

# Eastling Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2016 in Eastling Village Hall at 6.30 pm

## **1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence.**

Present: Cllrs. Jimmy West, Helen Higgs, Julia Bailey, Nigel Bickerdike, John Payne, Alan Willson (Village Warden) and Jill Seaman (Clerk). David Buckett was also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Andrew Bowles and Colin Prescott. Paul Ainsworth also extended his apology.

JP introduced David Buckett (Independent Auditor) who he had asked to assist in the completion of the Annual Audit. The Parish Council was advised that there could be some delay in completing this as a resident could complain. He also advised that the Clerk should be an employee of the Council. He also said that the clerk should be on PAYE. The clerk advised that she completed a Self- Assessment each year and included the annual sum received from the Parish Council. David said that there is a Transparency Code in force for Councils with an income of less than £25000. He advised that there is a fund to purchase a laptop, software and a scanner

JP proposes to employ David Buckett which would cost £300 in this year. A previous 12months of minutes would be forwarded to David by Cllr West.

David Buckett then left the meeting.

There was discussion regarding the need for the expense and that the Parish Council was a small unit. Cllr Bailey would look into downloading information .Cllr West said that the initial cost of £300 was excessive but understood that this was to set up and that the cost would be less next year. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with David Buckett.

## **3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016.**

The minutes were amended to read ' draft audit was signed' and then taken as read.

## **4. Matters Arising**

Cllr Bailey said that Gary Gibbs had phoned to say that yet again the contractor had lost the details, but that it was now in hand to replace the road signs.

Cllr Bailey advised that the litter picking was carried out every week and that all main street and footpaths were covered.

She had met with Neville Perkins on 18<sup>th</sup> August to hand him a copy of the dismissal notice which would conclude on 18/ 2 2017. The domain was renewed by cheque of £55.

The new website was up and running. Paul Ainsworth was to meet with Cllr Payne. Cllrs were to look at the website for comment. JP to invite him to 9<sup>th</sup> November meeting.

## **5. Village Warden's Report.**

Alan Willson gave his report. He said that there had been a wedding reception at the hall. At the end, a minority broke into some cars in The Street. Alan called the police. There were some needles left on the school field. The hall had not been cleared up, but later the chairs that had been on loan for the reception were collected, but they left the door unlocked. John Coltrip had had some lamping on his field, they left the gate open which resulted in the animals escaping into another area.

## **6. Chairman's Report**

Cllr West reported that Tong Lane has a raised kerb so that water won't go down. Overhanging trees had been cut back but Ben Binder would do some further cutting back. Some potholes had been filled in but not all. The Tong Lane pavement needs some serious effort.

Nick Swatland is maintaining the Church footpath well.

## **7. Treasurer's Report.**

The Treasurer said that the bank account was still at Lloyds. The opening a new account with Nat West had not yet been actioned. Other signatories would be Cllrs Bailey and Bickerdike.

## **8. Planning Report.**

There was nothing to report.

## **9. Correspondence**

Cllr Bailey had looked at the Bearing Fruits DVD – there was intension to improve traffic flow at the end of Brogdale Road.

Countryside Voice – to Cllr Bailey.

CPRE Memebership renewal – to Cllr Payne.

Kent Highways email – Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Cllr Bailey would attend.

NHS information – to Cllr West.

Any correspondence was available to read.

## **10. Any Other Business**

There were no matters arising.

**11. Date of Next Meeting.** The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in Eastling Village Hall at 6.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting finished at 8.20pm.

