

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

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th October 2024 in the Meeting (Committee) Room at the East Peckham Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 5BT at 7.00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for absences and absentees:**

Present: Councillors M. Williams, M. Joannes, D. Seal, D. Fairless, S. North, Parish Clerk, KCC Councillor S. Hudson, TMBC Councillor M. Boughton, 2 residents

Apologies: R. Mewett, A. Courtney-Jones, T. Eastwood

2. **Declarations of Interests and/or lobbying**

M. Joannes declared an interest in 11.7 – allotment fees

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September as a true and accurate record

Proposed – M. Joannes, **Seconded** - D. Seal **All in Favour**

4. **To receive an update on items discussed and resolved at previous meeting**

None received

5. **Elections and Vacancies**

5.1 To consider and resolve Co-option of resident to the Full Council, as per Co-option Policy:

Resident introduced himself and explained interest in joining the council.

Standing orders were then suspended whilst Council voted on the Co-option.

It was unanimously voted to Co-opt him onto the Council – vote was carried 5-0

There remain 2 vacancies available

6. **Reports from Police & Community Warden**

Written reports received from Police and Community Warden – see Appendix to the Minutes

Standing Orders suspended to enable members of the public to address the meeting

7. **County Councillors, Borough Councillors, Residents,**

7.1 KCC Councillor S. Hudson – meetings are now back to regular schedule. There remains a huge deficit in the budget with £90m of savings need to be found. Confirmed KCC has sufficient funding to retain the school buses to the end of the academic year. Awaiting to hear if the government will provide funding going forward once budget has been announced to enable the free bus passes to continue. Big infrastructure projects likely to be affected by the new budget. Has been following up with Kent Highways regarding the street light along Hale Street, will also notify them that there is no street light at the second narrowing near to Old Road.

TMBC Councillor M. Boughton – TMBC has less financial woes. Planning: The Church Lane application was refused last week, mainly due to Principles of Development (being green belt land), still possible they could appeal the decision.

Confirmed East Peckham would need to apply to be downgraded from a rural service centre to a larger village during the Regulation 18 consultation on the Local Plan; there is a settlement hierarchy as part of the Local Plan process. However may not affect how many houses the village will have to take as part of the allocation. Waiting for new guidance to come out from government to consider current TMBC Local Plan draft.

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- 7.2 To receive correspondence from residents
See Appendix
- 7.3 To take questions from residents
(Councillors will not have a discussion or debate on the residents' issues. They will decide if the issue is to be placed on the next Full Council Meeting Agenda or if the Clerk could reply to the resident)

Resident requested that the Parish Council contact The Environmental Agency; apparently they have employed a landscape company to mow the grassy barrier very short, but neglect the Coult Stream alongside Hatches Lane. Feels there is no need to mow the grass so short and would be far better as a wild meadow area. Also mentioned that the Signage Finger posts still require maintenance and strongly requested the flower planter on the Pound Piazza be updated.

Standing Orders to reconvene

8. **To receive a report from the Chairman / Clerk.**
See Appendix for Clerk's report, no report from the Chair
9. **Groups & Organisations:** To receive reports from the Chairman of Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups that have met since the last Full Council Meeting
None received
10. **To review reports from members who attended any meeting on behalf of EPPC not included elsewhere on the agenda**
See Appendix for reports
11. **Finance**
11.1 To review and approve Bank Reconciliations and Accounts for September 2024
The Bank Reconciliation and September Accounts were reviewed and approved and signed by alternative councillor to the Chair as per Financial Regulations.
Proposed: D. Seal **Seconded:** S. North **All in Favour**

11.2 The Schedule of Upcoming Payments was reviewed and approved:

One Touch Cleaning	£800
Engie - JH	£ yet to be received
Veolia	£140*
HMRC	£659.97
Nest	£231.62* slight increase tbc next month
Castle Water	£41.76 + £6.26
Engie – PC's	£167.56
British Gas	£59.95
Grassland Services	£1500 circa
Domestic Rates (TMBC)	£523.50 (November)
BT phone & B.band	£33.95
PC Matters	£101.54
Mark Edwards	£880
Salaries	£3255 * subject to overtime / recent increase Asst Clerk's

* Awaiting current invoice for these Direct Debits

Proposer: S. North **Seconded:** D. Seal **All in Favour**

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- 11.3 To discuss and resolve requests for grants and donations
None received
- 11.4 Quote received for EICR Report for Jubilee Hall – £ 859.00
Resolved to approve Proposed: S. North **All in Favour**
- 11.5 To note and approve the insurance renewal cost and approve 3 year fixed term
This year's cost at £5,808.62 on a 3 year contract was approved:
Proposed: M. Joannes, **Seconded:** M. Williams **All in Favour**
- 11.6 To note the change in phone and broadband contract and approve 3 year contract.
£33.95 for 36 months - Resolved to approve 36 month contract:
Proposed: D. Seal, **Seconded:** D. Fairless **All in Favour**
- 11.7 To discuss and resolve any increase in allotment fees ahead of the AGM
Following discussion it was resolved for allotment fees to remain the same this year.
Proposed: D. Seal **Seconded:** S. North **All in Favour** (1 abstention as per Agenda Point 2)

12. Remembrance Sunday

D. Seal confirmed he would read the names of the fallen at the Church Service. It was resolved to donate £250 to the Royal British Legion (to include the wreath.

Proposed: M. Williams **Seconded:** D. Seal **All in Favour**

13. Grass Cutting at Holy Trinity

After discussion of the issues and options, it was resolved to create a specification for the church yard and memorial garden, gain quotes and review in November / once quotes received. M Edwards to be instructed no further cuts at this time.

Proposed: D. Seal, **Seconded:** S. North **All in Favour**

14. Perimeter Footpath

Further to the outcome of reports and investigations, it was resolved to inform the company EPPC will no longer continue with the application and then consider doing the path in instalments as future projects.

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

15. Increase Parking Capacity at the Jubilee Hall

Options for increasing parking capacity at the Jubilee Hall discussed, but felt further investigation needed as those proposed have been found by some to not be as effective as needed. It was resolved to alter the fixtures schedule for next 2 months, and then review to see if alternative options are still required.

Proposed: D. Fairless **Seconded:** D. Seal **All in Favour**

18. Planning

Ref: 24/01585/PA **PROPOSAL:** Two-car car-port and associated drive. **LOCATION:** LITTLE RHODEN FARM LAND, Bells Farm Road, East Peckham,

No objections - **Proposed:** S. North **All in Favour**

Ref: 24/01449/PA **PROPOSAL:** Dropped Kerb **LOCATION:** 13, MEDWAY MEADOWS, EAST PECKHAM, TN12 5HJ

No objections - **Proposed:** S. North **All in Favour**

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19. Kent Highways Improvement Plan

19.1 It was resolved to proposed residents can get involved in monitoring traffic speeds through the village via Speedwatch which requires volunteers to carry out the scheme. EPPC will support the application and contact Kent Police to arrange.

Proposed: M. Williams **Seconded:** D. Seal **All in Favour**

19.2 To resolve a response to Kent Highways regarding signage upgrade on the current HIPf Previously discussed at October Planning and Transportation meeting where it was resolved to defer additional signage for railway station for now.

20. Matters for discussion in private

None

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

Fingerposts

Flowerpot tubs on The Pound – to be added to Youth & Community Agenda

War Memorial at Holy Trinity requires repair

22. Date and Time of next meeting: Proposed *Wednesday 20th November 2024*

Meeting closed: 20.29