



EYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held

on 12 March 2025 at 6.30 pm, Eythorne Baptist Church Hall

Present: Cllr Whitehead (Chair), Cllr Wright (Vice Chair), Cllr Wetz, Cllr Morgan-Lovett, Cllr Godfrey, and Cllr Martin.

Also, present: The clerk and 14 members of the public.

03/151/25. Chairmans welcome and opening comments

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that it was nice to see a nice crowd of members of the public present.

03/152/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies had been received from Cllrs Luckhurst, Hansell and French, due to other commitments. Also from Cllrs Pout, Mamjan and Juliette West. Apologies were noted and accepted by all Cllrs present.

03/153/25. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest declared.

03/154/25. MINUTES

The minutes from the Council meeting held on the 12 February 2025 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. **RESOLVED:** The minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Morgan-Lovett and seconded Cllr Wright, and unanimously carried. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

03/155/25 COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE FEBRUARY MEETING/OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The clerk explained that the remaining actions outstanding were to speak to ST about new signage for the play areas, and the letter to the contractor about the mud on Church Hill Road, but since then a road sweeper has been through this has not been a further issue, but the Parish Council will keep an eye on the road, for further mud. **Action: report any further deposits of mud on Church Hill to the contractor**

03/156/25 KCC AND DDC COUNCILLOR AND COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORTS

There were no Cllrs or the Community Warden present at the meeting and no written reports had been received.

03/157/25 PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND QUESTIONS

A member of the public noted that a resident opposite the Old Rectory Site, where building works are being undertaken has been complaining about the noise of the works and the times the works are being undertaken. They queried as to whether there were set hours when they are allowed to work? The Chairman noted that they do have to be considerate, there are set hours for permitted works to protect residents from the noise of such works. **Action: the clerk will ask the case officer at DDC, what are the permitted hours that can be worked.** Another member of the public explained that a car parked on the double yellow line outside of The Whitehorse had received a parking ticket recently.

Another resident explained that it has been difficult to book a seat on the Connect Service recently and that she had asked the representative from Stagecoach previously, about the possibility of an ongoing ticket, to book a forward and return journey, rather than single journeys, but has not had a response. The Chairman explained that the representative had been asked to attend a Parish Council meeting on two occasions, they were unable to make the first meeting due to work commitments and for the second meeting she was not well enough to attend. The Chairman explained that there was a public meeting to be held on Friday 14 March in the DDC Grass Routes van from 14.00 to 16.00. There will be the DDC Community Engagement Office in attendance with a representative from Stagecoach, to discuss any future bus service. The Chairman encouraged members of the public to attend and complete the survey. **Action: the clerk will ask the DDC officer for a link to the survey so that it can be circulated to residents and be put onto the website.**

A member of the public explained that the double yellow lines had worn off in Church Hill, so parents are parking on the corner of the road, which is hazardous to pedestrians and drivers in terms of public safety. There are also cars parking on the pavement. The Chairman explained that they are going to put 20mph roundels onto Adelaide Road with other markings and more signage. However, we have not heard back from KCC about where the markings will be and if they will include repainting the lines on Church Hill, which had previously been there.

Another member of the public explained that the amount of litter on Pike Road has increased again. The Chairman explained that it was DDC's responsibility to clear the litter. **Action: The Chairman to send the clerk the email address to report this to DDC.** Another member of the public explained that the signage on the A2 at the Barfrestone turn off had been rotated by 180 degrees, so facing the wrong way. **Action: the clerk will report this to National Highways.** Another member of the public noted that the gulleys in Wigmore Lane were all blocked. **Action: the clerk will report this to KCC Highways**

03/158/25. PLANNING

Applications:

25/00173 Location: Barfrestone Court Farm, Barfrestone Road, Barfrestone, Dover, Kent, CT15 7JJ Proposal: Change of use from agricultural barn to residential dwelling with annex – Comments by 21 March 2025
25/00118 Location: 4 Victoria Villas, Wigmore Lane, Eythorne, Dover, CT15 4AS Proposal: - Creation of a vehicular hardstanding with associated retaining walls – Comments by 24 March 2025
25/00165 Location: St Hylde, 16 Wigmore Lane, Eythorne, Dover, Kent, CT15 4AW Proposal: Erection of single storey rear/side extension (existing lean-to to be removed) -Comments by 21 March 2025
22/00717 Location: Falconsview Meadows, Barville Road, Waldershare CT15 5BQ Proposal: Change of use of land to VH Gypsy/Traveller's site for 4no. additional pitches, each containing 1no. mobile home, 2no. touring caravan, erection of 2no. amenity buildings, associated parking, hard surfacing, and alterations to existing vehicular access – Permission Granted – 20 March 2024 Proposal to erect a Solar Farm that crosses 2 PROW and runs alongside a Bridle Way – fencing could be an issue – Awaiting Planning Application

Applications commented on under the scheme of delegation - None.

Decisions:

None

The Chairman explained that three new planning applications had been received, as noted above. It was agreed at the meeting that the Parish Council would post no comments on the planning portal for application No 25/00165 – St Hylda **Action: the clerk to upload the comments to the planning portal.**

Application no: 25/00173 – Barfreestone Court Farm – Outwardly, there will not be much change with this application, apart from changing the barn doors to glass doors instead. Parking will be on site and a garden will be made. Cllr Wetz explained that some residents had supported the Wedding Venue application, but others had concerns over the use of fireworks at the site, given the number of thatched properties in the vicinity. Cllr Wetz did not see any issues with this application, and noted that there had been no objections made on the planning portal. Cllr Morgan-Lovett had no comments to make on the application and proposed the Parish Council should support this application, Cllr Wetz seconded the proposal and was unanimously carried.

Application no: 25/00118 - Location: 4 Victoria Villas – The Chairman explained that this sounded like a good idea, because the residents would like to park their vehicles off the road. Other neighbouring properties have already done this, but there are reservations, with this application, the visibility splays cannot be achieved and suggested a visit is requested to the site by the case officer and KCC Highways. **Action: the clerk will ask officers to carry out a site visit to assess the application and its implications.**

Other points raised about this application included: there is a telegraph pole towards the edge of the plot that would have to be re-sited. There are parked cars on the opposite side of the road, given that a car would have to reverse out the front blindly into this road, which consistently has fast volumes of traffic on it. This may also pose a danger to pedestrians and the lolly pop lady, who is positioned at the top of Wigmore Lane, outside the White Horse. Cllr Morgan-Lovett proposed to post an objection outlining the reservations noted above, this was seconded by Cllr Godfrey and carried by the remaining Cllrs. **Action: the clerk will upload an objection to the planning portal, siting the comments made above.**

Application No: 22/00717 – Falconsview Meadow – this is still with planning enforcement, but there has been no update recently and is classed as a low priority by DDC. A member of the public noted that effluent waste was being discharged on this site, which could affect Pike Road. **Action: the clerk will ask Environmental Health to investigate.** Another member of the public asked if it were possible that they had foul treatment works onsite? **Action: the clerk will liaise with Tilmanstone Parish Council, to draft a letter from both PC's to DDC asking them to investigate this issue.**

PACE Proposed Solar Farm Application. The Chairman asked members of the public if they would like to discuss this proposal. A member of the public explained that the online plans had recently been changed, but only very slightly. The company had also noted several initiatives to improve the aesthetics in the area. There is still no formal planning application. A discussion continued by residents from Nonnington, who will be mostly affected by this proposal. The points raised by them included: the issues relating to the loss of wildlife, increased strains on Elmington Lane pumping station under ground on the proposed site, the pipes are already compromised, and the pumping station is in a bad state of repair. **Action: the clerk will keep an ongoing list of all the points raised in the meeting, to use as part of an objection, when the application is put in.**

Applications commented on under the scheme of delegation - None.

03/159/25. FINANCE MATTERS AND AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS

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

Finance Report Payments		
Jo Pannell	Salary (March)	
S Thomson	Salary (March)	
KCC LGPS	Pension	£730.29
HMRC	National insurance	£291.96
Clerk	1 x KALC Cllr training and purchase of a new laptop	£686.98
Stuart Thomson	Mileage	£7.20
Idverde	February grass cutting	£69.92
Hugo Fox	Website	£23.99
Eythorne Baptist Church Hall	February meeting	£21.00
Scribe	Quarter three payment	£70.80
Elvington Comm Centre	Agenda setting Mtgs	£15.00
Dynamix	Payroll Quarter 04	£72.00
	Total	£3,961.20

Proposed by Cllr Godfrey and seconded by the Chairman. All Cllrs present **RESOLVED** to accept the above payments; this was unanimously carried.

The Chairman explained that the clerk had sent out an updated payment sheet to Cllrs, prior to the meeting. The Chairman queried the cost of the two play inspections, which are expensive, but the equipment needs to be maintained on Health and Safety grounds.

- b) The bank reconciliation for February were **RECEIVED** and **RESOLVED** and duly signed by Cllrs.
- c) **TO DISCUSS and RESOLVE** to reinstate CPRE membership for 2025 - £60.00. It was **RESOLVED** not to reinstate CPRE membership for this coming financial year. A member of the public explained that he currently held membership and would be happy to send the clerk any information published by them. The Chairman thanked the resident and accepted their kind offer.
- d) A discussion took place about the proposal to change from Hugo Fox as the Website provider and to change the email addresses to a.gov.uk account. It was **~RESOLVED** to appoint Parish Council Websites as the successful contractor. Proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by the Cllr Martin and unanimously agreed by the remaining Cllrs present. **ACTION – the clerk will notify James Lungley the owner of Parish Council Websites that his proposal was accepted.**
- e) A discussion with regards to any celebrations to mark VE Day on 08 May 2025 and what this may consist of in terms of numbers and costs took place. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for drafting the history booklet, which was appreciated. The member of the public will print off copies for the event.
- f) **RESOLVED** to reimburse the clerk £638.98 for a new laptop and £48.00 for Cllr Godfrey's KALC training in February = £686.98
- g) **TO DISCUSS and RESOLVE** to go ahead with the purchase of a replacement pole for the Sid and to **RESOLVE** the location, either The Street or Church Hill. This item could not be discussed at this meeting. So will be added to the April agenda.
- h) **TO DISCUSS and to RESOLVE** any celebrations to mark VE Day on Thursday 08 May 2025. A discussion took place about the plans for VE day with the beacon lighting at 21.00 and for the gates to be opened at 20.00, with the provision of fish and chips and a soft drink by the East Kent Railway, (a member of the public requested a vegetarian option to be included.) There will also be music playing and a song to sing at the event. **ACTION - Cllr Morgan-Lovett will liaise with EK Railway re: provision of food and a soft drink. The clerk will draft a flyer for the event to go into notice boards and on the website.** Cllr Wright proposed to accept all the payments noted above seconded Cllr Morgan-Lovett.

03/160/25. Allotments – Cllr Martin noted that plot 07 has left a large sofa and broken cupboards on site, the tenant of the plot has now moved. Cllr Martin explained that the deposit of £50.00, which is not refundable if rubbish is left on site, could be used to ask DDC to remove the items at a cost of £56.00. Proposed by Cllr Martin and seconded by Cllr Morgan-Lovett.
Action: the clerk will contact Stuart to find out when he will be about to open the gates of the allotments, so that DDC can collect the discarded waste.

03/161/2025. HIP – It was agreed that the current HIP priorities would stay as they are until after the next HIP meeting with KCC.

03/162/2025. PROW – There were no updates noted.

03/163/25. – Play Areas – Cllr Martin has checked the play areas where the basket swings are which are showing signs of wear and tear but seem all right for now. He also checked the bearings on the air walkers, both are showing signs of corrosion, and it does not look as though they can be repaired, so replacements would need to be purchased. The clerk had recently had a call from Sovereign playgrounds offering a free quote for a piece of equipment, which she had accepted. The replacement cost for one would be in the region of £6,000.00, to replace and install. It was agreed that currently these could not be replaced due to lack of funds. **Action: Cllr Martin will keep an eye on the basket swings and the clerk will also ask Stuart.** The Chairman asked if the playground budget was still on the budget sheet. **Action: the clerk will check. The gate needs some attention to lift it so that it shuts correctly – the clerk to ask ST. Replacement signage is still required.**

03/164/25. Speedwatch – Cllr Wright explained that the new Big Sid can now be used in the 20mph roads. The Pole for the new Sid will have to wait until the next meeting for Cllr Luckhurst to be in attendance. The clerk will nudge Cllr Luckhurst, re the form for the new Sid. Cllr Wright also explained that now Spring is in the air, Speedwatch activities will resume, and reports made available. **Action: the clerk to ask Cllr Luckhurst if he has sent off the completed form for the new Sid pole**

03/165/25. Councillors' items. ACTION - The Chairman asked any Cllrs who would like to undertake training to contact the clerk for securing a place. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not pay for any further costs to repair the CCTV cameras. It was agreed to appoint Cllr Hansell to be the PC representative at Elvington Management Committee. **Action: the clerk will let the Management Committee know.**

03/166/25. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Wednesday 09 April 2025 at 18.30 in Elvington Community Centre

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed _____ Date: _____

The Chairman: Cllr A Whitehead

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