

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 19th March 2025 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. Attendees, apologies for absences and absentees

Attendees: M. Williams, D. Seal, T. Eastwood, M. Joannes, J. Scorey, D. Fairless, Parish Clerk, KCC Councillor S. Hudson, 3 residents and 1 guest

Absent: Councillor S. North, TMBC Councillor M. Boughton

Apologies were received and approved for: Councillor A. Courtney-Jones

Proposed: D. Seal, Seconded: M. Williams, All in favour

2. Declarations of Interests and/or lobbying

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2025 as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: M. Joannes Seconded: J. Scorey All in favour

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

Councillor Eastwood gave a brief update on the progress of the new public toilet conversion; all is going well.

5. Elections and Vacancies

Councillor vacancies: There are currently 3 vacancies.

6. Reports from Police & Community Warden

Reports from PC Mayers and Community Warden Diane Wakeling were read out by the Clerk, see appendix 1

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

7. County Councillors, Borough Councillors, Residents,

- 7.1 To receive reports from County Councillor, Borough Councillors
Report from Matt Boughton was read out in his absence (see appendix 1)

Councillor S. Hudson addressed the meeting, stated she had concerns regarding the Chair of the Parish Council not following the council's own Standing Orders, and that she believes he has acted several times without authorisation of the Parish Council. She queried reports by the Chairman printed in the village magazine and on social media, claiming they are inaccurate but she has no way to respond to them directly. A heated discussion between Councillor Hudson and the Chair ensued for several minutes.

- 7.2 To receive correspondence from residents
The Parish Office has received correspondence from residents regarding a streetlight that requires maintenance, planning applications, resident support for a footpath around the perimeter of the playing fields and a query regarding last year's survey results for Snoll Hatch Road.

- 7.3 To take questions from residents
A resident addressed the meeting regarding the Chairman's conduct in the earlier part of the meeting which she felt to be rude and unprofessional. She then raised her concerns about the increase in the number of HGV's going past the houses along Addlestead Road and requested a recount as feels the

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number stated in last year's report by Kent Highways is now inaccurate. Stated there had been 3 near misses that week by the HGV's along that stretch of road.

Another resident attended to give an update on the East Peckham Junior Girls' Football Team, stating they were unbeaten that season and had won the league. They are now looking to set up a Saturday team at a higher standard, for next season.

A third residents stated they were attending the meeting to enquire how to become a Parish Councillor. They were advised of the council's Co-option Policy and asked to contact the Parish Office to receive a copy and details of the process.

Standing Orders to reconvene

8. To receive a report from the Chairman / Clerk

Chair: Noted attendance at the Chairman's Conference with Councillor Seal and an online session for Play Equipment Maintenance along with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, both of which were very useful.

Has discussed a potential community event The Red Fort restaurant owner is considering for residents, which would also raise money for charity. Has contacted SGN regarding the gas leak along Church Lane and reported potholes to Kent Highways.

Clerk: Confirmed receipt of S106 monies today that had been applied for in January, which were allocated to the fencing around the adult exercise equipment and the public toilet conversion. The Facilities Maintenance Role has had significant interest recently and the interview process is underway. The public toilet issue will be resolved on Friday and have requested CCTV is used to check for any internal cause of the blockages. The Parish Office will be closed next Tuesday whilst the Clerk and Assistant Clerk review various documents and policies. Attended the Play Equipment Maintenance online session which was very useful and will be ensuring the information given is considered when the plans for the playground equipment are drawn up.

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 receive reports from members who attended any meeting on behalf of EPPC not included elsewhere on the agenda All items already received

11. Finance

- 11.1 To note the approval of Bank Reconciliations and Accounts for February 2025
Deferred due to the Clerk having been on annual leave and requiring more time to complete..
- 11.2 The Schedule of Upcoming Payments for March / April was approved.
Proposed: M. Williams Seconded: M. Joannes All in favour

Veolia	£152.74
HMRC	£854.79
Nest	£263.54
Castle Water	£5.65, £52.49, £32.50
Engie	£127.74
British Gas	£364.51
Grassland Services	£ - not yet received
Mark Gurnett	£320.00
Community Heartbeat	£162.00
M.I. Jetting & Drainage	£210.00
Scribe	£1149.12 (Scribe Accounts and Bookings Renewal fee)
PC Matters	£101.54
KALC	£168.00 (Training)

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KALC	£1369.61 (KALC & NALC Annual fees)
Salaries	£3348.39
TMBC Council Tax	£5239.50 (over 10 months)

- 11.3 To consider any quotes received
Quote received for works on the Community Garden; 25 hours per week for 4 months.
It was resolved to approve 8 weeks of works for £3,200 and then review current position.
Proposed: T. Eastwood Seconded: D. Seal All in favour

Quote received for wood chip to complete the paths in the Community Garden at £150, and £1500 for compost, seats, wood etc, both of which were approved.
Proposed: D. Seal Seconded: T. Eastwood All in favour

12. Dog Exercise Area, to be located in the field next to the allotments

Further discussion was had regarding granting permission to use the council's allotment access. Clerk stated had sought advice from Kent Highways and the council's insurance company, both of whom confirmed there would be no long-term impact if access was granted and that the council would not be liable for any damage to any vehicles using the access unless it was proven to be negligent in some way. Two proposals were put to council to vote on:

Proposal one – to allow access to the field via the council's land – Proposed: D. Fairless, Seconded: J. Scorey.
Votes were 2 for, 3 against and 1 abstain

Proposal two – to decline the request to access the field via the council's land – Proposed: T. Eastwood,
Seconded: D. Seal, Votes were 3 for, 2 against and 1 abstain.

The motion to decline the request was carried.

13. Jubilee Hall and Playing Fields

- 13.1 Council to consider request for a Saturday team to be based at the playing fields
Discussion was had over the concern of overuse of the pitches during the winter months and impact on residents if numerous matches were played throughout the weekend.
It was resolved to approve the request, subject to monitoring overuse and reviewing the current pitch locations. Future requests would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Proposed: M. Williams Seconded: M. Joannes All in favour

- 13.2 Removal of wooden sections of the bike track due to safety concerns
It was resolved to remove the remaining wooden structures on the bike track due to safety concerns as the structures start to deteriorate. Mark Edwards to be requested to remove them.
Proposed: T. Eastwood Seconded: M. Joannes All in favour

- 13.3 Participation in a village 'Wellbeing Weekend' – provision of facilities
It was resolved that the council would offer the free use of its facilities for the event.
Proposed: D. Seal Seconded: M. Williams All in favour

14. Use of EPPC land outside of the Methodist Church by Hunton Bakery

The clerk advised that TMBC stated no trading licences would be required but that the seller would need to verify their Hygiene rating with them as it was originally provided by Maidstone B.C. Councillor Seal had spoken with other local businesses and was concerned it may reduce their trade. Given the current alterations taking place to the landscaping outside the Methodist as well, it was resolved to decline the request.
Proposed: M. Williams Seconded: D. Seal All in favour

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15. Change of date for the Annual Parish Meeting

It was resolved to move the meeting forward 1 week to Thursday 22nd May to avoid clashing with half term / bank holiday week and hopefully encourage more residents to attend.

Proposed: M. Williams Seconded: D. Seal All in favour

16. Bye-laws

Councillor Eastwood gave an overview of some of the items that require further consideration by Council before final review and updates to the bye-laws could be made. Council to work through them on Monday 7th April after the Planning and Transportation meeting.

17. Planning – applications to consider:

Ref: 25/00437/PA

PROPOSAL: Proposed first floor side extension over existing playroom.

LOCATION: 86, SNOLL HATCH ROAD, EAST PECKHAM, TONBRIDGE, TN12 5DX

No objections – Proposed: D. Seal Seconded: T. Eastwood All in favour

Ref: 24/01990/PA

PROPOSAL: Proposed works to the barn including installing a steel box profiling roofing sheet and roller shutter doors, proposed hardcore surface with road scalping on top for access and car parking area

LOCATION: LAND FROM LITTLE MILL TO PINKHAM LANE SOUTH OF, SNOLL HATCH ROAD,

No objections, subject to conditions being attached regarding landscaping and drainage and the removal of Permitted Development Rights.

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

Ref: 25/00317/PA

PROPOSAL: 1 x Leylandii on rear boundary (applicant ref. T1 marked red on sketch plan) - crown lift to 5m and trim sides as high as can be reached from ladders, to clear garden below. 1 x Conifer adjacent to right boundary (applicant ref. T2 marked blue on sketch plan) - crown lift to 5m and reduce low laterals encroaching on neighbour's garden, to clear garden and neighbours garden below.

LOCATION: Cobble Cottage 10 Addlestead Road, TONBRIDGE, TN12 5DW

No objections – Proposed: D. Seal Seconded: M. Williams All in favour

18. Matters for discussion in private

18.1 Council approved delegation of appointment of Facilities Maintenance role by the Staffing Committee upon successful interview of candidate, receipt of references etc.

Proposed: M. Joannes Seconded: T. Eastwood All in favour

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

Bye Laws

20. Date and Time of next meeting: Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.50pm