



## EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held via Zoom Remote Meetings

on 13th January 2021 at 6.30 pm.

**Present:** Cllr Ledger (Chair), Cllr Butcher, Cllr Hansell, Cllr C Ledger, Cllr Millard, Cllr Morgan-Lovett and Cllr Whitehead.

**Also, present** Cllr Peter Walker (DDC), Community Warden Juliet West and Caroline Vincent (Clerk to Eythorne Council), 1 member of the public.

#### **1/1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

#### **1/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations.

#### **1/3. MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> December were circulated to members.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Millard, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett and carried. Minutes were signed by the Chair.

#### **1/4. COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE DECEMBER MEETING/MATTERS ARISING**

- PROWS spreadsheet set up to register any paths walked.
- Broken sign near Barfrestone reported to KCC.
- KCC contacted provisionally accepting the double yellow line design and EPC is now trying to gain some funding for this project.
- CommunityAd have been contacted for information for the possibility of producing a parish magazine.
- Hedges along Adelaide Road have been cut back by our handyman Stuart
- Helium Canisters in the Resources Centre carpark were reported to the Community Warden for monitoring.
- VHE payments received.

#### **1/5. STATEMENT FROM CLLRS BUTCHER/WHITEHEAD**

Cllr Butcher made a statement to clarify the situation regarding village signs, the sub-committee has now been disbanded due to their remit now being fulfilled. Their plans were submitted to KCC Highways and comments were received back and the next step was to meet with KCC Highways but this has not been possible due to COVID restrictions. This project will now be temporarily put to one side until Councillors are able to meet with KCC Highways in the future when circumstances permit this to happen.

Cllr Whitehead re-iterated that other EPC projects are now on hold which is incredibly frustrating for us not being able to do what we wish to do but it is not possible until KCC Highways are able to have site visits. Again, this is due to the COVID pandemic and KCC being heavily involved with Brexit and helping out with the pandemic, priorities have had to change. The Wigmore Lane project will be taken up again as soon as it is possible to progress after a site visit when allowed to do so.

1 Signed by the Chair: ..... Date:.....

With regards to Pike Road and having double yellow lines, businesses had been contacted to ask if funding was a possibility, so far two offers have been received and we are now waiting to hear back from others, a follow up email will also be sent. Tilmanstone Parish Council have successfully secured funding of £400 from their County Councillor, Eythorne Parish Clerk had also contacted Cllr Lymer from KCC but funding had already been allocated this year but he would be happy to support in the new financial year after the elections. Highways projects will not be on the agenda now until later in the year once it is possible to progress further.

#### **1/6. PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS**

There were no questions received from the public.

#### **1/7. CO-OPTION**

Cllr M Ledger welcomed Sandra Wright to the meeting and thanked Sandra for her application. Members put forward their questions to Sandra and Cllr M Ledger explained a decision would be made during the closed session due to being unable to vote in the usual way.

#### **1/8. KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS**

##### **Report from Community Warden Julliette West**

The following are issues and concerns that have been raised and addressed over the previous few weeks:

- Off-road vehicle activity, lots of concerns and complaints continue to be raised reference the 4x4 off road vehicle and bike activity throughout the district along the byways and other areas. Many parts of the byways and other surrounding areas have been damaged as a consequence and some areas have become impassable by foot or on horseback. The incidences have also caused noise nuisance on many occasions. The situation has been addressed and assessed by our local PROW officer and reported directly to KCC for consideration, DDC are also aware. It has also been reported to our local neighbourhood policing team who are aware of the situation and work towards resolving it.
- Litter complaints, complaints relate to Pike Road and community areas around Eythorne and Elvington. A voluntary litter pick has recently been carried out in the Pike road area
- Groups of youths congregating/roaming, a number of concerns have been raised reference the amount of young people gathering in groups around the villages on a regular basis contrary to current government advice ref the Covid19 stay safe guidance. Kent police have been notified and, in some cases, have attended.
- Traffic congestion and obstructions/multiple concerns and complaints raised. The situation arising before Christmas with the French port closing its borders caused a huge amount of difficulty and disruption around the whole area including our outlining rural villages which became clogged up, obstructed, blocked and in some cases cut off from main routes into and out of Dover, Canterbury and other areas. The situation with the congestion was very high profile in the political and public domain and all relevant government departments and local Authorities continue to work towards preventing repeat occurrences and resolving issues in the long term.
- Concerns arising ref some of the local plans proposed for potential lorry parking facilities.
- Weather- several trees down and obstacles blown into road in recent strong wind incidences causing blockages to roads, and temporary road closures.
- Neighbour disputes
- Thefts
- Individual welfare issues
- Community project work
- Government measures taken to address the Covid19 pandemic and Tier status

Juliet updated members on the Community Welfare Project which is slowly moving forward but has been hindered by restrictions and the opening of a community bank account due to inundated requests and most banks have stopped offering community bank accounts. As a consequence of this, emergency contingency plans have been discussed, one being the possibility that EPC could pass their agreed funding to another community account of Woodpecker Court who are members of the Welfare Project committee, this had been agreed by some of the committee members. If this was possible it would enable the food to be bought for the project to begin and the funding would be matched by Woodpecker Court. Juliet asked if EPC could consider this as an option? This would be a very open and transparent transaction with a written agreement and paper trail. A brief discussion followed.

**Report from DDC Cllr Walker**

Cllr Walker reported on the following:

- Speedwatch, this is very important and great to see this continuing.
- Working alongside Highways with speeding issues throughout the area, this is a difficult issue due to some of the narrow roads, particularly Wigmore Lane. Problems with vehicles blocking pathways making it dangerous for pedestrians. Complaints of a lorry parking in Cherry Way.
- Planning application **DOV/01518**, Cllr Walker has been dealing with this one for almost 2 years which is a retrospective application with most of the facilities already built, there are disputes as to whether this is for private or factory use.
- Border Force Facility, Cllr Walker wanted to put 3 questions to DDC at the next Full Council meeting, Q1: Given the intended creation of the Border Force facility near the A2 Dover, what commitment has been assured by the government of the dualling of the A2 by Lydden? Q2: Can the portfolio holder update the council on what progress is being made on improving the road system within the district under the inherent pressures created at the start of 2021? Q3: According to reports in the press DDC will be putting £475,000 to climate energy initiatives compared to Canterbury City Council's £200 million. Will the leader of DDC inform the council how that amount will deliver these initiatives with what is already hoped to be a COVID friendly climate district? Cllr Walker had general concerns over traffic within the Dover area.
- The Local Development Plan consultation begins on the 20<sup>th</sup> January for 6 weeks, areas included in Eythorne/Elvington will be Monkton Court Lane, Terrace Road in Elvington, the land opposite going into the welfare facility and Sweet Briar Lane. Cllr Walker encouraged EPC as well as individuals to please make their comments.
- Day to day matters including planning issues, lorry parking but due to staff working from home due to COVID it is very difficult to resolve issues.

**1/9.FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

The invoices as detailed below were agreed for payment, proposed by Cllr Whitehead, seconded by Cllr C Ledger, unanimously carried.

<b>Finance Report</b>		
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Payment Type</b>	<b>Amount</b>
C Vincent	Bank Transfer	£1267.99
S Thomson	SO	£603.60
Idverde	Grass Cutting	£65.97
KCC	Pension	£360.73
HMRC	Q2/3 PAYE & NI	£1997.12
P Boiston	Remembrance Wreaths	£75.50
C Vincent	Expenses (email subs, website domain subs/Stamps)	£64.39
SLCC	Annual Membership	£202.00

3 Signed by the Chair: ..... Date:.....

**a) Quarter 3 accounts**

The accounts were circulated to members.

**Resolved: The accounts were accepted by members, Cllr Whitehead proposed and Cllr Morgan-Lovett seconded and all were in favour.**

**b) Payments by bank transfer instead of cheques**

The Clerk put forward to members the possibility of changing from making payment by cheques to paying by bank transfer instead, which during the current climate would make it a lot easier to do. The Clerk would be given create only access and two Councillors would need to authorise the payments on the bank account.

**Resolved/Action: Cllr Whitehead proposed that this be put in place by the Clerk to enable payments to be created online, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett and carried.**

**1/10. PLANNING**

Members considered the following applications:

**20/0147 -\_Land Between South View and Dean Holme Flax Court Lane Eythorne,** Erection of a detached dwelling, cycle shed, recycle store, electrical vehicle charging unit and associated parking.

**Resolved: The majority of members objected to this application as it is over bearing, a small plot and outside of the settlement confines.**

**DOV/01518 - Land at Envirograf House Pie Factory Road Barfrestone CT15 7JG,** change of use of land for the siting of a building for recreational purposes, workshop, covered swimming pool area, decking and formation of hardstanding areas (retrospective).

**Resolved: Members do not approve of work being completed without a planning application and are not happy with this but will go along with Planning Enforcements decision. Cllr Whitehead proposed and Cllr Hansell seconded.**

**Decided Applications:**

**DOV/20/00336-Gardeners Cottage, Eythorne CT15 4BE,** re-point West and North elevations. **Granted Listed**

**Building Consent**

**1/11. ALLOTMENTS**

Cllr M Ledger reported that he had now received more water containers for the allotments, which he will deliver when required and will store them for now.

**1/12. WHITFIELD LORRY PARK**

Members commented that this is already underway and that there is no consultation to comment on for this and feel this is awful for all of the surrounding villages, in particular Guston.

**1/13. KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS 2021**

Members put forward two nominations who they felt would deserve to receive a community award for all of their hard work within the community.

**Action: The Clerk to fill in the paperwork and pass to KALC.**

**1/14. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk received an email from a resident regarding high-speed internet asking if the parish council would support this and that he has registered an interest in sponsoring a Community Fibre Partnership on behalf of the area.

**Action: The Clerk to contact the resident to say are happy to support and to let us know what we need to do further to help.**

**1/15. ANY OTHER MATTERS**

Cllr M Ledger reported to members of the sad news of the passing of Barbara Danson who worked incredibly hard for the community and was in regular attendance at the Parish Council meetings who will be sadly missed and condolences go out to her family. It was suggested a card/letter be sent to Barbara's family.

**Action: Members to forward memories to the Clerk for a letter/card to be sent to Barbara's family.**

Cllr Whitehead reminded members about the bus stop in Adelaide Road opposite the school which had been agreed by Stagecoach to be moved as currently it has to stop in the road and residents with children have to go into the road to board the bus which is dangerous.

**Action: The Clerk to send a letter to Stagecoach to chase up.**

Cllr Butcher discussed electric car charging cables that may pose a danger when across pathways causing a trip hazard and felt EPC should find out what is/isn't allowed with the electric car cables.

**Action: The Clerk to research online and to contact the Community Warden.**

**1/16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 6.30pm

**The meeting Closed at 8.12pm**

**1/17. CLOSED SESSION**

a. Budget Discussions

**Action: To arrange a separate budget meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 6.30pm for more updated figures.**

b. Staff Discussions:

**Action: Members to look at the Handyman's job description to update and add to the next meeting agenda as an item of discussion. To receive a monthly report of the handyman's work completed.**

Co-option

**Resolved: Cllr Whitehead proposed to co-opt Sandra Wright, Cllr Millard seconded and unanimously agreed.**