



EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held
on 08 November 2023 at 6.30 pm, Elvington Community Centre, Elvington.**

Present: Cllr M Ledger (Chair), Cllr C Ledger, Cllr Martin, Cllr Wright, Cllr Morgan-Lovett, Cllr French, and Cllr Hansell.

Also, present: Cllr D Beaney, Jo Pannell (Clerk to EPC) and five Members of the public.

11/93/23. Chairmans welcome and opening comments

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked residents for their attendance.

11/94/23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr A Whitehead (Vice Chair), Cllr Ray Luckhurst and Community Support Officer Juliette West. Apologies received and accepted by all Cllrs present.

11/95/23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

11/96/23. MINUTES

The minutes from the Council meeting held on the 11 October 2023 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The minutes were agreed as a true record. **RESOLVED:** proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett, and unanimously carried. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

11/97/23. COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

The clerk explained that all the actions from the October meeting had been addressed, apart from the exact location of new waste bins along Adelaide Road.

11/98/23. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS

The Community Wardens issues reported during the month:

The villages have experienced some significant adverse weather conditions of late coupled with multiple road closures that have made travelling around particularly difficult for road users. Highways have been informed of multiple potholes, disintegrating road surfaces and verges, blocked drains, flooding, fallen trees and debris on road surface.

Reports of any issues relating to the highway can be reported directly to Highways at www.Kent.gov.uk report a problem on a road or pavement or phone 03000 419191 for emergencies outside of office hours.

Power cuts have also caused problems for some villagers mostly relating to works being carried out on the power network and some relating to weather conditions.

Scams continue to be an issue, particularly with parcels. public protection services report that a recent and frequent scam doing the rounds. This involves criminals stealing bank details of one person and the address of another person to order items online. They order the items with the

stolen bank details and track the parcel to the address of the other person they have stolen the address details from. This is a SCAM

Once the parcel has been delivered, they impersonate a DPD driver and knock on the door, explaining that it's an incorrect delivery. As the person didn't make the order and it is only the address with different name on it, the person who has received the parcel doesn't usually suspect anything amiss and gives the parcel over to the scammer.

For advice and to report contact Citizens Advice on consumer helpline 0808 223 1133 or report to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Some of my workload focuses on individual welfare issues, positive wellbeing and safeguarding vulnerable people. Residents are welcome to contact me in confidence on 07969584174 should they have any of their own concerns arising or worries arising about friends or family.

I will be out and about during November supporting and promoting the national Safeguarding Adults Awareness campaign and the Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls campaign. Details will be advertised near to the relevant dates.

Please contact me directly on 07969584174 for further enquires or log on to [Kent.gov.uk/positive](https://www.kent.gov.uk/positive) wellbeing for further information.

The Chairman asked Cllr Beaney if he would like to give an update on KCC and DDC business. Cllr Beaney thanked the Chairman and noted the following areas of work:

KCC

KCC's budget – the authority was facing a section 141 for bankruptcy, but have managed to find a balanced budget, with officer scrutinising all areas of expenditure, and focusing on statutory services.

Storm Ciarán – KCC received 573 emergency calls with regards to roads and flooding

Twenty schools were closed

30cm of flowing water were recorded with wind gusts up to 78mph recorded.

The online meeting regarding Church Hill with the KCC Officer and Parish Cllrs was deemed successful.

Cllr Beaney explained to the clerk that the date for the Parish Councils to come together had changed from 01 December to 02, awaiting confirmation that this will be held in Alkham Village Hall.

KCC is currently running a new scheme for parents with children under 12 months old to assist with the purchase of baby milk, nappies, and fruit, this could be worth up to £1,200 a year.

Cllr Beaney explained that this is possibly the last year of Member grants. The Chairman asked if he would assist in the cost of putting a perimeter fence around the allotments. Cllr Beaney said that he would consider a small donation. **Action: if agreed with DDC the clerk will complete the necessary paperwork.**

DDC

Garden waste bags will change to a wheelie bin next year Cllr Beaney explained that this should have gone out to public consultation before a decision was made. However, it was deemed un-necessary as this is not a statutory service. Cllr Hansell disagreed with the scheme and would not be resubscribing to the service, explaining that you could not get the current six bags of garden waste into a wheelie bin. Cllr Beaney asked people to write to him if they had any comments or concerns about the scheme.

A member of the public enquired what happened to the green waste collected? Cllr Beaney explained that it goes to Thanet Waste initially and then onto a farm in Capel to make compost

that is spread on the fields, and some is sold. Cllr Morgan-Lovette asked of this was paid for by the farm in Capel, Cllr Beaney did not think that it was.

Cllr Beaney explained that the Banksy has now been removed and will be replaced by a Beacon in Dover, which will be seen from all viewpoints in Dover. The building will mainly focus on education, arts and performing arts. The Chairman thanked Cllr Beaney for his update.

A member of the public asked about onward fares Stagecoach representatives said they would look into having some sort of discount to get people into the town centre of Dover as currently you pay to use the Connect service and then again, a separate fare to get into town from Whitfield, where the Connect service terminates. **Action: the clerk will go back to the officers to ask if there had been any progress on this issue.**

11/99/23. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS

There were no questions from members of the public at this time.

The meeting reconvened to complete the remaining business on the agenda

11/100/23. PLANNING

Applications:

23/01231

Proposal: Erection of detached dwelling

Location: 8 Green Lane Eythorne Kent CT15 4DD - Comments close 21 November – It was agreed that the Parish Council would object to this application. **It was RESOLVED that the clerk will draft the material objections to this application and circulate to Cllrs prior to uploading to DDC planning portal.** Closing date: 21 November

It was noted that the new application had been received after the agenda had been published.

23/01141

Proposal: Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 4 (window material) of DOV/22/00844 Erection of two storey rear extension, infill front porch canopy and raised patio) - to allow removal of porch and raised patio, change to materials of windows (retrospective)

Location: 10 Coronation Villas, Chapel Hill, Eythorne, CT15 4BD - Closing date: 23 November – The Parish Council could not see any potential issues with this application – **ACTION: It was agreed that the clerk would post a Neutral stance to this application.**

Applications commented on under the scheme of delegation – None.

Decisions:

No decisions had been made on the outstanding applications

Decisions noted.

11/101/23. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

- a) Authorisation of payments/bank reconciliation, the invoices detailed below were initialled for payment, proposed by Cllr Hansell, and seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett, this was unanimously agreed by all Cllrs present.

Finance Report Payments		
Jo Pannell	Salary (November)	
S Thomson	Salary (November)	
KCC LGPS	Pension	£329.02

HMRC	National insurance	£431.31
S Thomson	Expenses	£57.03
Iverde	October grass cutting	£69.92
Clerk expenses	8 x 2 nd class stamps	£6.00
Mazars	End of year External Audit	£426.00
JS Security	2 x CCTV replacement cameras	£417.00
Dover District Council	Uncontested election costs	£311.42
KCC	Elvington and Barfrestone gateways	£3,413.19
	Total	£47,118.93

The payments above were proposed by Cllr Hansell and seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovette and unanimously carried by the remaining Cllrs.

- b) The bank reconciliation for October was RECEIVED and RESOLVED and duly signed by Cllrs Wright and Morgan-Lovett.
- c) RESOLVED to accept the CCTV equipment quote from JS Security to replace the third CCTV camera - £245.00
- d) The Cllrs noted the bank balances as of 31 October
- e) RESOLVED to the purchase of new swing seats for Eythorne play park – 2 x toddler seats £244.80 and 2 x plastic seats £103.20 VAT inc.
- f) RESOLVED to hold some Parish Council meetings in the Baptist Church Hall at a cost of £6.00 an hour.
- g) RESOLVED to purchase a black rubber mulch kit - £116.50 (inc VAT) to repair the roundabout surface in Eythorne.

All payments were proposed by Cllr C. Ledger and seconded by Cllr French the remaining Cllrs unanimously agreed to the payments – **RESOLVED. Action: the clerk will list the payments for two Cllrs to authorise**

11/102/23. Allotments

Cllr Martin explained that some of the rules regarding the allotments appear to be outdated, with a ban on erecting a perimeter fence and the inability to instal sheds or shelters on the allotments. Without this permission being in place it is likely that all the good work carried out by the current allotment holders will be undone due to the vandalism on site. Cllr Hansell agreed with Cllr Martin and suggested challenging DDC about the rules. **Action: the clerk will approach DDC to see if the rules could be changed.**

Cllr Martin was asked where the fence perimeter would be? He explained that there are currently some blue steel bollards in situ, the perimeter would be three or four metres from this near the main entrance. All Cllrs present agreed with the action to contact DCC and go from there. Cllr Martin explained that the water harvesting project will go ahead.

11/103/23. Play Areas – this had already been covered elsewhere in the agenda.

11/104/23. Tilmanstone Welfare update – no update was provided.

11/105/23. Alternative energy project

Cllr Morgan- Lovett had no further update on this item. Cllr Martin explained that there had been some progress with some companies matching Parishes to Smart meters, with a few Parishes now receiving a profit on their investment. **Action: Cllr Martin will circulate an email with the information of the project.**

11/106/23. Lorry watch

The clerk explained that the scheme needed to be run by volunteers to monitor parking and the speed of traffic. Cllr Beaney suggested that ‘unsuitable for HGVs’ notices should be put up. Cllr Morgan-Lovette explained that when the A2 is closed around the area of Tye Wood

and Roman Way, HGVs do not have enough room to turn around due to the number of parked cars on the roads.

Cllr French explained that there was a large, deep trench in Barville Road, where the lorries have gone into the grass verge, due to the narrowness of the road. He also explained that there was a large flood in the road, just near the bend in the Road. **Action: the clerk will report both these issues to KCC via the online portal.**

11/107/23. HIP – this item had been covered elsewhere on the agenda.

11/108/23. Litter bins and open spaces

Cllr French had previously asked Cllrs to think about the issue of litter around the Villages and how this could be addressed. Cllr Wright explained that there were members of the public who regularly litter pick whilst walking their dogs. Cllr French explained that litter was abundant in Tye Wood and Elvington, and asked if the Council could arrange a litter pick in the Village? Cllr Morgan-Lovett explained that due to Health and Safety reasons these areas cannot be litter picked because there are no pavements. Cllr French suggested writing again to the businesses in Pike Road requesting a meeting with them to discuss litter issues. Cllr French also asked if the clerk could write to the school to ask for a meeting with them to involve the children to make them aware of the issues of litter on the environment and the local areas.

11/109/23. Councillors' items

Cllrs Hansell and Morgan-Lovette suggested donating a clock to the Community Centre. **Action: the clerk will add this to the next agenda.**

Cllr French asked about the proposed strips being placed on Adelaide Road. Action: the clerk will contact the hiring company to obtain quotes and put it on the next agenda for a resolution.

Cllr Wright explained that at the recent Speedwatch between 1.30pm and 2.30pm 85 vehicles were noted doing between 16mph to 26mph, with a motorbike doing over 40mph. Cllr Wright also explained that Cllr Luckhurst had recently recorded 30 out of 50 vehicles were speeding.

11/110/23. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 December 2023, 6.30pm at Elvington Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

Signed _____ Date: _____

The Chairman: Cllr M Ledger

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until the Parish Council approves them at their next Parish Council meeting.