



The Village Hall
Warden Road
Eastchurch
Sheppey
Kent
ME12 4EJ

Website: eastchurchpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Phone/fax (01795) 880790
Email: eastchurchparishcouncil@hotmail.com

The meeting was open to the public and the press and recorded in line with Standing Orders.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF EASTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY 2016 IN EASTCHURCH VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM.**

MEMBERS: Cllr Kathleen Carter (Chairman), Cllr Mike Brown, Cllr Tina Booth, Cllr Terry Wady, Cllr Andy Booth, Cllr Chris Shipley, Cllr Brian Pullinger.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Kathleen Carter, (Chairman), Cllr Mike Brown, Cllr Tina Booth, Cllr Brian Pullinger and Cllr Shipley.

OFFICER PRESENT: Clerk - Fiona Jackson

MINUTES - MAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

1) Apologies for Absence

Cllr Wady and Cllr Andy Booth.

2) Approval and Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting

Cllr Brown proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Shipley. **Acceptance proposal carried.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

3) Matters arising from the minutes not covered by other agenda items

Page 1 Minute 3 – The medals have been delivered and the school will be contacted to arrange the presentation.

Page 1 Minute 3 – The trees have been cut.

Page 2 Minute 8 – A letter of complaint has been written.

Page 2 Minute 8 – Cllr Brown had contacted the Times Guardian to inform them of their error for the Shurland Hotel which has no planning permission.

Page 2 Minute 9d – A request for posters has been made.

Page 2 Minute 9h – Mr Auston DL has agreed to attend the June meeting. The DL had kindly donated £500.00 towards the cost of the medals for the school children.

Page 3 Minute 11 – The missing white posts have been reported.

Page 3 Minute 11 – The Lower Road ditch markers are scheduled for cleaning and straightening.

4) For Members to make or receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests in regards to items on the agenda under the Council's adopted Code of Conduct.

None.

5) Public Session

None.

6) Report from local Police and KCC Warden.

The PCSO was on holiday. KCC Warden Lynne Bentley queried if the Parish Council were responsible for any street lighting – no. There had been some minor problems at Dickson's which were being dealt with. The Chairman reported that an abandoned car had been left for two weeks before being removed from a dangerous stretch of road.

7) Chairman's Report 2015/2016

The past year has another been busy time for the Parish Council. There has been a re-structuring of committees and working groups and also some of the administration systems. The web site continues to

undergo improvements. This has meant that the Councillors are working more efficiently and the Parish Council is fulfilling its statutory commitments.

The achievements include the Aviation Memorial planting scheme, put in place to protect the Memorial and to enhance the area. The Cheyne square boxes have been replanted and a new planting scheme has been installed at the Aviation replica at the western end of the High Street which enhances both the replica and the area that it surrounds. Grass cutting areas around the village hall and school have been included in the maintenance schedule, keeping close links with other organisation in the Parish.

The Royal Navy asked if the Parish Council would take on the organisation of the Observance to the Aviation Pioneers, which of course the Councillors were pleased to do. This took place in July to coincide with the centenary of the formation of the RNAS. Children from the school, took part in the parade along with FAA and RNA members. It was a very successful day which was attended by many Naval and Civic dignitaries and most importantly by many residents. The service included a dedication to the RNAS plinth which had recently been installed. This was followed in September by a WW1 Remembrance service at All Saint's Church. During the service, poems written by the children were read out and a beautifully prepared book of these was presented to the British Legion. It was well attended by residents and was a very dignified memorial to those who had lost their lives from the Parish. Children and Councillors laid specially prepared posies at the lych-gate for each name inscribed there and it was very moving.

The Parish Council has replaced the Church lights with LED's and at Christmas completely overhauled the crib which was reinstated in the churchyard. The lights in the village were particularly beautiful and have attracted many visitors and positive comments. This was reflected in the Parish Christmas Lights Awards where over 70 people attended the presentations made by the Mayor and Mayoress of Swale.

A number of long term projects have come to fruition starting with the new bus stop on Lower Road which Councillors have been campaigning to have installed for several years. The trail and exercise equipment at Dickson's Field has recently been completed and the Parish Council have already seen various groups and individuals making use of it. The Parish sign is under construction and it is hoped that it will be installed in the next few months. A defibrillator has been installed outside the village hall ensuring that medical equipment is available in an emergency.

Bright's Wood continues to thrive and the Parish Council have made improvements to the drainage area around the scrape, and are looking to clear some of the pathways and prune some of the lower branches of trees for improved access.

A new committee has been created comprising of residents and parish councillors to decide on applications to the Solar Farm Fund from VOGT Solar and there was a good response from the community on the first round of applications.

The Parish Council has continued its constant battle with Highways. The Warden Road battle continues with the drainage issues for yet another year, but we did have success with re-routing of the drainage in the High Street, preventing the crossing flooding in wet weather.

As always the Parish Council has worked and will continue to work for the benefit of it's residents, helping to maintain the Parish of Eastchurch as a pleasant environment to live, work and visit.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank both Councillors and the Clerk for all the help they have given me over the past year.

Cllr Brown thanked Cllr Carter for chairing the Council through the year. Cllr Carter responded that her thanks went to a team of good Councillors and a good Clerk.

8) Correspondence

- a. Aviation Annex – Invitation to the unveiling of an Airfields of Britain Memorial Stone. Sunday 26/06/16 11am. Cllrs Carter, Brown, Booth, Pullinger and the Clerk to attend.
- b. Clerks and Councils Subscription Renewal - £84.00. Cllr Tina Booth proposed accepting the renewal, seconded by Cllr Brown. **Acceptance proposal carried.**
- c. F.I.T Centenary Fields – Request for Sites
- d. Sheppey Sea Cadets – Invitation to the Royal naval Parade Thursday 16th June 7.15pm at Barton's Point Unit HQ. Cllr Carter and the Clerk to attend.
- e. Rowson Electrical – quotation for disconnect and reconnect lights from silver birch on High Street. Cllr Tina Booth proposed accepting the renewal, seconded by Cllr Brown. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

f. CAB – Request for donation. Cllrs asked for more information on the eastern end of the island and whether there was an outreach programme.

g. Letter of resignation - Cllr Chris Shipley. The Chairman read a letter of resignation from Cllr Shipley who was retiring and moving from the area. Cllr Carter said that this was a very sad occasion for the Parish and thanked Cllr Shipley for the time and effort that he had put into the Parish Council and wished him a Happy Retirement. Cllr Brown echoed this and said he would miss Cllr Shipley's humour and doodling. Councillors all agreed that Cllr Shipley had brought the Parish and the Church together. Cllr Shipley thanked everyone for the thoughts and words and wished the Parish Council and residents the best of wishes for the future. The Chairman presented the Rev. Shipley with a book token on behalf of the residents and Councillors of Eastchurch.

9) Parish Council Insurance

Quotations have been received for the Parish Council Insurance renewal which is due 01/06/16. Revised asset registers have been sent to both companies.

The AON quotation is £1239.94 (last year £1587.43).

Zurich have provided two quotations.

The equivalent of the AON Policy will be approximately £1500.00

A pared down policy covering only the statutory requirements and the items on the asset register is £766.14

This was put forward to AON who have reduced their quotation to £757.21 but keeping the cover the same as on the original quotation.

Cllr Tina Booth proposed accepting the reduced renewal quotation, seconded by Cllr Brown. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

10) Report from Planning Committee.

a) Application Reference. No: 16/503388/FULL Respond By 19/05/16

Proposal: Erection of a first floor front extension over garage to form bedroom together with internal alterations to form new ensuite bathroom window to side elevation.

Location: 11, Leet Close, Eastchurch. ME12 4EE.

No objection.

11) Bulb Planting Quotation.

Cllr Mike Brown declared a DNPI as a member of the PfR group and took no part in the discussions.

A quotation has been received for the bulb planting on Rowetts Way:

500m² @ £18.00m = £9000.00

Cllr Carter proposed accepting the quotation, seconded by Cllr Tina Booth. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

12) Bright's Wood Safety Fencing Quotation

Fencing was required around the scrape at Bright's Wood; there are two exposed areas with the rest surrounded by natural vegetation. A quotation has been received from the contractor to supply and fit fencing around these open areas of the Scrape in Bright's Wood:

22m approx. of 3ft high equine netting with one rail on chestnut dipped posts - £366.00 +VAT

Cllr Brown proposed accepting the proposal, seconded by Cllr Pullinger. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

Signage is also required at the scrape, a direction post at the entrance to Kent View Drive and on the gate at the entrance to Bright's Wood. Detailed quotations were not available for this meeting. However a verbal guesstimation has been obtained:

Aluminium Compound Material - Scrape Sign and (galvanised)Post and fittings £70.00

ACM - Directional Arrow sign £35.00

ACM - Gate Sign £25.00

Proofing and delivery £50.00 approximately depending on number of posts required.

A maximum approved spend is required if signage is to be ordered before next meeting.

Cllr Carter proposed a maximum of £300.00 for four signs and a post, seconded by Cllr Pullinger.

Acceptance proposal carried.

13) Financial Statement and Authorisation of Payments.

Parish Council

200911	EBSL	Assets	444.58	88.92	£533.50
200912	KALC	Admin	506.68	101.34	£608.02
200913	K. Carter	Allces	50.00	0.00	£50.00
200914	K. Carter	Projects	196.75	0.00	£196.75
200915	LMIDB	Admin	1.47	0.00	£1.47

200916	Taylor's	Projects	490.00	98.00	£588.00
200917	Tower Mint Ltd	Projects	1026.38	205.28	£1231.66
200918	HMRC	Admin	39.16	0.00	£39.16
200919	F. Jackson	Admin	807.46	0.00	£807.46
200920	Insurance	Admin	757.21	0.00	£757.21
Direct Debit	B Telecom (Internet)	Admin	91.68	18.34	£110.02

Balance of Accounts as per Cash Book, reconciled with bank statements as of 30th April 2016

EPC Money-Master £8366.89
EPC Treasurer £28830.28

Cllr Carter proposed accepting the schedule of payments, seconded by Cllr Brown. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

14) Councillor's Reports (only to include items not previously discussed on the Agenda).

Cllr Carter reported that the Observance had been a brilliant day and the Lord Boyce had been a delight. Cllr Andy Booth had pointed out some issues that needed addressing and these would be discussed at the wash up meeting of the group. The Chairman thanked the Clerk who had worked tirelessly – a huge amount of office time is taken up and a lot more is done behind the scenes than people realise. The Chairman also thanked the Reverend Shipley for taking the service jointly with the RN Chaplain. There had been many more people back at the hall where official thanks had been given to the Lord Boyce and the VIPs who had then thanked the children personally up on the stage. It had been a good event and the flypast had been excellent.

Cllr Pullinger said that the school children should be advised to wear hats if the weather was hot as there had been a faintee.

Cllr Tina Booth said the Parish Council had only been given three days' notice for the recent planning training session at SBC which was unacceptable the PC's were treated as an afterthought. A hand out from the session will be given to the office.

At the recent LDF meeting there had been housing recommendations including the back of Eastchurch and also at Barton's Hill. A consultation would take place shortly. There was also the possibility of the A2500 being turned into a dual carriageway from Cowstead Corner to Eastchurch. A discussion took place on the plans.

Cllr Carter reported that vehicles for sale were appearing at the bottom of Kent View Drive blocking the post box. This would be reported to Swale Borough Council.

Cllr Brown reported that cameras had been installed on Rowetts way. A discussion took place on their purpose – ANPR(?).

The Rev Shipley reported to the Council that the war graves in the churchyard are to have signage put up by the War Graves Commission.

15) Dates of Next Meetings

- Planning Committee - As required
- Solar Committee 2nd June 10.30am
- Observance Working Group 16th June 10.30am
- Finance Committee - To be arranged
- Parish Council Meeting 28th June, 7.30pm

16) Closure of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.03pm

Signed.....Chairman

Signed.....Clerk

Dated