

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council, Mrs M Piscina,
East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Kent, TN12 5BT
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21st November 2023

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023

7pm in the Jubilee Hall Meeting Room

1. Apologies for absences and absentees:

Present: Councillors M. Williams, D. Seal, M. Barton, T. Eastwood, M. Joannes, D. Fairless, T. Fryer and S. North, Parish Clerk, 1 resident

Apologies: Councillors L. Browning, R. Mewett, County Councillor S. Hudson, Borough Councillor M. Boughton,

2. Declarations of Interests and/or lobbying

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting, Special Council Meeting and those for Matters Discussed in Private held on 18th October 2023 were a true and accurate record of the meetings.

Proposed: M. Joannes **Seconded:** D. Seal All in favour

4. To receive an update on items discussed and resolved at the last meeting

Grant for The Carer's Café – the Clerk clarified that their meetings would continue to be held in the Methodist Church whilst the works are being carried out. It was therefore resolved to agree to the grant request for £600.

Proposed: T. Eastwood **Seconded:** D. Seal All in favour

The green shelter is being moved to the far end of the playing fields, awaiting confirmation of date from the contractor

Playground Gates – the Office is awaiting a response from the inspection company as to whether the gates can be fixed or need to be replaced.

5. Elections and Vacancies

Councillor vacancies: 1 vacancy

6. Reports from County Councillor, Borough Councillors, PCSO & Community Warden

Emailed report from Councillor M. Boughton:

Chief Executive, Julie Beilby, announced her intention to retire and the process for recruiting her successor, who will also be Returning Officer for any parish elections, has commenced.

There remain a few teething issues with the new software system, called Agile. Consequently there is a small backlog on validating planning applications but this is being worked through as quickly as possible and the number validated should increase each week on the weekly list circulated to the Parish Council. Councillor Hudson and I have been dealing with a few water issues on Pound Road which are caused by the roadworks outside the Co-op as they construct the development at Brunswick Yard. We have been in touch with South East Water to try and resolve these problems.

On a KCC matter, we had a productive meeting with the Cabinet Member for Highways at the County Council, Neil Baker, about the dangerous junction by the school where Pound Road, Bush Road and Church Lane meet. We put to Kent Highways some of the suggestions and we think there is scope for some small improvements initially which would at least make the junction more visible. They are going to share some possible designs that we will be pleased to speak to the Parish Council about, if of interest.

In response, Councillor Fryer's suggestion of widening the pavement on the corners of Church Lane will be put to Kent Highways.

7. To adjourn in order to enable members of the public to address the meeting

7.1 To receive correspondence from residents

Clerk: Received an email from a concerned resident regarding the speed of traffic around Little Mill and a second accident occurring in the same place as a previous one just 3 months ago. Responded assuring the resident that the issues are being looked at in conjunction with Kent Highways and that it was on the EPPC HIP and being addressed. Kent Highways have also confirmed that they are

7.2 To take questions from residents

None posed

8. To receive a report from the Chairman / Clerk.

Chairman: Councillor Williams is liaising with KCC on the current consultation regarding double yellow lines along Church Lane. A group of residents is funding a defibrillator to go in their locality and will be seeking permission from the landowners to place it on the site of the Blackbird and Thrush pub. Currently working with Councillor Eastwood on getting a spec and costings of a skate park and footpath around the playing fields for future consideration.

There has been an article in the Kent Messenger regarding the council's decision to not go-ahead with the funding gained by JD O'Brien, it appears EPPC are not the only council to have turned it down. The Internal Audit was recently carried out, a few minor issues to review going forward.

A reminder for anyone attending an upcoming training sessions to please add to the training logs sent out recently by the Assistant Clerk.

Parish Clerk: the Assistant Clerk has suggested introducing an annual photograph competition, to feature Village life in East Peckham, with adult and child categories. Various ideas were discussed, including tying in with the History Trust and Church fundraising such as using photos on a jigsaw to sell. It was resolved to add to the December agenda for further consideration.

9. Groups & Organisations: To receive reports from the Chairman of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups that have met in the last 4 weeks

Events: Councillor Joannes gave feedback on the recent Halloween event; 97 children attended despite the bad weather and the event being moved indoors. Have received a lot of positive feedback so may consider this as a permanent change going forward.

Youth and Community: the survey regarding the playing field facilities is going ahead and will be sent out shortly. Different forms of response are being considered to enable as wide a response as possible,

10. Members who attended any meeting on behalf of EPPC not included elsewhere on the agenda will be invited to give a report.

Councillor Williams will be attending the KALC T&M area meeting, plus the Chairman's Conference. Councillor Mewett attended the Parish Partnership Panel meeting last week.

11. Finance

11.1 To review and approve Bank Reconciliations and Accounts for October 2023.

All accounts are balanced and up to date. It was resolved to approve the accounts, including bank statements, bank reconciliations and any outstanding credits/ debits

Proposed: D. Seal **Seconded:** M. Joannes All in favour

11.2 To review and approve Schedule of Upcoming Payments

KS Cleans	£725.00	
Salaries	£3021.10	(December)
Engie	£200.32	
Veolia	£116.02	
HMRC	£535.08	
Castle Water	£5	
Castle Water	£52	
Nest	£212.84	
Drax (electric)	£TBC (variable)	
Grassland Services	£TBC (variable)	
Mark Edwards	£TBC (variable)	

Grassland Services £ variable due to the nature of the work

Mark Edwards £ variable due to the nature of the work

Drax
ongoing discussion over invoices / payments as appear to be issued
ad hoc and payments not taken despite direct debit in place for
monthly payments

It was resolved to approve the schedule of payments:

Proposed: M. Joannes **Seconded:** D. Seal All in favour

11.3 To discuss and resolve received and proposed requests for grants and donations

None received

11.4 To discuss and resolve quotes received

Council Noticeboards – the current ones in the centre of the village need updating to allow guaranteed space for council notices as well as public ones. It was resolved to defer to discuss as part of the Methodist Church works.

Hedgerow Trees – Councillor Seal had been looking into the cost of trees to add to the playing fields area, but found they were more expensive than anticipated. Resolved to leave for now.

12. West Kent Rural Grant Scheme

Discussion on how the grant could be used within East Peckham and for which projects and their eligibility. It was resolved to consider applying for signage for footpaths, adding in historical references, with Councillors Seal and Fryer to look into.

Proposed: D. Seal **Seconded:** T. Fryer All in favour

13. Kent County Council's Community Transport Grant Scheme

Suggested ideas of how the grant could be applicable were discussed, but felt not something EPPC would be able implement at this time. Potentially other groups such as the Evergreens could.

14. Speed Limit Signage

Suggested roads for targeting with the signage would be Pound Road, Old Road, and Snoll Hatch. Clerk to do a post regarding speed in the village, and if have concerns then please raise with the Parish Office. If there is sufficient interest then consider purchasing some showing the 40mph limit in other areas of the village.

Proposed: S. North **Seconded:** M. Joannes **All in Favour**

15. Planning

KCC/TM/0171/2023 Section 73 application to vary condition 4 of planning permission TM/16/1563 to allow the erection of a weighbridge and new welfare and office units

The council has no objections

16. Matters for discussion in private

17. Matters to be discussed and decided at the next meeting.

None

Date and Time of next meeting: Wednesday 20th December at 7pm