

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council of Eynsford, held on
Thursday 17th November 2015, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 8 pm.**

8003 PRESENT

Members Present

Mrs S Boyle (Chair)

Mr A Cooke

Mrs A Cornwell

Mrs T Durrant

Mrs F Haxby

Mr G Kirby

Mr P Ward

Other Officials Present

Mr M Horwood (District Councillor)

Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

8004 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr M Richardson

Mr R Gough (County Councillor)

PCSO Darling

8005 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mrs Boyle reminded members of the next Surgery to be held on Saturday 28th November from 9-11am. Mrs Boyle asked about a quiz team for the Eynsford Village Society Quiz. Mrs Haxby was thanked for attending the Gallipoli Remembrance service in Farningham. Other Councillors had attended the Twinning Ceremony on 7th November and Mrs Boyle had signed the charter. Mrs Boyle asked that thanks be conveyed to the Twinning committee.

8006 CLERK'S COMMENTS

None.

8007 GOVERNANCE

a) Declarations of Interest

None.

b) Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the last full council meeting the 15th October 2015, 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 October 2015, 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.

- A meeting had now been set up with Mr R Bayne from Darent Valley Landscape Partnership on 30th November.
- A warning sign for Harrow Meadow playground had been ordered.
- Mrs Durrant would bring further info on debit cards to the next meeting.
- It was agreed to invite Alan Williams (DRiPS) to the January Community & Environment committee meeting.
- It was agreed to change the tree work item to ‘TD and AGC to review what additional tree work is needed at Castlefield Allotments’.

RESOLVED: That all of the outstanding actions are pursued.

e) Budget and Precept for 2016-17

Councillors were asked to approve the budget and precept request for the financial year 2016/17.

RESOLVED: That the budget is agreed (see Appendix B) and that a precept of £71,552.00 is requested.

f) Adoption of Non-Pecuniary Interests (NPIs)

Councillors were asked to agree whether they wished to complete and adopt a list of Non Pecuniary Interests (NPI) which would be registered with the Monitoring Officer. Councillors were informed that the completion of NPI forms was not required, but was considered to be good practice.

RESOLVED: That councillors complete the NPI forms and that these are adopted at the next meeting.

g) Changes to the Standing Orders

Councillors were asked to agree to changes to the Standing Orders to bring them in line with the Code of Conduct adopted in 2012. The section to be updated related to the conduct of councillors, how interests were declared and how votes were taken at meetings.

RESOLVED: That the revisions to the Standing Orders are adopted.

h) Report from Lullingstone Liaison Group

Mr Ward reported on a recent meeting of the Lullingstone Liaison Group which he had attended, as follows:

- A representative from Kent County Council (KCC) had explained more about the PIN process that they were going through with the Country Parks, and also apologised for the poor communications about this with parish councils. Although KCC are generally happy with how the parks are run, they are required to undertake a periodic review of services and contract. Following the PIN, they are following up on one applicant.
- The Parkrun on Saturday mornings is going very well and is not having any negative impact on the park.
- KCC are looking into installing free WiFi for the park.
- The licence application for the visitor centre was just to do with a change in staff.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

i) Deputy Tree Warden

Councillors were asked to approve Mr John Gee as Deputy Tree Warden to work alongside Mr Ken Baker.

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Mr John Gee as Deputy Tree Warden is approved.

j) Social Media Policy

Councillors were asked to consider creating a Social Media Policy for the council to cover the use of social media and other online information as well as a policy about printed media and publicity.

RESOLVED: That the Clerks draw up a suitable policy for approval.

8008 PLANNINGa) Planning Committee 2nd November 2015

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

SE/15/03153/WTPO – 4 Saddlers Park, Eynsford - Granted.

SE/15/02660/LBCALT – 6 Mill House Close, Eynsford – Granted

SE/15/02721/MMA – Higham. Bower Lane, Eynsford – Granted

SE/15/00933/FUL – Upper Austin Lodge Golf Club, Upper Austin Lodge Road, Eynsford – Granted.

c) Planning Application SE/15/03257/HOUSE – September Stables, Upper Austin Lodge Road, Eynsford

Councillors discussed plans relating to the erection of front and rear roof dormers at this property.

RESOLVED: That councillors object as there is no evidence that the upper floor falls within the 50% limit (Policy GB1). That Sevenoaks District Council is asked whether there had been an application to convert the attic to habitable space.

d) Right to Buy Legislation

Councillors were informed that a letter had been received from English Rural Housing, the company that manages the low cost housing at Knights Field. They set out that a voluntary agreement had been made with the government that the existing statutory exclusion from the Right to Buy of English Rural's housing would continue. Current tenants would qualify for a Right to Buy property in a different location where the exclusion does not apply.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

8009 **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION**

a) Old Mill Close Street Lighting

Councillors were informed that another letter had been received from a resident of Old Mill Close about the change in the timings of the street lights. The resident had listed several crimes in the close. The clerk had followed up with the police about the crimes and they had found six crimes in the area over the last four years of varying types. Mrs Haxby had spoken to other residents and they had no issues to report but would prefer more street lighting. The resident manager had no issues to report either. As there was no material change in the situation, no further decisions could be made.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

8010 **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT**

a) Community & Environment Committee 2nd November 2015

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) Police Report

PCSO Darling had provided a report as follows:

A Safer Plates and Property Marking session would be held on Saturday 28th November from 2-3pm at the Scout Hall Car Park.

The next public engagement event would be on 17th November outside Rafferty's from 1 – 1.30pm.

Crimes reported in the past month were:

- Theft of a mobile phone from a vehicle, High Street
- Vehicle interference, Station Road
- Suspicious Event, High Street
- Criminal Damage, St Martin's Drive

- Burglary, Birch Close
- Theft, Saddlers Park.

RESOLVED: That the information is noted.

c) KALC Community Awards 2016

Councillors were asked to agree how and whether to nominate for the Community Awards 2016. The deadline for nominations is 29th January 2016. It was noted that nominations of groups as well as individuals could be made.

RESOLVED: That the awards are advertised via Facebook, the council website, Trident, by word of mouth and via posters and flyers in local shops. That all nominations are collated and brought to the January meeting where councillors will vote for a candidate.

d) Handyman Jobs

Councillors were asked to review the spreadsheet of jobs and to prioritise new ones for action.

RESOLVED: That the following actions are taken:

- Timetable the repainting/staining of the notice boards at the car park and the bus shelter for the spring.
- Chase for quotes for works to the changing rooms re damp etc.
- Chase KCC re repairs to the wooden bridge at the ford and the overflow bridge.
- Check whether joints to the rail at Riverside had been checked/repared.

e) Eynsford in Bloom Donation

Councillors were asked to agree a grant to Eynsford in Bloom. £1200 had been budgeted.

RESOLVED: That £1200 is allocated as budgeted and that an additional £200 is donated from Contingency.

f) Annual Parish Meeting 2016

Councillors discussed plans for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 22nd April 2016.

RESOLVED: That the meeting is run along the same lines as last year and relevant agencies invited. That the photography competition subject is 'Eynsford, our Community'. That further ideas are brought to the next Community & Environment committee meeting.

At this point, 9.04pm, the meeting was opened to questions from the public. (Mrs Cornwell left at this point)

The meeting resumed at 9.18pm.

8011 RECREATION

a) Eynsford Football Club Youth Team

Councillors were asked to agree how to deal with pitch/changing room rental for the Youth Team who are no longer using Harrow Meadow regularly. They had suggested paying £25 per game. Previously they had been charged £125 per year.

RESOLVED: That a pay-as-you-play charge of £25 per match is agreed.

The meeting of the council closed at 9.24 pm

Chairman: 17th December 2015