



## EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held.

on 14 June 2023 at 6.30 pm, Elvington Community Centre, Eythorne.

**Present:** Cllr M Ledger (Chair), Cllr C Ledger, Cllr Morgan-Lovett, Cllr Hansell, Cllr Wright, Cllr Whitehead (Vice Chair), Cllr Martin and Cllr Luckhurst.

**Also, present:** Community Support Officer Juliette West, Cllr D Beaney for part of the meeting, Jo Pannell (Clerk to EPC), and 3 Members of the public.

#### **06/21/23. Chairmans welcome and opening comments**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **06/22/23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from, Cllr French due to another appointment. Apologies received and accepted.

#### **06/23/23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest declared.

#### **06/24/23. MINUTES**

The minutes from the Council meeting held on the 17 May 2023 had been circulated to Councillors.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes were agreed as a true record proposed by Cllr Morgan-Lovett seconded by Cllr C Ledger and unanimously carried. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

#### **06/25/23. COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE MAY MEETING/MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk explained that there were still some outstanding actions as follows: Contacting MacDonalds re: litter pick, to open the Unity Reserve account and invite Stagecoach to the July meeting. These actions will be carried over to June.

#### **06/26/23. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS**

##### **The Community Wardens issues reported during the month:**

Theft from vehicles  
Speeding motorbikes  
Nuisance noise motorbikes  
Missiles thrown at vehicles.  
Parcel thefts  
Straying/lost animals  
Nuisance dust  
Nuisance smoke  
Nuisance noise dog barking  
Nuisance and obstructive parking blocking junctions  
ASB  
Litter/dog fouling  
Continuation of scam/ calls/emails/texts  
Road closures due to construction causing traffic issues.

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

### **06/27/23. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS**

A member of the public asked why the bus stop in Thanet View and Sunny Bank had not been moved nearer to the school? She explained that there were cars parking on the road, coupled with resident's parking and cars that are going far too fast near to the school. Recently she had witnessed a car travelling at excessive speed driving past the school which had mounted the pavement as children were leaving the school, it could be only a matter of time before someone is seriously hurt. She explained that unless you lived on this stretch of road you would not understand the impact of the noise and the danger to pedestrians. She suggested that traffic calming measures should be introduced. Another member of the public had written to the Police Commissioner about this issue, he has yet to receive a reply.

Cllr Whitehead asked if members of the public were able to take photos of the registration numbers, but the member of the public explained that the cars were going too fast. Another member of the public suggested installing strips to count the number of cars travelling at excessive speed. Cllr Whitehead explained that this had been done on a previous occasion and agreed that the Parish Council is supportive of their concerns and have previously asked KCC Highways for some traffic calming measures. **ACTION – the clerk will raise this with KCC HIP team and contact the police. The clerk will also write to the head teacher about parents and staff parking in the vicinity of the school.**

Cllr Beaney arrived at the meeting, and suggested writing to the District Councillors, the Rural Task Force, KCC, DDC parking services and explain that it is not possible to offer off road parking in the vicinity of the school. Cllr Wright suggested that Cllr Luckhurst could contact Mr A Watson, to see if we could use the device previously supplied by him to monitor the speed of traffic. Cllr Whitehead recalled that someone from the school had complained about moving the bus stop nearer to the school, but Stagecoach had agreed to the suggestion. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for raising the issue with the Parish Council.

A member of the public reported a large hedge that had become overgrown at the back of the railway line, situated at Shooters Hill where it joins Chapel Hill. **ACTION – The clerk will report this to DDC.**

The meeting reconvened

### **06/28/23. PLANNING**

#### **Applications:**

This application had been received after publication of the agenda.

23/00753

Proposal: Land Rear Of 56 Sandwich Road Eythorne CT15 4DE - Variation of Condition 2 RAM (approved plans) to amend vehicle access to planning permission DOV/19/00856 (S73) Erection of 2no. detached dwellings, creation of vehicle access and parking  
Location: Land Rear Of 56 Sandwich Road Eythorne CT15 4DE

23/00693

Proposal: Erection of two and single storey rear extension  
Location: 2 Gordon Cottages, The Street, Eythorne, Kent – Comments close 28 June 2023 – The Parish Council are supportive of this application.

23/00679

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) for amendments to DOV/17/00246 relating to pedestrian access and creation of opening in listed wall (S73) (Erection of 9 detached dwellings, landscaping, creation of vehicular access and parking) Location: The

Old Rectory, Church Hill, Eythorne, CT15 4AE – The Parish Council will object to this application

23/00678

Proposal: Creation of 1.5m wide access through boundary wall

Heritage Statement Location: The Old Rectory, Church Hill, Eythorne, CT15 4AE – The Parish Council will object to this application

**Applications commented on under the scheme of delegation – None.**

Application numbers 23/00679 and 23/00693

It was noted by the Chairman that they received planning permission for this in 2018 and thought that work had to start within 3 years of the planning decision. Cllr Whitehead explained that a garage had been built on the site in 2021.

Cllr Luckhurst enquired why would they want to put a hole in a listed wall for vehicle access, there is already speeding issues in the area, and this would exacerbate the problem. **ACTION – the clerk will draft an objection to both 00678 and 00679, this will be circulated to Cllrs tomorrow for uploading to the planning portal once agreed.**

Cllr Beaney suggested that the Parish Council should object to these applications citing that it could be argued that the public are going to lose public amenities in terms of the residents of Rectory Bungalows and the suitability of the visibility splays coming out of the proposed new site could cause issues. Cllr Whitehead asked Cllr Beaney if this application could be called into DDC's Planning Committee? Cllr Beaney replied that he thought it could be called in due to the highway issues the application may create. Because he sits on the Planning Committee, he suggested that the clerk ask Cllr Woodgate to call in it to Committee. **ACTION – the clerk to email Cllr Woodgate to make this request.**

**Application number 23/00753**

Cllr Whitehead, thought that the application was a variance of conditions to the entrance off Sandwich Road, asking that two separate entrances off New Road. But Cllrs raised concerns about the large hedge at the site if this application was successful, which could cause safety concerns to pedestrians. It was also thought that this road was unadopted and concerns were raised about the resident residing opposite the site in question. The issue of the PROW at the site was also discussed, because if this application is granted there will be two driveways in the middle of it. The Parish Council agreed to object to this planning application. **ACTION – the clerk will upload material considerations to the portal objecting to the application.**

Cllr Beaney gave a summary of Kent County Council's current priorities as follows: There is currently a severe heat warning and people had been asked to check on vulnerable neighbours. On 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June all bus services are free of charge to use. KCC Highways are having issues with road layouts and junctions, this is KCC trying to push residents to use the bus services. There is a call for vulnerable people to come forward for their fifth COVID booster jab. There is currently a public consultation on reducing hours or closing some of the KCC waste and re-cycling centres, with plans to close the Richborough site. KCC are running a campaign to recruit more foster carers. Cllr Beaney explained to the meeting that with a lot of new Cllrs and clerks following the elections he is thinking about getting local Parishes together to work more jointly going forward. This is likely to be held in September on a Saturday. Following the elections Dover District Council is now run by a Labour majority, with 16 Labour Cllrs, 14 Conservative and one independent.

Cllr Whitehead asked Cllr Beaney what was happening with the Public Rights of Way team, many of the local footpaths and bridleways are in an overgrown state and there are some signs missing. Cllr Beaney asked for a list of the faults so that he could chase the team. **ACTION – Supply Cllr Beaney with a list of PROW faults.**

Cllr Beaney explained that putting strips across the Adelaide Road to monitor the number of cars and their speed was futile, because the actual percentage they show of speeding cars is very small. **ACTION – add traffic calming measures to the HIP document and ask the Police to patrol the area.**

**Decisions:**

None
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**06/29/23. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

- a) Authorisation of payments/bank reconciliation, the invoices detailed below were agreed for payment, by all Cllrs present.

<b>Finance Report Payments</b>		
Jo Pannell	Salary (June)	
S Thomson	Salary (June)	
KCC LGPS	Pension	£329.02
HMRC	National insurance	£423.51
S Thomson	Expenses	£38.68
Jo Pannell clerks' expenses	Office paper x 5 reams, file dividers and minute book	£41.24
Dynamix	Q1 April to June payroll	£72.00
Plot 6	Allotment deposit refund	£50.00
S Collins	MacAfee reimbursement	£109.99
	Total	£2,730.28

- b) The bank reconciliation for May was RECEIVED and RESOLVED and duly signed by Cllrs Whitehead and Morgan-Lovett.
- c) The purchase of the new Speedwatch equipment had been deferred to the June meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Luckhurst would speak to The Speedwatch Co-ordinator in Great Mongeham about the equipment that they are using on a trial basis. This will come back to the July agenda for RESOLUTION, all Cllrs agreed with this course of action.
- d) The allotments water harvesting project was RESOLVED to be accepted at a cost of £389.25 to install two tanks, Cllr Martin will lead on the project. The Chairman explained that he had secured two more water tanks if required and Cllr Hansell also has a spare tank if required.
- e) The Parish Council had received the draft reserves policy from the clerk for a RESOLUTION to adopt it, given that the Parish Council was opening a reserves account. It was unanimously agreed by all Cllrs present to adopt the policy.

**06/31/23. Balcombe project**

Cllr Morgan-Lovett explained that she did not have an update on this occasion, but doubted there would be an appetite in the Village to accept the project. Cllr Martin explained that he had done some research on this project and the Village would have to register an interest as a community interest company and have a smart meter, he thought that the Parish Council could do this. Cllr Martin will investigate the costs involved of purchasing solar panels. Cllr Morgan-Lovett explained that she did not want the Village to be covered in solar panels. Cllr Whitehead also explained that there was no way of recycling the panels. **ACTION - Cllr Martin agreed to find out more.**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**06/32/23. Allotments**

Cllr Martin asked how many plots were still vacant. The clerk could not recall now. **ACTION - The clerk will let Cllr Martin know after the meeting.** Cllr Martin asked what the concrete patch was originally for in the allotments? The Chairman replied that it was a hard standing for old play equipment. Cllr Martin suggested covering with woodchips to make it more aesthetically pleasing.

**06/33/23. Play Areas**

No updates available

**06/34/23. Tilmanstone Welfare update**

Cllr Hansell explained to the meeting that these meetings were improving.

**06/35/23. HIP**

The clerk had asked the Highways officer of any progress on the installation of the gates and new signage. Apparently, the officer had overlooked the email, so she will now action the request.

**06/36/23. Councillors' items**

At the last meeting a possible planning working group was asked to be put on this agenda for discussion. It was agreed at the meeting that this would be a useful working group. The clerk asked for volunteers to go onto the working group. The following Cllrs put their names forward: Whitehead, Wright, Hansell and Luckhurst.

**06/37/23. Any other matters**

None raised.

**05/20/23. DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 12 July 2023, 6.30pm Elvington Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.24 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.***