

**MINUTES OF EASTRY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT EASTRY VILLAGE
HALL ON WEDNESDAY 25th MAY 2005 AT 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors I Mollart (Chairman) S Shevde S Smith S Hooper
M Pemble D Carr A Wiles N Kenton
F Thompson

S Wells Clerk to the Parish Council

PC W Wright
29 Members of the Public

The chairman opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. She informed the meeting that there would be a change to the order of business, PC Wright had requested that his report come earlier, it was agreed he should be moved to agenda item 5. The new Chairman of the twinning association had also asked if he might say a few words, it was agreed he should follow Mr Halling.

1) APOLOGIES

County Councillor Leyland Ridings, Mr Priestley the Community Warden. Mr D Eldridge, Mrs Gibb, Dist Cllr Manion would be late as he had another meeting.

2) MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Minutes of the last Annual meeting were available in the Annual Meeting report pack, copies were available for all present.

3) MATTERS ARISING

30 mph limit Tar Mac Topblock Site – the speed limit has been extended.

The new layout at Poison Cross – the signage has been improved.

4) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Cllr Iris Mollart, Chairman of the Parish Council

First let me apologise that the time of this meeting was put down as 7.30pm in the Parish News, this was my error not the editors. I would like to welcome you all to the meeting and hope that the new format is to your liking. This meeting will close at 9.00pm so that you can enjoy a glass of wine and have time to talk informally to members of the Council and the other speakers.

On your chair is a copy of the booklet that contains copies of reports from other Village organisations. Please take this home and read it at your leisure. It also contains the minutes of last year's meeting and a copy of the Council's financial report. I would like to thank everyone that sent in reports.

We now have a full Council and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Frank Thompson and David Carr who have joined the Council in the last 12 months.

The PCC in partnership with the Parish Council have launched a new Parish News. Two issues have now been published with the third due out any day. We have had some teething problems but are slowly ironing these out and hope the Parish News will be a resource that will be useful to all members of the community.

The plans for Parade have now been approved by DDC and the Council's Solicitors are currently negotiating the leases for the land. Members of the highways committee will also be meeting with the

Architect to discuss the next phase of the project, getting grant funding. I would like to thank Mr Donald Eldridge for his continued support of this project.

As you are probably aware the Time Team programme visited the parish at the beginning of the month, they dug numerous holes, 3 in the recreation ground. Their will be a full report on there activities in the June addition of the Parish News and photographs are currently on the Parish Council Web-site. I would like to thank Cllr Carr for his work to get this new site up and running and also for liaison with the Time Team crew.

I am pleased to report that work has started on repair's to the Church Yard Wall; this work is being carried out extremely professionally by Mr Andrew Griggs of FLINT-STONES. The cost of the repairs is being met equally by the Parish Council the PCC and Mr David Freud the owner of Eastry Court. I would like to thank Mr Freud for his generosity.

Unfortunately I have nothing positive to report on the extension of the cemetery. The Council and the Rev Kent have written to the Archdeacon about this matter but as yet no progress has been made.

Friday Morning Coffee break has been running for over a year now and I am please to report that it is still well attended. We would like to see younger members of the Parish attend; we have toys for very young visitors so please drop in and see us. The Community Warden usually joins us, as do our District Councillors. So if you need to speak to them please come and have coffee at the same time. The hearing aid re-tubing clinic continues to attend on the second Friday of the month so please come and get your batteries changed etc.

During the past year the Post Office has been relocated to the Newsagents. The Council feel this has worked well and would like to thank Sanjai and Hiral Patel for the hard work they have put in to ensure this Village amenity was not lost. Eastry is very lucky to have a diverse range of Local Business, the Parish Council would like to thank all of them for their continued support of the local community and urge all residents to use local business when ever possible.

I will close with thanks from the Parish Council. First to Bob Priestley our community warden. As well as his normal duties Bob has co-ordinated the Villages entry to the village of the year competition. This has meant many hours of work for Bob and his committee, this is very much appreciated.

Shelia Broster for keeping the Village Tidy with special thanks for cleaning up after the vandals and of course to Malcolm for helping her, we are glad to see Malcolm out and about again following his accident. Richard Swain for his continuing efforts in keeping the toilets clean and tidy, his work is also much appreciated. John and Martin Kemp for their continued support, they are always available to do the odd jobs that come up with little or no notice, this is invaluable asset to the Parish Council.

Richard Swain and Trevor Burton for their work at the pond and all the Volunteers that open and close the picnic site. And last but not least I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their help and support over the last 12 months.

Thank you all very much.

5. POLICE REPORT – PC WAYNE WRIGHT

PC Wright said he would not dwell on the crime figures. He understood that there had been problems following the introduction of the yellow line at the bottom of the High Street, he said he would speak to the parking services manager.

There had been problem with youth behaviour at Centenary Gardens and Mill Green, the Dover ASBU was involved with this and a CCTV camera had been installed, first in Centenary Gardens and now in Mill Green, this was helping the situation. The DASBU also covered fly tipping, dogs fouling footpaths and littering.

There are some drug and solvent abuse problems in the village, but no more than in any other rural village in the area. Door to door peddlers were being picked up and their stock confiscated if they did not have the appropriate licences.

PC Wright now completes part of his patrol on a bicycle, this makes him more visible and hopefully more approachable.

Mr Laslett from Eastry Youth Club informed PC Wright that the new building was now open on Tuesday and Thursday nights, it was hoped that PC Wright might find time to pop in and see the facilities and meet the young people.

PC Wright had said that crime was being detected and prosecutions made, a member of the audience asked why this was not being reported in the local papers, along with the numbers of motorists that had been fined for speeding offences. PC Wright said he would speak to the police press office.

PC Wright answered some other questions, the Chairman thanked PC Wright for attending.

6. WELCOME TO THE PARISH

a) Rev Frank Kent

The Rev Kent said he was happy to be in the Parish, he was still trying to get to know the people of the parish and thanked the Parish Council for keeping the church yard clear.

b) Mr Tim Halling – Head Teacher of Eastry School.

Mr Halling echoed the Rev Kent's feelings about being part of the parish. He felt that the school should be part of the community and hoped to be in the Village for the foreseeable future.

c) Mr Roy Marshall – Chairman of the twinning association.

The twinning association would be celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and were planning events to mark the occasion. They hoped to attract new members to the association.

6. FINANCE REPORT

The Year end accounts and the budget for 2005/06 were printed in the Annual meeting report pack. The Clerk went through the figures and answered questions from the floor.

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT**YEAR END ACCOUNTS FOR 2004/05**

RECEIPTS		Budget	Actual	
Current Account				
Precept		31820.00	31820.00	
Rents	Pavilion	300.00	442.00	
	Parish Room	450.00	528.00	
	Allotments	100.00	128.60	
	Burials	400.00	2512.00	Includes Grave digging fees of 1380
	Grants	0.00	0.00	
	Interest Current Account	200.00	442.28	
	VAT	0.00	1391.26	
	Other	0.00	373.68	
		33270.00	37637.82	
Brought Forward	Current Account	7957.58	7957.58	
	Total Current Account funds for year	41227.58	45595.40	
Capital Account				
Interest	Capital Account	350.00	2025.67	
Brought Forward	Capital Account	50781.55	50781.55	
	Total capital Account funds for year	51131.55	52807.22	
	Total	92359.13	98402.62	
To Carry Forward				
Current Account	Receipts	45595.40		
	Payments	-36342.06		
		9253.34		
Capital Account	Receipts	52807.22		
	Payments	-2229.65		
		50577.57		

PAYMENTS

CAPITAL ACCOUNT	Budget	Actual
Pavilion	0.00	0.00
Parish Room	0.00	0.00
Parade	0.00	55.00
Notice Board	0.00	1792.70
Other	0.00	381.95
	0.00	2229.65

	Budget	Actual
--	--------	--------

PAYMENTS - CURRENT ACCOUNT

<i>Admin</i>	Clerks Salary	7600.00	6984.65
	Contract Admin functions	0.00	729.30
	PC national Insurance Contribution	300.00	337.89
	Pension Contribution	500.00	0.00
Clerk Telephone Rental & Internet Access		360.00	261.22
	Office Allowance	240.00	171.00
	Stationery	500.00	375.58
	Petty Cash	250.00	280.00
	Internal Auditor	450.00	300.00
	Audit Fees	270.00	250.00
	Training	200.00	120.00
	Travelling/Cllrs Expenses	200.00	139.77
	Annual Meeting	50.00	54.39
	Insurance	1800.00	2338.50
	Wreath - remembrance Sunday	20.00	16.50
		12740.00	12358.80
<i>Parish Room</i>	Rates	150.00	143.82
	Gas	100.00	76.59
	Electric	60.00	80.31
	Fire Extinguishers Check	35.00	117.40
	Boiler Service	50.00	45.00
	Water Rates	60.00	0.00
	maintenance	500.00	61.00
	Improvement Fund	1600.00	26.90
		2555.00	551.02
<i>Pavilion</i>	Water	100.00	76.23
	Electric	160.00	151.56
	Fire Extinguishers Check	35.00	30.45
	maintenance	200.00	5.52
		495.00	263.76
<i>Ground Works</i>	Church Yard & Cemetery	2646.00	2917.60
	Recreation Ground	808.25	642.61
	Gun Park	1313.55	1567.65
	Allotments	847.35	928.95
	Additional Work	1750.00	0.00
		7365.15	6056.81

Church Yard Maintenance/works	1500.00	839.90
Grave Excavation	0.00	1380.00
	1500.00	2219.90
<i>Allotments & Leisure</i> Maintenance	850.00	917.49
Bins & Dog Loos	500.00	229.06
Pooper Scoopers	50.00	72.70
Tree Works	250.00	0.00
Water	80.00	110.42
New Fence and Gate - Gun Park	1000.00	1343.72
Pond	0.00	988.41
Play Equipment Inspection	250.00	110.00
	2980.00	3771.80
<i>Toilets</i> Cleaning	1600.00	1503.75
Supplies	60.00	63.48
New	800.00	0.00
	2460.00	1567.23
<i>Section 137</i> Grants	800.00	790.00
Coffee Break	760.00	661.92
	1560.00	1451.92
<i>Highways</i> and behind bus shelter	150.00	113.00
Horse Trough	25.00	38.00
Cleaning Footways/Footpaths labour	2900.00	2850.00
Cleaners Tools	50.00	87.91
Petrol/Oil - service strimmer	50.00	69.07
Traffic Calming	2000.00	0.00
Tree Works	250.00	0.00
Other	0.00	40.94
	5425.00	3198.92
<i>Membership</i> KAPC	400.00	389.05
SLCC	50.00	51.50
Kent RCC	35.00	35.00
Kent Playing Field Ass	20.00	15.00
Ass of Burial Authorities	80.00	75.00
	585.00	565.55
Contingency Return of Goal posts	0.00	42.78
Return of allotment deposits	0.00	6.00
Publications	0.00	44.45
Base for Teen Shelter		500.00
Play Scheme contribution		400.00
Xmas Tree Base		300.00
Grass Mats Cemetery		440.25
Other	0.00	138.90
Total Budgeted Contingency Fund	3938.90	1872.38
VAT	0.00	2463.97
	Total Current Account	41604.05
	Capital Account	0.00
	41604.05	38571.71

7. ALLOTMENTS & PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE REPORT - Cllr Sandra Hooper – Chairman of Committee

Unfortunately there has been some vandalism in Gun Park in the past year. The fence behind the Skateboard has been vandalised again and we have been giving serious thought on how best to repair it. Ideally metal security fencing would be the answer but this could be dangerous so we will be replacing the damaged section, and hope it remains in place.

A pot of bright yellow paint was thrown at the baseball post and net. We were hoping that the winter weather would clean it for us, but it must have been good quality paint because it is still there. Dick Laslett has kindly offered to take down the backboard and replace it with a new one brought by the parish Council, replace the net for us.

Graffiti has appeared in the Gun Park area, which Bob Priestley has been removing, but it is a time consuming job. It has also been reported that some Motorbikes are being ridden across Gun Park. If you see this happening please report it to Bob. Golfers have been using Gun Park which is extremely dangerous, and definitely not allowed.

We now have a Teen Shelter which is being used by our young people.

Pavilion - The Council's main concern is the Pavilion, this has served us well over the years, but sadly is now past its sell by date. Over the past two years we have had discussions with various people, Builders, DDC Crime Reduction Officer, and the Football Club.

The current situation is that it does not meet current Health and Safety, or building regulations, for a public building. In the long term a new building would however be needed. To this end the Council would apply for planning permission for a new Pavilion. In the mean time the Football Club are discussing with their committee any ideas they may have for a temporary solution, to enable the Football Club to continue to use this facility.

Applying for a grant is difficult without the Pavilion being used more, by other sports or by more football teams. What we really need are junior members to ensure the Clubs future.

Allotments. - Why is it that in spite of the nations interest in healthy eating no one wants to grow their own vegetables.

New tenants may have an allotment rent-free for the first year. It's strange that in some areas there are waiting lists for allotments, yet we can't give them away for a year!

POND - It is hoped that Mr Paul Holloway who is involved with The Miners Trail which is to be opened in about 18 months, will arrange for a group of volunteers to help, in the Autumn to clear the pond of brambles and the overgrown areas where the pond has silted up. Watch the Mercury for further details, and have your wellies at the ready, it could be a good fun day, and an excuse to get really muddy all in a good cause.

8. REPORTS

a) Dist Cllr Kenton

Dist Cllr Kenton spoke about planning, anti-social behaviour, the new development at Betteshanger park and waste management for the district. Garden waste doorstep collections were planned to be rolled out in the near future. There were several questions from the floor on waste management and the black box collections. This service is not available in all parts of the Parish. Cllr Kenton said he

was looking into this and felt that if normal refuse collection was possible then black box collections should also be possible.

Cllr Manion arrived during the discussion 8.10pm.

There was concern that as yet there was no door step collection of plastic. Cllr Kenton informed the meeting that there were no facilities for recycling plastic in this area and that at the moment all plastic collected must be driven in Lorries north of the area. He said that it was ironic that at this time Lorries carrying plastic north for recycling caused more harm to the environment than if it was burnt. It was hoped that facilities for recycling plastic would be available locally in the future.

b) Dist Cllr Manion

Cllr Manion spoke briefly about finance at DDC.

The Chairman thanked the District Councillors for their reports.

**GREVILLE ALMSHOUSE CHARITY -- Written report from Mr D Eldridge
Chairman of the Trustees.**

The trustees have met to discuss the work and welfare of the charity on four occasions during the past twelve months with fortnightly visits by a trustee or the secretary in order to keep contact with residents.

No vacancies have occurred during the year although, sadly, one of our residents, Mr. Ernie Friend passed away but happy that Mrs Friend continues to reside at the homes.

In accordance with established policy, the exterior of the cottages and bungalows have been completely redecorated and which is undertaken on a three yearly cycle with the porches being repainted every two years in order to keep the properties in good order. New fencing has been erected on the boundary between neighbouring houses and gardens and the car park increased by another two spaces with the removal of an unused and derelict shrub bed.

The trustees welcomed the Revd. Frank Kent, as an ex-officio member, as Rector of the parish, thus bringing the total number of trustees to seven. (One ex-officio, two co-opted and four Parish Council nominees, all appointed in accordance with the requirements of the Trust Deed).

It is also standard practice that wherever possible all work relating to the Charity is undertaken by village professionals who now include our accountants and auditors, Batchelor Coop and to them all we offer our thanks for their continued support and interest in the welfare of the residents.

As in past years Christmas vouchers, redeemable in the village, were once again distributed to every resident.

This report would not be complete without acknowledging the work of the secretary to the trustees, Mrs Margaret Craigen, whose care, thoughtfulness and sensitivity to the needs of the residents and to the requirements of the charity is most deeply appreciated.

Finally, the trustees are required to run and maintain the Almshouses within the disciplines, constraints and legal requirements of the Charity Commissioners and as members of the Almshouse Association.

The Chairman opened the floor to general questions.

A question was asked about the proposed third mobile phone mast at Redlands, Thornton Lane. The Chairman of the Planning committee, Cllr Sam Shevde reported that this matter had been discussed at a planning meeting earlier and that the Council objected to the provision of a third mast at this site. This prompted a lot of discussion from the floor.

There was question about the provision of yellow line outside the post Office and Food Store. Cllr Kenton as Chairman of the Highways committee and the Clerk gave some background to this situation. It was agreed that the Parish Council would contact the highways department on the issue.

Action Parish Council

The fact that the car park is often full was discussed, possible solutions to this problem were suggested.

The meeting was informed that the sign that had been installed since the extension of the 30mph limit at Heronden were not very clear, they did not have the yellow background. Also no sign had been installed on Thornton Lane . It was also felt that the limit should have been extended even further. The Parish Council to investigate.

Action Parish Council

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She invited everyone to stay for a glass of wine and refreshments, just before closing the meeting the Chairman asked that members of the Council to stand and introduce themselves so people would be able to identify them after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.42pm.