

# **Minutes of the Meeting of Eynsford Parish Council held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026, at the Parish Office, Priory Lane, Eynsford, at 7.30pm.**

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## **9416 PRESENT**

### Members Present

Mr A Cooke, Mr V Robson, Mr O Young.

### Others Present

Three members of the public. Cllr Marc Logen from 8.25pm.

### Clerk in Attendance

Mrs H Ivaldi

## **9417 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr M Barker, Mr J Griffiths, Mr D Naylor, Mrs H Sim.

Due to the meeting being inquorate, only information items were taken. Other items were deferred to the next suitable meeting.

## **9418 CHAIR'S REMARKS**

None.

## **9419 CLERK'S COMMENTS**

None.

## **9420 COMMUNITY**

### a) Police & Crime Report

The Clerk reported that seven crimes had been reported in December 2025.

These were:

Old Mill Close	1 x Public Order Offence
Gibson Place	1 x Vehicle crime
Edwards Court	1 x Criminal Damage/Arson
Car Park	1 x Violence/Sexual Offence
Upper Austin Lodge	1 x Violence/Sexual Offence
Riverside	1 x Burglary
Lullingstone Park	1 x Anti-Social Behaviour

It was also noted that the consultation on the proposed Public Space Protection Order for Riverside is now in progress.

**For information only.**

#### b) Community Award

It was noted that Mrs D Beamish had been chosen to receive the Community Award for Eynsford and would be invited to receive a certificate.

**For information only.**

#### c) Eynsford Christmas Lights

Ms O'Callaghan spoke to those present about a proposal for Christmas lights in Eynsford. The group who organise the village fireworks have set up a Community Interest Company and hope to use some of the income to provide Christmas lights in Eynsford alongside a switch-on event at the end of November. The suggestion was that the group would use privately owned electricity sources and mount the lights on private homes and businesses along the High Street/Station Road.

Councillors were supportive of the idea and made various suggestions and thanked Ms O'Callaghan for attending.

**For information only.**

#### d) Eynsford Stories Project

Ms O'Callaghan spoke to those present about a community project idea to create an audio documentary of life in Eynsford, focusing on the older generations and their stories. This would be made into a podcast available to everyone. Mr O'Callaghan proposed to raise the £2,000 required for professional equipment through crowdfunding. Ms O'Callaghan was thanked for attending and presenting her idea.

**For information only.**

At this point, 7.52pm the meeting was paused for questions from the public. (see Appendix Q)

The meeting resumed at 8pm.

## **9421 GOVERNANCE**

### a) Village Hall Update

Mr Cooke gave an update on the latest status of the village hall project.

The design team had met recently with the contractor who is now contacting three contractors for each aspect of the build in order to get a clearer price. A meeting is planned with a stage specialist to give advice on the specifications required for the new hall. The sale of the existing hall is going through various processes and hopes to be done by April. Different funding options are being explored and local fundraising will take place once the spade is in the ground.

Mrs Penney asked Mr Cooke about items belonging to Eynsford in Bloom such as the hanging baskets, a bench and also about the cast iron pillars from Institute Cottage. Mr Cooke promised to speak to the trustees about these.

### **For information only.**

At 8.10pm a short break was taken as Cllr Logen was expected.

At 8.25pm Cllr Logen arrived and the meeting was opened up to questions from members of the public. (see Appendix Q).

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed, Chair  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## Appendix Q

Public Session from the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Mrs Penney reported that there had been a successful tree planting session at Millfield led by North West Kent Countryside Partnership. Those present had also worked on the hedges there. Also at Millfield, Eynsford in Bloom and others from the community had pruned the apple trees in the orchard.

Cllr Marc Logen (KCC) promised to send a monthly report in future to update the council.

Mr Logen reported on a case where he had helped a resident access adult social care.

Mr Logen responded to the joint letter from Eynsford, Farningham and Crockenhill parish councils regarding KCC's response to the Local Plan consultation, in particular Pedham Place and the Wasps Stadium proposals. He reported that he had written to the leader of the council and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to question the wording of the response which appeared to support the developments even though KCC had previously opposed them. He would be setting up a meeting to which the chairs of the parish councils would be invited.

Mr Logen said that KCC had set their budget with a 3.99% increase. He noted that adult social care still made up a large percentage of expenditure. He said that KCC were looking to improve efficiencies in many areas including highway repairs.

Mr Robson asked Mr Logen to look into clearing the drains in Eynsford, particularly the ones opposite Willow Terrace where large puddles were formed.

Mr Logen said to refer any issue to him that needed to be dealt with.

Mr Logen said he would look out for the A225 footpath project to support it.