

Minutes from Eynsford Parish Council Committee Meetings 1st September 2025

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1st September 2025 held at Eynsford Parish Office at 7.30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr M Barker, Mr A Cooke, Mrs J Laird (Chair of the Community Committee), Mr D Naylor, Mr V Robson, Mr O Young, Mrs H Sim

Clerk in Attendance:

Mrs J Tunbridge

Others Present

Kelly Webb from Sevenoaks District Council, Pauline Penney

Apologies for Absence:

Mr J Griffiths

1) Declarations of Interest

None

2) Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

Ms Kelly Webb from Sevenoaks District Council Community Safety Unit was in attendance to explain the process of creating a PSPO and what is involved.

Ms Webb provided an update on her work at the Sevenoaks District Council offices, where she serves as Head of Communities & Safety. She noted that the number of officers in the building have decreased from 6-8 to now with only Sergeant Saville in the office and Ashleigh Wilson for Eynsford and surrounding areas.

Ms Webb has daily meetings with the Police, Fire Service and other relevant agencies to investigate issues and develop solutions. She has been in communication with Eynsford Parish Council to review and update our bylaws.

Ms Webb leads a Task and Finish Group with the Police, District Council, Eynsford Parish Council and the Environment agency, in these meetings they discuss the issues and potential solutions.

One of which is the issue of a (PSPO) Public Space Protection Order.

The process of issuing this is lengthy but manageable.

1. **Gather Evidence:** Collect all the evidence you can to support your case.
2. **Identify Options:** What do you want to go on the PSPO order.
3. **Present Evidence to the Advisory Committee:** Take the evidence to the meeting.
4. **Attend a Cabinet Meeting:** Discuss the PSPO and evidence.
5. **Public Consultation:** This will take 6-8 weeks.

Once all the evidence has been gathered and reviewed, it will return to the Advisory and Cabinet committees for approval. Once completed it will last 3 years and hopefully be extended thereafter. There have been only two PSPOs locally enforced: The Vine Sevenoaks and the Hewitts roundabout.

Ms Webb also mentioned there seems to be a lack of residents reporting the issues. If residents are finding it hard and frustrating logging calls with the 101 police helpline, or are scared, they can also call 999 if they think they need to, but there is also a live chat line which she finds very helpful when logging issues.

Councillors were happy for the residents to see things are moving forward.

Resolved: That the information is noted.

3) SDC Family Fun Day at Anthony Roper School 13th August 2025

Councillors discussed the Family Fun Day held on 13th August. During in the meeting Councillors had the opportunity to talk to Ms Webb from Sevenoaks District Council who is responsible for organising the Family Fun days.

The event had over 200 people, but there was confusion regarding the departure of the attendees and the closure of the school, additionally there were also concerns about who oversaw the first aid on the day. Ms Webb clarified that all Play Place staff are first aid trained and run the event conducting a risk assessment beforehand and Eynsford Parish Council just provide the venue.

Resolved: That the profits from the fun day amounting to £51.26 will be donated to Anthony Rooper School and that next year the finish times are more clearly advertised.

3) Awareness Talk

Councillors were asked to discuss Home Instead's awareness talk event "*Stay Safe at Home*" and *Dementia Awareness*" evening which they are hoping to hold in the village for Eynsford residents.

They were seeking the support of the Council to secure the venue and pay for the hire the Village Hall for the event.

Resolved: Councillors agreed that they are unable to support this event as Eynsford already have The Space in the village, and they have representatives available to discuss what support is available. (Citizens' Advice Bureau often visit) Home Instead have been to The Space, and we hope they continue reach the residents through them in this way also.

4) Macmillan Coffee Morning 2025

Councillors were asked to discuss the potential of Wards of Kent hosting a coffee morning on 26th September 2025 to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. They were requesting the assistance of the Councillors in providing necessary facilities and equipment for the event.

Resolved: Councillors agreed they will not be able support this event, as they do not have the facilities or equipment. Additionally, there are various other Coffee mornings going ahead that Wards can join. That the Clerk advises Wards to speak to St Martin's Church who have all the equipment needed. Councillors agreed they will go along to support this individually if available.

The meeting of the Community Committee closed at 8.43 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the Planning Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1st September 2025 held at Eynsford Parish Office at 8.43 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr M Barker (Chair of the Planning Committee), Mr A Cooke, Mrs J Laird, Mr D Naylor, Mr V Robson, Mr O Young, Mrs H Sim

Clerk in Attendance:

Mrs J Tunbridge

Others Present

Pauline Penney

Apologies for Absence:

Mr J Griffiths

1) Declarations of Interest

None

2) Neighbourhood Plan Update

Councillor Sim gave an update for the Neighbourhood Plan.

In the Summer Newsletter questionnaires were distributed to the residents. The deadline was extended to the 25th of August to encourage more responses. Mrs Sim reported that 38% of households had responded to the survey and that we had had 327 responses in total. We were very pleased the results; these were interesting and powerful; there was a good mix of ages that completed the forms. Mrs Sim noted that there were 10 pages of comments that need to be compiled.

Mrs Sim will communicate with Hannah the Planning advisor about the next steps, and there will be another Neighbourhood Plan meeting for all to come along to at St Martin's Church on Friday 19th September 2025.

Resolved: That the information is noted.

3) Planning application 25/02136/HOUSE - Bower Farmhouse, Bower Lane, Eynsford.

Councillors were asked to discuss the relocation and rebuild of an annexe outbuilding for the above, a conversion and extension of the existing garage and to include a new roof. The creation of a raised patio area to rear and side of the existing dwelling, a single storey rear extension to the kitchen area at ground floor level and the rebuild of current open porch to front elevation.

Resolved: That councillors have no objections.

The meeting of the Planning Committee closed at 9.03 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1st August 2025 held at Eynsford Parish Office at 9.03 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr M Barker, , Mr A Cooke (Chair of the Open Spaces Committee), Mrs J Laird, Mr D Naylor, Mr V Robson, Mr O Young, Mrs H Sim

Clerk in Attendance:

Mrs J Tunbridge

Others Present

Pauline Penney

Apologies for Absence:

Mr J Griffiths

1) Declarations of Interest

None

2) Eynsford Cricket Club, Ground Developments

Councillors were requested to consider the Cricket Club's proposal to carry ground levelling work on the outfield to address the current conditions as it's uneven and can cause injuries. The work will mean scraping 2 inches off the whole outfield and then using soil to level the area (access to the riverbank will still be possible). The work is likely to take place at the end of next season, 2026. The Cricket Club believe this would make a real difference to both the appearance and safety of the area.

Resolved: Councillors agree to the developments but would like an update and warning to when the works will commence to enable notice to be given to the public.

The meeting of the Open Spaces Committee closed at 9.09 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the Facilities & Environment Committee of Eynsford Parish Council held on Monday 1st October 2025 held at Eynsford Parish Office at 9.09 p.m.

1) Declarations of interest

None

2) Water Pressure

Councillors were asked to discuss the recent surge in water leaks within the village and to consider whether to contact Thames Water about this.

Resolved: Councillors agreed that the Clerks contact Thames Water for an explanation of the leaks. That the Clerk asks whether there is inadequate Infrastructure, why are there ongoing problems, and what are their solutions.

The meeting of the Facilities and Environment Committee closed at 9.15p.m