

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EASTRY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 1st MARCH 2021 AT 7.30pm (8.30pm) VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO CORONAVIRUS
RESTRICTIONS via MS Teams.**

Present: Councillors M Jones (Chair) M Kemp M Smith A Barwick C Boughton
M Hay D Russell L. Taylor N Ellis

Joanna Jones Clerk to the Parish Council District Cllr Manion 1 Member of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs P Bailey, N Kenton & County Cllr S Chandler

2. DECLARATIONS

None received.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED the minutes of the Planning Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st February 2021 are duly signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

RESOLVED the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 1st February 2021 are duly signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

Longterm Outstanding items

Cemetery Extension - Email from Land Agent – Cllrs Jones and Kenton to meet and discuss with the land agent at the same time as the Pond discussions. Clerk to offer support in order to progress.

Action Cllr Kenton & Clerk ongoing

Pond Licence

Cllrs Jones and Kenton to meet and draw up a tree management plan to be sent to the Church Commissioners land agent for discussion before the Licence is discussed. Clerk to offer support in order to progress.

Action Cllrs M Jones and N Kenton ongoing

HIGHWAYS

Speedwatch – *Sharing SID data with Speedwatch group* - Due to Coronavirus restrictions the SID handover has started but is not complete, so currently unable to share data with Speedwatch group.

Action Clerk On-going

New SID operator - Due to Coronavirus restrictions the SID handover has started but is not complete, Cllr Bailey to continue as SID operator.

Action Clerk & Cllr Bailey On-going

Play Area Improvements - *Quotations for refurbishment & proposal for the Play Area Improvements* – specification sent out for quotations – awaiting replies.

Action Discharged

CORRESPONDENCE

Consultation Documents - Vision Zero – Road Safety Strategy Consultation – Cllr Hay completed.

Action Discharged

Other - Eastry Pharmacy – Vaccination hub - Clerk liaised with all parties.

Action Discharged

HIGHWAYS

Additional Streetlight on footpath from Gun Park to Mill Lane – Clerk contacted DDC & KCC neither willing to install, Clerk has requested a quotation for the cost of installation.

Action Discharged

ACCOUNTS

Clerk to submit Precept Demand to DDC – submitted.

Action Discharged

Clerk to renew Insurance with Zurich Municipal for a 5-year LTA – completed, slight increase in premium due to new bench on High street.

Action Discharged

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Outside Events - Introduction to Chairmanship Course - Clerk booked, Chair attended. **Action Discharged**

PURCHASE OF ASSETS

Enhancing neglected green sites within the village - potential list of green sites to be maintained will be drawn up for discussion.

Action Cllr Boughton on-going

REPORTS

Parish Councillors – Cllr Hay to produce posters for dog fouling and asymptomatic testing – produced and a poster for County Eye Fly Tipping reporting.

Action Discharged

Footpath at the back of the Etopia development on Gore Lane - Cllr Kenton to follow up options with Lois Jarrett at DDC.

Action Cllr Kenton on-going

COMMUNICATION

Communication Strategy - Promote asymptomatic testing, the Local Plan consultation and highlight the problem of dog fouling using the website, notice board and social media – all completed and County Eye Fly Tipping Reporting promoted.

Action Discharged

Village News Letter -Promote asymptomatic testing and the problem of dog fouling in the next issue – requested along with Country Eye Fly Tipping reporting.

Action Discharged

Mercury Report – Clerk to investigate a link being published in the Villages section to the Eastry Parish Council Website – Village column currently not included and EKM not sure when and if will run again.

Action Discharged

5. CORONAVIRUS**a) Information from DDC, KCC and Central Government**

All emails received in connection with the Coronavirus and vaccination programme have been forwarded to Council members as received. The situation changes frequently and the information is fluid in nature. NALC and SLCC continue to strongly advise local councils to continue to meet remotely, without the need for face-to-face contact. The Village Caretaker is continuing to work through the lockdown with an updated risk assessment and following all Government guidance.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

To discuss and agree actions relating to correspondence received by the Council.

a) Consultation Documents

None received

b) Newsletters and Circulars

- i) Neighbourhood Watch updates
- ii) KCC & Police – Frauds, Fly Tipping poster, Domestic Abuse poster and County Eye posters on website, noticeboard & social media
- iii) Kent PCC's Winter 2020/21 Newsletter
- iv) NALC Chief Execs Bulletins
- v) KALC – Chief Execs Bulletin & KALC News
- vi) KALC - Local Government Bulletins
- vii) KALC – Remote Meetings & Annual Meeting
- viii) Roger Gough & Michael Payne – Transition Updates

- ix) KCC Media Releases – Empty Homes, Severe Weather, Kent Resilience Forum

Noted by members.

- x) Operation London Bridge

Concern was expressed that the Eastry Flagpole at the Church is no longer operational, Clerk to write to the PCC to enquire when it will be operational again. **Action Clerk**

- xi) EKJIRP Parish Quadrennial Review

Noted by members.

c) Other

- a. Kent Fire & Rescue – Want volunteers
- b. Public Spaces Protection Order – delayed, current controls extended
- c. Kent Wildlife Trust – Parish Council Spring Newsletter
- d. Census 2021 – 21st March - Poster on website & noticeboard

Noted by members

7. HIGHWAYS

To discuss and agree actions relating to highways issues

- i) Speedwatch – No progress due to Coronavirus restrictions
- ii) Pothole data
- iii) Heronden Road – Closed 10 Feb
- iv) Mill Lane – Closed 8-10 March
- v) Brood Street – Closed 3 March
- vi) Empty salt bins – reported to KCC Highways & refilled, Cllrs Boughton & Jones gritted footpath to the Parade & bottom of Mill Lane
- vii) Road sign at Updown – Pointing in wrong direction – reported to KCC Highways
- viii) HIP – Waiting for report from KCC

Councillors are concerned at the length of time this is taking, Clerk to chase. **Action Clerk**

- ix) SID battery – not retaining charge

RESOLVED clerk to organise purchase of new battery. **Action Clerk**

- x) Email re: Traffic issues on Gore Lane

Discussions were held on the traffic issues on Gore Lane and members were sympathetic to the views expressed in the email. Members were hoping that the Highway Improvement Plan would help to alleviate some of the concerns but were still waiting for it to come back from Highways. Members agreed that for any new developments the Parish Council would feedback to DDC that walkways should be provided and due consideration given to Highways concerns. Clerk to respond to email. **Action Clerk**

- xi) DDC – Update on deterioration of A299 & A256

Noted by members

- xii) Email re: Rubbish along edges of A256 & country lanes – reported to DDC

Parish Councillors were concerned at the amount of rubbish along the route from Manston to Dover, the Clerk had reported to DDC who are working towards a plan, the rubbish can't be cleared until the road can be closed for the safety of the operatives. District Cllr Manion explained that the A256 had already been cleaned once this year, at a cost to the local taxpayer of £6,000 per day just to close the lanes. Clerk to respond to email. **Action Clerk**

8. ACCOUNTS

- i) Email from Harmers – Confirming final year of five year contract

Noted by members.

- ii) Eastry Development & Section 106 Agreements

Discussions were held and it was agreed that as developments go ahead there is a need to mitigate effects on the village so DDC & KCC need to ensure that Eastry as a village benefits from section 106 funding.

9. PAYMENTS

RESOLVED the following payments should be made, proposed by Cllr Barwick and seconded by Cllr Hay.

Payments March 2021				
Receipts				
	Funeral - Fletcher		£200.00	
	Funeral - Mollart		£400.00	
Paid between meetings				
Card Payments				VAT
	Cartridge People – Yellow & Magenta Cartridges	Card	181.80	30.30
	Buzz Networks – landline rental - Feb	Card	7.96	1.33
	EE Ltd - Feb	Card	13.75	2.29
	Argos – Laminating Pouches	Card	9.99	1.66
	KALC – An introduction to Chairmanship	Card	60.00	10.00
Unity Trust Payments		Cheque No		VAT
	Clerks Salary Feb 2021	BP	930.31	
	H M Revenue and Customs ER NI Feb	38.70		
	H M Revenue and Customs EE NI Feb	26.45		
	65.15	BP	65.15	
	Employers Pension Contribution Feb	246.02		
	Employees Pension Contribution Feb	55.68		
	301.70	BP	301.70	
	Caretakers Pay Feb 2021	BP	720.20	
	Harmers – groundworks – February Invoice	SO	698.89	116.48
	Everflow Allotment Water 18-03-21 to 17-04-21	DD	49.99	
	Opus Energy – Gas Parish Room – 5 Jan to 04 Feb 2021	DD	65.44	3.12
	Gary Boorman – High Street Bench Fixing	BP	162.00	
	Gary Boorman – Centenary Gardens Play Area- remove rusty broken poles & make good rusty bases	BP	70.00	
To pay – Unity Trust				
	Marmax – Bench on High Street behind horse trough	BP	432.00	72.00
	Zurich Municipal – Insurance renewal	BP	2072.00	
	Poppy Appeal – Poppy Wreath	BP	20.00	
	Safeplay Playground Services Ltd	BP	106.20	17.70

10. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

To discuss and agree actions relating to events

a) Council Events

i) Annual Parish Meeting – see 6bvii

RESOLVED Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 19th May at 7pm, format to be decided once government guidance known.

b) Outside Events

i) KALC Training Events - various

ii) KCC Shaping Our Adult Care Social Strategy Workshop – 19th Feb

- iii) KALC Dover Area Committee Meeting – 24th Feb – Clerk attended

Noted by members

11. POND AND PARADE

To discuss matters relating to the Pond, Parade and area behind the bus shelter.

- i) Litter Bin outside Village Hall – Damaged – reported to DDC

Noted by members.

12. ALLOTMENTS

To discuss matters raised by the Allotments Management Committee.

- i) Fence cut Centenary Gardens – Handyman repairing

Noted by members.

13. LEISURE FIELDS

To discuss matters relating to the Councils leisure fields and amenities, to receive correspondence relating to leisure fields.

a) Gun Park

- i) Free Tikspac Biodegradable dog poo bag dispenser offered by DDC – Permission required for installation

RESOLVED permission granted for DDC to install a free Tikspac dispenser on the footpaths at the Gun Park/Centenary Gardens play area, provided there is no on-going cost to Eastry Parish Council. Clerk to organise. **Action Clerk**

- ii) Covid signs & Clean up after your dog signs – put up at both Play Area

- iii) January Playground Inspection Report received

Noted by members

b) Play Area Improvements

Awaiting quotations, refurbishment works should address any points in the playground inspection report.

14. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY

To discuss and agree action on matters relating to land controlled by the Council in and around Church Street.

a. Churchyard & Cemetery

Nothing to discuss

b. Recreation Ground

Nothing to discuss

c. Bowling Green & Parish Room

Parish Room officially closed due to Covid - locks changed/keyholder list/Risk assessment at re-opening

Once government guidance allows public halls to re-open, a risk assessment will be produced for all users to follow and a keyholder list produced for the new locks. There is a leak in the toilets, clerk to organise plumber. **Action Clerk**

- ii) Email re: Village Archive – New Parish Room

The members agreed in principle that a Village Archive could be stored in the New Parish Room. Clerk to respond to email. Concern was expressed that another Planning Application didn't expire before works started on the Parish Room, it was agreed that the Local Plan and Highways Improvement Plan need to be prioritised and then attention could turn to the Parish Room once coronavirus restrictions were relaxed.

Action Clerk

15. Parish Councillor Vacancy

To deal with current Parish Councillor Vacancy

A parishioner had been in contact regarding the vacancy and had had an informal chat with the Chair about the role of a Parish Councillor. The Clerk to send an application form and eligibility form to be completed and then forward to the Members for consideration. **Action Clerk**

16. REPORTS

To receive written or verbal reports from:-

- a) **County Cllr** – C Cllr Chandler’s report will be forwarded
- b) **Dist Cllrs** – Dist Cllr Manion reported on DDC securing government funding to decarbonise the Whitfield offices as per of their Green Agenda as well as KCC’s budget.
- c) **Parish Councillors** – It was reported that it was difficult to hear the Clerk in Teams meetings.
RESOLVED clerk to purchase a microphone headset. **Action Clerk**

17. COMMUNICATION

To agree Council communication to the following media:-

- a) **Communication Strategy** EPC Facebook administrators updated – Clerk, Cllrs Hay & Jones

Cllr Hay reported that the link between the Eastry Parish Council website and Facebook is now working.

- b) **Village News Letter** - Deadline 14th March
- c) **Mercury Report** – Villages section currently not running
- d) **Web Site** – being updated as and when necessary

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Planning meeting of the Council will be 15th March at 7pm to decide on Eastry Parish Council’s response to Dover District Council’s Local Plan, the next Ordinary meeting of the Council will be 12th April 2021

Scheduled 10th May 2021 7th June 2021 5th July 2021

Closed 21.20