



The Village Hall
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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 25TH JULY 2017 IN EASTCHURCH VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM.

MEMBERS: Cllr Kathleen Carter (Chairman), Cllr Mike Brown (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Tina Booth, Cllr Terry Wady, Cllr Andy Booth, Cllr Brian Pullinger and Cllr Ivor Gough.

MEMBERS PRESENT Cllr Kathleen Carter (Chairman), Cllr Mike Brown, Cllr Brian Pullinger, Cllr Terry Wady and Cllr Ivor Gough.

OFFICER PRESENT: Clerk - Fiona Jackson

MINUTES - JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

1) **Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Andy Booth, Cllr Tina Booth and KCC Warden Lynne Bentley.

2) **Approval and Adoption of Minutes from the previous meeting.**

Cllr Brown proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Gough. **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 repaired water leak is leaking again.

Page 2 Minute 9 – The minutes will be distributed electronically.

Page 2 Minute 10 – CPRE membership has been renewed

Page 2 Minute 10 – The consultation has been replied to.

Page 2 Minute 10 – Donation to PCC in Finance

Page 2 Minute 10 – The invitation has been responded to.

Page 2 Minute 10 – Donation to Scouts in Finance.

Page 2 Minute 10 – Poster has been displayed

Page 3 Minute 12 – Agenda item

Page 3 Minute 13 – Robin Hadley will attend the meeting on the 20th September

Page 3 Minute 15 – The path cut has been requested – completed.

Page 4 Minute 15 – The Allotments have been contacted.

Page 4 Minute 15 – Cllr Tina Booth is coming in to the office on Thursday 27th July

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.**

Cllr Mike Brown declared a DPNI for Agenda Item 8 and signed the Register of Interests.

5) **Public Session.**

Mr Love asked if there was any news on the Wheatsheaf Public House which had closed down again and appeared to be in the process of being divided in to two residences. There was to be a report under Planning on this.

Fiona Jackson

Clerk to Eastchurch Parish Council

6) **Report from local Police and KCC Warden.**

KCC Warden Lynne Bentley had put in her apologies for the meeting and sent in a report.

We have now begun the start of the summer holidays so once again I will be patrolling Dickson Field on a regular basis.

Up to this point in time, I haven't encountered any problems in the village but I would like to draw your attention to recent cold caller scams in the Swale area:

Resident in Swale reported a male who has attended the address and asked to clean her guttering for £10. Male stated he had been to various neighbours and carried out work. Resident refused and made enquiries with neighbours who stated male hadn't carried out any work. Male described as white, Irish accent, 5'7", 25-30 years, wearing a white T-shirt, blue jeans and black trainers with red/orange on them. He drove off in a blue estate car with ladders on the roof.

A resident in Sheerness reported a middle-aged female offered rugs for free for pensioners, once accepted the resident was pursued for £250 for a poor-quality rug.

Please can we ask our residents in the village to be vigilant and report any concerns of cold calling/doorstep traders directly to the police on 101.

7) **Correspondence.**

a. Mayor's Office – Confirmation of invitation to present Garden Awards 5th September 2017.

b. SafePlay – Renewal of instruction for quarterly inspections. £52.00 + VAT. Cllr Brown proposed accepting the renewal quotation, seconded by Cllr Gough. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

c. Leysdown Parish council – Invitation to the opening and dedication of the Bandstand, 5/08/17. No-one able to attend.

8) **Decision on Purchasing of Crocus Bulbs**

Cllr Brown declared a DPNI for this item. A box of 5000 crocus bulbs is available from the Rotary Club of Minster on Sea. The cost to the Rotary Club from RHS is £95.00 provided in order to provide awareness of the End Polio Now Charity. The bulbs need to be ordered by 31st July and would be delivered in late Autumn for planting.

A decision is required on whether to purchase the bulbs at a minimum cost of £95.00. Any additional funds received as a donation would be ringfenced for local charitable causes. Cllr Brown explained the reason for the RHS providing the bulbs at such a reduced cost – highlighting the End Polio Now campaign

Councillors discussed the opportunity and agreed it was a good opportunity. Cllr Wady proposed buying the bulbs, seconded by Cllr Pullinger. **Acceptance proposal carried.** Cllr Wady proposed a donation of £25.00 extra for the Rotary Club, seconded by Cllr Pullinger. Cllr Gough proposed that the donation was £50.00, Cllr Wady withdrew the original proposal and seconded the new proposal. **Acceptance proposal carried.**

9) **Report from Planning Committee.**

a) **Ref. No: 17/502989/FULL**

Proposal: Retrospective application for the change of use of land from agricultural to residential garden use.

Location: Brook Cottage First Avenue Eastchurch Sheerness Kent ME12 4JN

No objection.

Correspondence/Notices received

a) **Planning Decision Notices received from Swale Borough Council**

17/501661 – 11, Hustling's Drive. ME12 4JX – application refused.

16/501159 – Land adjacent to Village Hall – going to appeal 12/07/17. Cllr Brown attended the hearing and restated the Parrish Planning Committee views.

16/505645 – Land at rear of Orchard cottage. ME12 4DF – application refused.

17/501887 – 1, Rowetts Cottages, Lower Road – application refused.

Mr Crossman – Letter regarding the Planning Committee response to application 17/501661. The decision was based on policies laid down by Swale Borough Council.

Mr Hill – Copy of letter sent to Swale Borough Council regarding unauthorised work at Brookside Caravan Park, First Avenue. Councillors agreed they were concerned with the comments raised by Mr Hill and would ask Planning Enforcement to look into the matter as the Parish Council did not have the power.

Observations and Queries from Members

The Wheatsheaf Public House has closed down again and is being used as two residences – refer to Enforcement.

Kingsborough Manor – two fence panels removed on a 90degree bend and entrance being used by owner for deliveries. This appears to have stopped and the fencing replaced – monitor.

Rear of village hall – container has been moved to rear boundary fence.

Enforcement Update

Appeal report – noted.

Outstanding sites across Parish. Updates were given

New reports were noted for action.

A meeting with SBC officers to deal with the outstanding issues took place after the planning Committee meeting. Outstanding issues were discussed in full and the new Enforcement Department structure was explained to those present.

10) Report from Highways Working Group.

The Group looked through documentation received from KHT regarding the alteration of a TRO.

Details had been obtained on approved consultants able to assist the Parish Council with this work and it was agreed to request costings from four of the consultancy firms on the list. These will be looked at in detail at the next Highways meeting in September and a proposal brought forward to the Parish Council meeting.

11) Financial Statement and Authorisation of Payments.

Parish Council

201045	5th Sheppey Scouts	S 137	107.75	0.00	£107.75
201046	Eastchurch PCC	S 137	100.00	0.00	£100.00
201047	Void Cheque				
201048	Communicorp	Admin	84.00	0.00	£840.00
201049	Viking	Admin	87.45	17.49	£104.94
201050	Safeplay	Admin	99.00	19.80	£118.80
201051	EBLS	Assets	397.50	79.50	£477.00
201052	F. Jackson	Admin	829.71	0.00	£829.71
201053	HMRC	Admin	48.31	0.00	£48.31

Direct Debit	Nest Pensions	Admin	26.43	0.00	£26.43
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Solar

100019	5th Sheppey Scouts	Projects	900.00	0.00	£900.0 0
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Balance of Accounts as per Cash Book, reconciled with bank statements as of 30th June 2017

EPC Treasurer	£15023.88
EPC Money Master	£16220.28
Solar Community Benefit Fund	£6544.99

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

Cllr Gough reported that Bright's Wood was looking fine, the paths had been cut but some were very wide. There were signs all over the village about a fireworks display and the circus. These would be reported by the Clerk. **Reported and signs removed.**

Cllr Brown reported that the recent works on Church Road had left a large hole in the pavement which was not lit and had been left for a long while. **Reported.** There was a problem with a caravan causing a blockage in the village, there had been no escort vehicle and the police had been called to move it. The Clerk asked for photos of any vehicles so that the details could be forwarded to the Authorities concerned. There was a problem with parking on the High Street right up to the bend by the Guide hut since the completion of the new houses. This was causing problems particularly at the bend where buses were having difficulty in getting around the corner. This was discussed in full and it was agreed to ask for a yellow line from the old Working Men's Club to the Guide Hut. **Ref: 294417**

Cllr Pullinger said that the planters at Cheyne were looking fantastic.

Cllr Wady reported that the path at Cheyne and High street was broken down again due to the dust cart driving over it **Ref: 292559**

There were still cars parking on the verges. The Clerk asked for photos of these to be sent through to the office.

Cllr Carter reported that Cllr Tina Booth and herself had attended the Aviation evening and provided teas and coffees on behalf of the Parish for those attending. It had been a pleasant evening with interesting pictures of the village C1900. The garden judging had taken place with 32 awards being given out. However, there were many areas in the village looking tatty, particularly Anne Boleyn Close. During the judging, many photographs had been taken of all the problems in the parish which the Clerk had reported to Highways or Swale as appropriate. Councillors discussed the problems and agreed that some places were starting to bring the whole area down; this along with the bypass and other areas not being cut regularly was demoralising. The vegetation in front of the bungalows at Bramley was overgrown again **Ref: 294381**

and the area near the children's playground was overgrown. **Ref: 294559**

The conifer in the alleyway between Bramley Way and Bramley Close was overgrown and leaning into the pathway. **Ref: 294357**. Litter picking was also not to a good standard and needed chasing up, particularly at the weekends.

13) Dates of Next Meetings.

Council Meeting 22nd August 2017 at 7.00pm

Garden Awards 5th September 2017 at 7.00pm

Observance Working Group 6th September 2017 at 10.30am

Highways Meeting 20th September 2017 at 10.30am

Staff Holiday Request

August 8th,9th, 10th and 24th.

September 13th and 14th

14) Closure of Meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.09pm

Signed.....Chairman

Signed.....Clerk

Dated.....