

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5BT

Clerk to the Council, Mrs M Piscina , Telephone 01622 871309

Website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Twitter @East PeckhamPC

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23rd May 2024, at the Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham

MINUTES

Attendees:

Parish Councillors: M. Williams, M. Joannes, R. Mewett, D. Fairless ,T. Eastwood, A. Courtney-Jones
Assistant Clerk &17 residents.

Apologies:

M. Boughton, S. Hudson, S. North, T. Fryer, D. Seal & Parish Clerk.

1. Welcome and Introductions

M. Williams introduced himself as the chairman and welcomed all attendees. He reminded all that it is a meeting for residents to have their say and to let the council know what they want and their feedback on village matters. M. Williams continued, with an explanation of the various committees on the council and their functions, along with a reminder that in some cases, whilst EPPC have a say on plans, TMBC / Kent Highways have the final say. Residents were invited to join the committees and get involved.

A couple of Committee's gave a brief synopsis of their activities over the past year. These included the Planning and Transportation Committee along with the Climate Change Committee, Allotments Committee, Council Assets Committee, Events Committee & Youth and Community Committee.

Asset – Council use a portal called Parish Online to populate all assets belonging to EPPC. A training session will be held in the coming weeks for councillors to understand this system.

2. Approval of the minutes from the previous Annual Parish Meeting on 20th May 2023

The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: M. Joannes **Seconded:** D. Fairless

3. Annual report

M. Williams presented the annual finances, explaining £30,000 was fraudulently withdrawn from the Councils NatWest account in September 2023. After an investigation this was returned to our account and we were given £250.00 compensation. Internal investigations with NatWest and its handling of this is still under investigation. It was confirmed that we can claim VAT.

4. Reports from Borough Councillors, PCSO, Community Groups

Reports received from the following were read out to the meeting. M. Williams gave a short presentation on the Planning application process. M. Boughton was unable to offer a report due to him spending time on the forthcoming election. The Community Warden offered a report, along with Dementia friendly. See appendix below.

5. Questions and Answers

Is there any update on the planning application for the perimeter path?. No update on the planning decision from TMBC to date.

What are council doing to reduce their carbon footprint?. Solar panels have been added to the Jubilee Hall roof. All internal lighting has been changed to LED. Council are looking to possibly changing all EPPC street lights to LED. This is still under discussion.

Litter picking takes place twice per week and additional picks when volunteers allow.

Any asset works are considered as sustainably as possible when using materials/products.

River sewage is monitored and reported to waterways.

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5BT

Clerk to the Council, Mrs M Piscina , Telephone 01622 871309

Website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Twitter @East PeckhamPC

How can I become a flood warden?. R. Mewett explained how the PC has an emergency plan for any possible emergencies. Flood wardens are always needed and it was agreed the Parish office would put a link onto its Facebook page for any residents wishing to get involved. The Jubilee Hall would be used as a hub for residents that are evacuated for shelter & food etc. Councillor D. Seal manages this, however he was on leave so unable to offer a more in depth report.

Any news on the Church Lane development?. It is expected this will be looked at in the next month.

Why have the steel barriers still not been replaced at the end of the Freehold/Orchard Road junction, when there was one there historically and only removed as it was damaged? It was agreed this would be raised again with S. Hudson by the clerks and report back any conclusion.

M. Williams offered an update on the perimeter track, explain that as part of a section 106 payment. It stipulates monies received from TMBC can be spent on outside activities.

6. The Highways Improvement plan requests by the PC,

Discussions around speeding and dangerous parking in the village. Residents showed concern at Little Mill regarding speeding. M. Williams confirmed to date the PC have received 16 responses to the delivered survey's.

M. Williams explained the process KCC requires for them to reduce the speed limit or make any road marking changes from 60 – 30/40 miles per hour. A resident has asked if the PC can ask for additional lighting to be placed opposite the Man of Kent pub at Little Mill by KCC.

It was turned down to have a crossing on Church Lane due to the road not being wide enough.

Flashing speed lights have been requested, however KCC land would need to be identified, along with a power supply.

M. Williams thanked all residents for attending, and again invited to join the committees if interested.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5BT
Clerk to the Council, Mrs M Piscina , Telephone 01622 871309

Website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Twitter @East PeckhamPC

Appendix:

Community Warden & Dementia Friendly report

KCC Warden Report

Firstly apologies from Diane who had hoped to attend this meeting but unfortunately is poorly at home with Covid (yes it is still doing the rounds!).

As you are all aware the warden service has been going through a consultation over the past 18 months, which has resulted in seeing cuts to the service, my team has unfortunately shrunk from 14 to 5 so we will be seeing changes to the service .

We currently work to the four main objectives as identified in our business plan these are:-

Strengthening Community resilience – Stronger , Safer Communities

This includes working with residents to safeguard them from Scams, doorstep criminals, low level crime and ASB. We will also support residents through challenging times from floods to pandemics, and during the recent pandemic we supported many families plus the parish council in setting up community volunteers, vaccination hub etc.

Support the elderly and vulnerable

Diane will work with the most vulnerable in the village with the aim to improve wellbeing, supporting independence and reducing social isolation. East Peckham is really lucky as there is lots of opportunity to get out to meet others in the forms of groups, churches etc. Also supporting and navigating access to care.

Foster Community Cohesion.

Wardens will improve community wellbeing by working in a range of environments across all age groups setting up new groups and events where needed through community development projects.

Assist with navigating public services.

Wardens work closely with internal and external partners maintaining knowledge to support residents. Wardens are a front line KCC service and will embody the ‘one council ‘and no wrong door approach.

Diane your community warden is well embedded into your community now and very much enjoys her role supporting you all as a community. She pops into most groups from time to time and is able to offer you all Community Safety talks and support. We are lucky that East Peckham has a low crime rate, and probably at this time of year your biggest issues will be the Doorstep Criminal, who I urge you not to engage with, but to let Diane know they are in your area, and if you feel threatened by them in anyway call through to Kent Police on 101 or report via their website. Diane continues to work closely with all partners to ensure that East Peckham is the safest it can be for you all.

If you would like to discuss any issues with Diane please call her on 07813713740.

Or e-mail her on diane.wakeling@kent.gov.uk

Kind Regards, Sandra Edmonds Team Leader Tonbridge, Maidstone and Malling.

East Peckham Dementia Friendly Village

East Peckham Dementia Friendly village started way back in 2018, when a resident approached the warden service looking for support and advice around how to access care for her husband whom she was looking after.

EAST PECKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5BT

Clerk to the Council, Mrs M Piscina , Telephone 01622 871309

Website: www.eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Email: councilmanager@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk Twitter @East PeckhamPC

That sowed the seed and from there the Dementia Friendly Community Committee grew, the committee had representatives from the local community, churches, school, the local care home and also links with our very own Chris Parker who is Chairperson for the Tonbridge DFC's.

So what is the purpose of a Dementia Friendly Community?

A Dementia Friendly Community is a Community where the residents, businesses, Parish councils, Schools take an active part in gaining an understanding of how living with Dementia can affect the person, family and friends directly. They become more aware of the journey for these people and there for feel more confident in knowing how best to support, from the friendly smile, the general check in or possibly escalating concerns.

We are very lucky to have an amazing dementia Care home in the village, who act as a place of safety, so if anyone should happen across a person who appears lost, confused , disorientated, they can take them to Hale place who will then contact local services to ensure they are returned safely. In Year Six at East Peckham Primary School, all children enjoy a Dementia awareness session, which helps them to understand the changes they may see, if they are part of a family who is caring for someone on their Dementia journey.

We have shops in the village who have attended the dementia Friendly Business sessions and are accredited as Dementia friendly business's and the flag ship for this award is Brookside who annually update their staff and have Dementia buddies in store. To become a Dementia friendly business is really easy, as staff just need to attend one awareness session , and the expectation would be that shops etc agree to display posters or information provided to them.

Over the years there has been in excess of three hundred residents attend the Information sessions the last one being held at the beginning of May during Dementia action week. We have held Dementia awareness days in the village, which usually included cake stalls, our lovely Diane from the village has painted us gorgeous stones, all to help keep Dementia alive and att he forefront of our minds.

If anyone would be interested in attending an 'Understanding Dementia Session' please do not hesitate to contact Diane Wakeling on 07813713740.

Tonbridge is very lucky to have a huge amount of support and activities for people living with Dementia and if you would like to find out more please speak to Chris parker or Diane Wakeling who will be happy to help.

Kind regards Sandra Edmonds (East Peckham DFC)