of the Council.

8581 **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

Nominations were invited for the post of Vice-Chairperson. It was RESOLVED that Mrs Boyle be elected Vice-Chair of the Council.

8582 **SIGNING OF DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

The signing of Declarations of Acceptance of Office, by the Chair and Vice-Chair were deferred until the next physical meeting can be held.

8583 **APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE UNDERMENTIONED COMMITTEES**

It was RESOLVED that the following Members will serve on the under mentioned committees:

Planning: All Members

Highways & Transportation: All Members

Community & Environment: All Members

Recreation: All Members

8584 NOMINATIONS FOR NON-COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

It was RESOLVED that Mr K Baker and Mr J Gee be a co-opted member of the Highways & Transportation, Community & Environment and Recreation Committees, and that Mrs A Carter be a co-opted member of the Community & Environment Committee.

8585 APPOINTMENT OF THREE COUNCILLORS TO SERVE ON THE GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that Mrs Boyle, Mrs Haxby and Mr Richardson be appointed to serve on the above committee.

8586 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON GDPR WORKING GROUP

It was RESOLVED that Mr Barker, Mr Ward and Ms Morgan (Deputy Clerk) be appointed to serve on the above working group.

8587 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE TREE WORK SUB-COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that Mr Ward, Mr Richardson, Mr Baker (Tree Warden) and Mr Gee (Tree Warden) be appointed to serve on the above committee.

8588 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

It was RESOLVED that Mr K Esmail be appointed Internal Auditor

8589 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was RESOLVED that, in principle, Parish Council main meetings will continue to be held on the third Thursday of each month and that Committee meetings will continue to be held on the first Monday of each month, except when it falls on a Bank Holiday, in which case it will usually be moved to the following Tuesday.

8590 APPOINTMENT OF TREE WARDENS

It was RESOLVED that Mr K Baker and Mr J Gee be appointed as Tree Wardens for the coming year.

8591 APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE TO ANTHONY ROPER CHARITY

It was RESOLVED that Ms J Groves' appointment as Trustee to the Anthony Roper Charity be approved for the coming year.

8592 APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE TO THE ELEEMOSYNARY CHARITY OF HENRY COX

It was RESOLVED that Mrs Durrant appointment as Trustee to the Eleemosynary Charity of Henry Cox be approved for the coming year. It was noted that the Rector of the parish (position currently vacant) would continue to act as an ex-officio Trustee.

8593 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO EYNSFORD VILLAGE SOCIETY

It was RESOLVED that Mrs Haxby will represent the Council at meetings of Eynsford Village Society and that Mr Kirby would deputise.

8594 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (KALC)

It was RESOLVED that Mr Kirby will represent the Council at meetings of Kent Association of Local Councils, and also on the Joint Transportation Board.

8595 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO THE SCHOOL RUN SAFETY CAMPAIGN (SRSC)

It was RESOLVED that no appointment is made at present until it is established whether or not the committee is viable.

8596 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO DARENT VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP (DVLP)

It was RESOLVED that Mr Kirby will represent the Council at meetings of Darent Valley Landscape Partnership.

8597 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO LULLINGSTONE PARK LIAISON GROUP

It was RESOLVED that Mr Cooke will represent the Council at meetings of the Lullingstone Park Liaison Group.

8598 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE(s) ON THE HARROW MEADOW SUB-COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that Mr Cooke will represent the Council at meetings of the Harrow Meadow Sub-Committee with Mr Richardson acting as deputy.

8599 APPOINTMENT OF FLOOD WARDEN/S

It was RESOLVED that Mr Cooke and Mr Richardson be appointed as Flood Wardens.

8600 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE GREEN WORKING GROUP

It was RESOLVED that Mrs Haxby, Mr Barker, Mrs Ivaldi, Mrs Durrant, Mrs Laird, Ms Langridge and Mrs McMillan be appointed members of the Green Working Group.

8601 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE/S TO THE DARENT VALLEY COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

It was RESOLVED that Mr Kirby and Mr Richardson be appointed as representatives to the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership.

The Annual Meeting of the Council closed at 8.03 pm

Chairman: 18th June 2020

Minutes of the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 21st May 2020, via an online conferencing session, at 8.04pm.

8602 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)
Mr R Gough (County Councillor) (attended from 9pm - 9.13pm)
Three members of the public

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

8603 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

8604 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mr Ward thanked councillors for electing him as Chairperson.

8605 CLERK'S COMMENTS

None.

8606 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

None.

b) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last full council meeting held on the 16th April 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 April 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

February 2020 – Tree in memory of Eric Syddique. The Tree Warden had suggested one tree - a false acacia with yellow leaves.

It was agreed that this would be put on the next agenda with details of location and costs provided by the Tree Wardens, in the hope that it can be planted in the autumn.

e) Insurance Renewal

Councillors were given quotes for the annual insurance renewal. Councillors decided against paying extra to cover the street lights in the village.

RESOLVED: That annual insurance costing £881.22 with Zurich is taken out.

f) Casual Vacancy

Councillors were told that no election had been called for the vacancy. Councillors discussed how to co-opt a suitable candidate.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk and Councillors continue to advertise the position. That no deadline is set at the moment. That if any suitable candidates are identified, that a decision is taken whether to co-opt remotely, or to wait until a physical meeting can be held.

8607 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 4th May 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/20/00726/LBCALT – 2 & 3 Bank Cottages, High Street, Eynsford – GRANTED

SE/20/00892/FUL – Oakdene, Uplands, Chanros & Springpark, Eynsford – GRANTED

SE/20/01147/AGRNOT – Land South of Bower Park Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford – PRIORITY APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

SE/20/00719/HOUSE- 57 Eynsford Rise, Eynsford - GRANTED

c) Amended Planning Application SE/19/03345/FUL – Harrow Meadow, Bower Lane, Eynsford

Councillors discussed an application for the erection of a village hall, football pitch, viewing platform together with associated parking as amplified by amended highways plan. The amended plan showed minibus tracking into the site.

RESOLVED: That councillors fully support the application.

d) Use of Land at Viaduct

Councillors discussed the use of the land at the base of the viaduct on Lullingstone Lane, following queries from members of the public. Mr Alexander, the landowner, was present and confirmed that the land was rented to a local resident for her horticultural business and that checks had been made at the time into whether Change of Use would be required. This was not the case.

RESOLVED: That no action is taken.

e) New Tree Preservation Order (TPO), Lullingstone Lane Arboretum

Councillors considered a request from the Tree Wardens to put a request for a TPO on the land adjacent to Meadow View and Waggoners Barn on Lullingstone Lane. These areas include an Arboretum created by Mr J Alexander Snr containing a variety of specimen trees both evergreen and deciduous, and an area containing deciduous native trees. This area is adjacent to the Conservation Area and in the Green Belt. Mr Alexander, who owns the land, confirmed that it had no farming value.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk applies to Sevenoaks District Council for a Tree Preservation Order for the above areas.

8608 **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION**

a) Highways Improvement Plan

Councillors were due to review the Highways Improvement Plan, but decided to defer this until the next committee meeting where more time could be spent on this.

Mr Alexander mentioned problems of cars parking on the bend of Lullingstone Lane and blocking access.

RESOLVED: That the Highways Improvement Plan is discussed at the next committee meeting.

b) Parking Charges, Sevenoaks

Councillors were asked to consider a request to Sevenoaks District Council to remove parking charges in the town centre to aid the town's economic recovery after lockdown.

It was noted that currently parking charges are suspended.

RESOLVED: That Sevenoaks District Council are contacted to support the suspension of parking charges and to find out how long this is likely to continue.

8609 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 4th May 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 March 2020:

Nine crimes were reported:

- 1 x anti-social behaviour – Lullingstone Roman Villa
- 1 x burglary – Parking Area, High Street
- 1 x drugs offence – St Martin's Drive
- 1 x vehicle crime – Saddlers Park
- 3 x burglary – Pollyhaugh
- 1 x anti-social behaviour – Pollyhaugh
- 1 x anti-social behaviour – Gibsons Place

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) Donation Eynsford & Crockenhill Rights of Way Group

Councillors were asked to consider a donation to the Eynsford & Crockenhill Rights of Way Group.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £70 is made.

d) Donation Marie Curie

Councillors were asked to consider making a donation to the Marie Curie charity for end of life care.

RESOLVED: That a donation of £100 is made.

e) New Flood Plan

Councillors looked at the newly formatted flood plan which was presented for approval.

RESOLVED: That the colour contrast on the leaflet is increased. That Mr Richardson & Mr Cooke check the addresses of at risk properties and circulate it at an appropriate time.

8610 RECREATION

a) Annual Walkabout

Councillors discussed whether to set a date for the Annual Walkabout in August or whether to agree another way forward due to the current restrictions.

RESOLVED: That Mr Cooke circulates a date for the Walkabout. That if it is not possible to meet up, that Mr Cooke will allocate areas to inspect to individual councillors.

At this point, 9.01pm, the meeting was opened to questions from members of the public (see Appendix Q). The meeting resumed at 9.22pm.

b) Tree Work at Common Meadow

Councillors were asked to consider quotes for raising the crown of 17 field maples and removing one field maple at the northern side of Common Meadow as they are getting in the way of vehicles belonging to the cricket club. However, it was not clear if both quotes were like for like.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk submits an application to carry out the work to Sevenoaks District Council. That the quotes and work required are reviewed and more information is brought back to another meeting.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.30pm

Chairperson: 21st May 2020

Appendix Q

Public Questions from the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council, held on Thursday 21st May 2020

At 9.01pm, the meeting was opened to questions from the public.

Mr Gough said he had chased Emily at Kent Highways regarding the ongoing leak on the High Street and had been promised that a job had been raised for the work to be carried out this summer.

Mr Gough also said that the resurfacing of the section of road between Bower Lane and Parsonage Bank was still in the programme, but the date of the works is not yet known.

Mr Gough spoke about the parking issues on the bend outside Lullingstone Visitor Centre. He was also supportive of the council's issues regarding parking on the Lullingstone Lane bend. He asked the Clerk to send him further information.

Mr Gough said that the Household Waste centres were now open and that the booking system was now working after initial problems.

Mr Gough left at this point.

Mr Cheeseman said that he had spoken to Jim Sperryn at Sevenoaks District Council about the planning application for Eynsford Village Hall. Mr Sperryn was generally positive about the application and no legal agreement was required.

Mr Cheeseman had also been helping a resident of St Martin's Drive about a neighbouring development and was trying to get in touch with Planning Enforcement at Sevenoaks District Council as the construction doesn't match the plans.

Mr Cheeseman said that he would try to help if possible with regards to issues around Riverside and the perceived lack of social distancing. He confirmed that bins would be emptied 3-4 times a week.

Mr Ward asked Mr Cheeseman about historic enforcement issues who agreed to look into any issues which could be forwarded on to him.

Mr Gee (Tree Warden) mentioned the lack of clarity in relation to agreed pruning of the London Plane tree next to the bridge. Mr Gee was concerned that this could cause irreversible damage to the tree and was in touch with Sevenoaks District Council about the matter.

The public questions ended at 9.22pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 4th May 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 8:00 p.m.

Present: Mr M Barker
Mrs S Boyle
Mr A Cooke
Mrs F Haxby
Mr G Kirby (8.24pm)
Mr M Richardson
Mr P Ward (Chair of Planning Committee)

Non-members Present:
Mr K Baker
Mr J Gee
Mr & Mrs Horne (Members of the public) (until 8.25pm)

Clerk in Attendance:
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:
None

1) Declarations of Interest

None.

2) Planning Application SE/20/00984/FUL – Barn South West of Juniper, Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford

Plans relating to an application for the conversion of a barn to a self-contained four-bedroom dwelling with associated parking, private garden and amenity were discussed.

Mr & Mrs Horne noted that they strongly objected to the application as the barn would overlook both their garden and their house.

Mr Ward highlighted other planning legislation that could be taken into account regarding Green Belt etc.

Resolved: That the Parish council objects to this application due to inappropriate overlooking into the garden and main building of neighbouring property ‘Broom Bank’.

3) Planning Application SE/20/01095/HOUSE – Little House, Crockenhill Lane, Eynsford

Plans relating to the erection of a single-storey detached garage including demolition of the existing garage were discussed.

Resolved: That no objection is made.

4) Planning Application SE/20/01147/AGRNOT – Land South of Bower Park Farm, Bower Lane, Eynsford

Plans relating to the erection of a steel frame barn were discussed.

Resolved: That no objection is made.

5) Listing of 'Lucy 'Box', High Street, Eynsford

Councillors discussed whether to ask if the 'Lucy' box near to the village sign could be listed (and protected). It was thought that this was originally an electric fuse/junction box originally installed around the 1920s.

Recommended: That the council looks into getting the Lucy Box listed. That the local history society is informed and asked for any background information. That Mr Kirby investigates the listing on behalf of the council.

The meeting of the Planning Committee closed at 8:45pm

Minutes of a meeting of the Community & Environment Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 4th May 2020 via Zoom (Video Conferencing) at 8:45 p.m.

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

Non-members Present:
None

Clerk in Attendance:
Mrs H Ivaldi

Apologies for Absence:
None

1) Declarations of Interest

None.

2) Policing & Social Distancing

Councillors discussed recent incidents regarding lack of social distancing in the parish and nuisance parking. Popular areas such as Riverside and Common Meadow were attracting lots of people including those having picnics, making social distancing difficult for local people wishing to walk through the areas. This was also the case around Lullingstone and the Country Park where lots of cars were parking along the roads which was causing access difficulties for local farmers and others. Some councillors thought that re-opening the visitor centre car park might be preferable to nuisance parking. The driving of quad bikes and other off-road vehicles around Pedham Place golf course, Capricorn Farm and others areas was also raised.

Recommended: That the police and Kent County Council are approached about the various issues and asked for advice on alleviating the situation.

The meeting of the Community & Environment Committee closed at 8:59pm

Appendix Q

Public Questions from the Committee Meetings of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on Monday 4th May.

At 8.59pm, the meeting was opened up to questions from the public.

Mr Baker noted that the recent application for the conversion of the barn adjacent to Meadow View had only been sent to four neighbouring properties, and not to the properties on Crockenhill Lane most affected. It was noted that this was down to Sevenoaks District Council and this should be raised with Mr Cheeseman.

Mr Gee noted that there was an Arboretum on the land where the above barn is sited that should be protected. It was suggested that he sends details to the parish council so that they can consider requesting a TPO for the Arboretum

The public questions ended at 9.05 pm.