

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF EASTRY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT  
THE PARISH ROOM AT 7.30pm ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2015**

<b>Present: Councillors</b>	N Kenton (Chairman)	B Read	A Barwick
	M Pemble	S Hooper	M Kemp
	L Bevan-Powell	P Bailey	

Sarah Wells Clerk to the Parish Council      Dist Cllr Manion

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr A Wiles. N Wickham PCSO Tony Edwards. R Priestley Community Warden  
Absent Cllr J Sales

The Clerk reported that Cllr Sales had not attended a meeting for the last six months, her last attendance being on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Under the rules of The Local Government Act 1972 s85 (1) and (2), which states:-

“that if a member fails throughout six months to attend any meeting of the council or of its committees he ceases automatically to be a member of the council unless either he has a “statutory excuse” or his failure is due to a reason approved by the council”

As Cllr Sales has not offered any reason for her absence for approval by the council and does not meet the criteria for a “statutory excuse”, she has now ceased to be a Councillor on Eastry Parish Council.

### **2. DECLARATIONS**

None received

### **3. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

The two vacancies on the Council had now been advertised for the statutory amount of time and the Parish Council were now able to Co-opt members to fill the vacancies.

Mr Peter Bailey and Mrs Laraine Bevan- Powell had indicated their willingness to fill the positions.

RESOLVED Mr Peter Bailey should be co-opted onto Eastry Parish Council with immediate effect. Cllr Bailey signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

RESOLVED Mrs Laraine Bevan-Powell should be co-opted onto Eastry Parish Council with immediate effect. Cllr Bevan-Powell signed her declaration of acceptance of office.

### **4. POLICE LIASION**

PCSO Tony Edwards had sent a very comprehensive written report which was discussed with the members.

The Community Warden had also sent a brief report including information gas canisters left in Wilmott Place and the teen shelter and nuisance motor bikes.

### **5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

RESOLVED the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2014 are duly signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

## 6. ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

### Allotments

*Use of area behind Mill Green* - It was suggested the area could be used as a wild flower meadow and opened to the public. The Clerk had spoken to the local Chair of the NHW group and she had suggested speaking to the DDC safety unit. **Action Sarah Wells ongoing**

The Committee would like to purchase wooden marker posts to allow plots to be marked out more clearly. The exact number and cost of post was not clear. The Members asked that the Allotment Committee quantify exactly how many posts were required and how much they would cost for consideration at the next meeting. **Action Allotments Committee ongoing**

She had asked the allotment committee for the details of the property in May Mills that had a tree overhanging the allotments. Cllr Kemp said he know the address and was willing to speak to the owner. **Action Cllr Kemp Ongoing**

*New Strimmer* - The possibility of storing the new strimmer in a tin box/cupboard in the parish room, provided it was drained of all fuel and no fuel was stored in the building. The Allotment management committee to discuss this suggestion and inform the clerk if they felt it would be a practical solution. The Committee had not met yet to discuss this issue.

**Action Allotments Committee & Sarah Wells ongoing**

### Pond

*Parrot Weed* -Finding a licensed operator was proving difficult. The Clerk had contacted the Environment Agency, however they do not hold a list of licensed contractors. Cllr Hooper had contacted Hadlow College and was waiting for a response. **Action Cllr Hooper ongoing**

*Email from the Pond Warden* – the Clerk has responded.

**Action Discharged**

### Leisure Fields

Cllr Kenton suggested that the gravestones be weed killed around instead of trimmed in future to reduce costs. The Clerk to contact the contractor to discuss. **Action Sarah Wells ongoing**

*New benches* - The Clerk identified a supplies and would order the benches as soon as the contractor was ready to install them. **Action Sarah Wells ongoing**

### Bowling Green & Parish Room

*Meeting with bowls club and architect* – An initial meeting had taken place on the 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. The site had been measured and the needs of the bowls club discussed. Some draft plans and an initial design statement were now being prepared so that initial talks could be undertaken with DDC planning department. **Action Discharged**

### Highways

*Cars parking in the disabled bays in the Village Car Park all day without a disabled badge* – The Clerk had emailed DDC parking services. **Action Discharged**

### Finance

A Finance meeting had been set form Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, the Clerk had produced a draft budget to be discussed at the meeting. **Action Discharged**

*Public Space Protection Orders (Formally Dog Control Orders)* – *Consultation Doc* - Cllr Wickham had spoken to the school and the Clerk had put the information on the web site and sent to the Mercury Correspondence. **Action Discharged**

### **Church Yard & Cemetery**

The Clerk had not contacted Strutt and Parker to make an offer for the land as after examination of the site plan it had been ascertained that the area was much larger than estimated. The entire field was approx 5 acres, 2.5 each side of the footpath. This would make the initial purchase more expensive than discussed.

It was agreed Cllr Kenton should go back to the local resident and discuss the matter in more detail.

**Action Cllr Kenton ongoing**

*Valerian growing in the Churchyard wall* – The Clerk had responded to the Rev Ridley.

**Action Discharged**

*Letter from RBL – Ref Safety when laying Wreaths, War Graves and War memorial inscription* – The Clerk had responded as agreed.

**Action Discharged**

### **Recreation Ground**

The anti-tank concrete block had been moved and was resting on the fence. The Clerk had looked, the block was not actually touching the fence.

**Action Discharged**

### **Toilets**

A Meeting with members of the hall committee, the Clerk and Chairman had taken place prior to this meeting. The Chairman had explained the Council's idea and the committee had agreed to discuss.

**Action Discharged**

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

### **a) Consultation Documents**

- i) Consultation on Parish Polls – response by 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015

The members agreed with the points raised in the consultation. The Clerk to respond.

**Action Sarah Wells**

- ii) Electoral Review of Kent County Council
- iii) Consultation on the future delivery of Library, Registration and Archive services in Kent

Both of the above were noted by the members.

### **b) News letters and Circulars**

- i) KALC Parish News

Noted by the members.

### **c) Other**

- i) New year 2016 – Honours nominations

Noted by the members.

- ii) KALC Community Awards Scheme - Nominations

Three nominations for the award had been received. These were Bob Priestley, Eastry Village News volunteers and Cllr Wickham.

RESOLVED the Eastry Village News volunteers should be given the KALC 2015 Community Award.

**8. FLOODING**

The Clerk had spoken to a resident of Brook Street who had undertaken some investigation work, she had arranged a site meeting with him and the local KHS drainage engineer.

**9. HIGHWAYS**

To discuss and agree actions relating to highways issues

- a) Application to record Black Lane, Knowlton as a restricted byway

The members noted this application.

**10. PLANNING**

Nothing to discuss.

**11. FINANCE**

To discuss and agree actions relating to any financial matters presented to the Council.

- i) 2014-2016 National Salary Awards

The Clerk left the room so this could be discussed.

RESOLVED the new rates of pay and one off payment detailed in the document should be adopted by the Council.

The Clerk returned to the room.

- ii) Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2015/16

The above were noted by the members.

- iii) Dover, Deal & District Citizens Advice Bureau request for funding

This application does not meet the Parish Councils criteria for grant funding.

**12. ACCOUNTS**

RESOLVED the following payments should be made, proposed by Cllr Hooper and seconded by Cllr Pemble, Cllr Barwick was the third signatory.

<b>Receipts Dec</b>				
UK Power Network - Wayleave	68.94			
	<b>68.94</b>			
<b>Petty Cash expenditure Dec</b>				
Stamps	49.29			
	<b>49.29</b>			
<b>Nov Payments</b>		<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Environmental Engineer - Dec 2014		STO	398.75	
Toilet Cleaning Contract Dec	165.00			
Toilet Cleaning Supplies allowance Dec	8.00			
	<b>173.00</b>	STO	173.00	
AJL garden Services - Dec		STO	638.82	
Clerks Salary Dec 2014		STO	770.68	
H M Revenue and Customs Income Tax	0.48			
Employees NI	15.40			
Employers NI	11.42			
	<b>27.30</b>	STO	27.30	

Employers Pension Contribution	129.85		
Employees Pension Contribution	45.78		
	<b>175.63</b>	STO	175.63
Clerks Reimbursement/Expenses			
Office Allowance Oct to Dec	67.50		
Telephone - 5 Jan to 5 Feb	10.82		
Print cartridges	7.98		
	<b>86.30</b>	4754	86.30
Coffee Break refreshments		4755	30.46
Village Hall Hire Oct to Dec		4756	264.00
G Boorman - various work, Parish Room, Parade, Milestone, allotments		4757	304.75
Safeplay Playground safety inspections		4758	72.00 12.00
British Gas - Parish Room gas		4759	114.30 5.44

### 13. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

To discuss and agree actions relating to events

#### a) Council Events

- i) Annual Parish Meeting Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – Agree agenda

The final agenda was agreed, the Clerk to forward to the Village News for publication.

**Action Sarah Wells**

#### b) Outside Events

- i) Lord Lieutenant of Kent Civic Service – Tue 10<sup>th</sup> Mar 2015, 11am Rochester Cathedral, Cllr Hooper to attend on behalf of the Council, the Clerk to RSVP.

**Action Sarah Wells**

- ii) CPRE Conference “Flooding: Fears, Facts and the Future” – Maidstone Feb 6th

Noted by the members.

### 14. ALLOTMENTS

The Allotments management committee had not had a meeting since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

### 15. LEISURE FIELDS

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

#### a) Gun Park

Nothing to discuss

#### b) Pond

Some discussion took place.

#### c) Allotments Play Area

Nothing to discuss

#### d) Correspondence

None received.

**16. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY****a) Churchyard & Cemetery**

Nothing to discuss at this time

**b) Recreation Ground**

Nothing to discuss at this time

**c) Bowling Green & Parish Room**

- i) Lease – Request from the bowls club for an extension to the 25 year originally discussed. Having looked in to grant funding and speaking to other clubs it is felt that 25 year is a minimum term.

RESOLVED the members would be happy for a longer lease, and would be guided by the Bowles club as to what was needed to ensure grant funding could be maintained. The Clerk to inform the bowls club.  
**Action Sarah Wells**

**17. REPORTS**

To receive written or verbal reports from:-

**a) Dist Cllrs**

Dist Cllrs Manion and Kenton gave reports including information on DDC Council Tax, enforcement and parking charges.

**b) Parish Councillors**

Cllr Hooper was to attend a Manstone airport meeting on the following night.

**18. COMMUNICATION**

To agree Council communication to the following media:-

**a) Village News Letter – Feb 2014**

APM Agenda. PC Election awareness and Library Consultations

**b) Mercury Report**

As above

**c) Web Site**

As required.

**19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To confirm the next meeting of the Parish Council

**Scheduled dates of meetings**

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2015	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2015	AMP Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2015	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2015
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Jun 2015		

The meeting closed at 9.00pm