

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF EASTRY PARISH COUNCIL.
HELD AT THE PARISH ROOM AT 7.30pm ON THURSDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2012.**

Present: Councillors S Hooper M Pemble J Gardiner N Kenton (Chairman)
 M Kemp A Barwick S Shevde

Sarah Wells Clerk to the Parish Council

19 Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs C Kennedy Harper, A Wiles, B Read and S Mitchell

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations received

3. PARISH MEETING 21-11-12

- a) To discuss the representations made at the Parish Meeting on 21st Nov 2012 including the results of the question put to the floor at that meeting.

The Chairman stated that he had found this meeting difficult to chair as speakers had been shouted down by those that disagreed with their comments. He said that planning should never be personal and everyone should be entitled to give their opinion uninterrupted.

The Chairman went on to say that he was very concerned by the wording of the question put to the floor at the meeting; those present had been told that the wording was based on the wording of the planning application. Having read the application the Chairman had found that this was not the case.

- b) To decide if the Council wishes to suspend standing orders in order to review the decisions made by the Planning Committee at its meeting of the 5th Nov 2012, reference the following applications.

DOV/12/00758 - Proposal: Change of use and conversion to a residential care home - **Location:** The Bull Inn, High Street, Eastry, Sandwich, CT13 0HF

DOV/12/00759 - Proposal: Conversion to a residential care home and associated internal alterations
Location: The Bull PH, High Street, Eastry, CT13 0HF

The Clerk explained that Parish councils are subject to basic arrangements relating to the conduct of meetings and making decisions many of which are contained in the Local Government Act 1972 and in particular Schedule 12 to the 1972 Act (paragraphs 7-13 and 39-45)..

However, the basic provisions in the 1972 Act (and other legislation) are insufficient for the majority of parish councils. Standing Orders are therefore necessary for regulating the practical arrangements to give effect to statutory requirements. Once Standing Orders have been made, a parish council is bound to observe and comply with them (unless they vary or suspend them by resolution).

The Parish Councils standing order that relates to decision making is:-

No 11. Rescission of previous resolutions

A resolution (whether affirmative or negative) of the Council shall not be reversed within 6 months except either by a special motion, the written notice whereof bears the names of at least 3 councillors of the Council, or by a motion moved in pursuance of the report or recommendation of a committee.

When a special motion or any other motion moved pursuant to standing order 11(a) above has been disposed of, no similar motion may be moved within a further 6 months.

When considering this Standing Order you should be aware that the decision must be justifiable and convincing and must state what new material evidence is going to be used to warrant a revisit of a lawfully made decision. It should not be made on emotional grounds. Using this option respects the integrity of the Councils Standing Orders.

There is also standing Order

No 29. Variation, revocation and suspension of standing orders

Any or every part of the standing orders, except those which are mandatory by law, may be suspended by resolution in relation to any specific item of business.

A motion to add to or to vary or to revoke one or more of the Council's standing orders not mandatory by law shall not be carried unless two-thirds of the councillors at a meeting of the Council vote in favour of the same.

When considering using this standing order to suspend standing order 11 above, you should again be very sure that you have a justifiable reason for suspending the rules that normally govern the councils operations. Again this should be a rational decision based on material information.

RESOLVED that Standing Orders should not be suspended.

c) To agree the process for dealing with future applications that attracts substantial public interest.

Some discussion took place on this matter. It was suggested that as so much public interest had been received this may be the time to launch a Neighbourhood Plan, this plan would be based on the views of local people and if produced in line with the correct rules and legislation would become a supplementary Planning document. It was agreed this should be added to the agenda for the January Meeting PC meeting.

Action Sarah Wells

The meeting closed at 8.00pm