

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

**The meeting of the Parish Council was held on Tuesday 12 June 2012
in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, Egerton at 8.00pm.**

Present: Alison Richey (Chairman), Ambrose Oliver, Tim Oliver, Pat Parr, Bill Smyth, Geraldine Dyer (Ward Councillor) and Claire Finley (Clerk). 2 members of the public were also present.

1. **Apologies:** Roger Harper, Richard King, Peter Rawlinson
2. **Declarations of interest:** None.
3. **The minutes of the meeting on 12 June 2012:** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings. **Proposed:** *Bill Smyth*; **seconded:** *Tim Oliver*

4. Matters Arising from 12 June 2012

a. Playground, Skatepark, Youth needs: Bill Smyth and the clerk had met the Wicksteed inspector on site and reported that it was a very worthwhile experience as much more information and advice could be gained by being there in person. Bill Smyth and the clerk would email a breakdown of the work and costs that would be required following the inspection.
Action: Bill Smyth, Clerk

b. Housing: Alison Richey and Richard King had met with Jennifer Shaw (ABC Housing) and agreed that there should be further investigation into local needs sheltered housing for Egerton. The layout considered would be approximately 12 units with a communal area with shared facilities and space for visitors and guests. Alison Richey reported that Richard King was looking into funding from various bodies as a project of this type would involve ABC, KCC and the NHS with the aim being to extend the time the elderly could stay in the village.
Action: Richard King

c. Footpaths and stiles: Pat Parr reported that the Molly Steps footpath needed further attention as several tall trees are starting to uproot and are leaning over the path. The school have been asked to look into their deeds to see if the trees are on their land but it is possible that they are on un-adopted land, in which case Pat Parr would ask KHS to deal with the trees.
Action: Pat Parr

d. Elm Close Signage: The clerk noted that ABC expected the sign to be in place in the next two weeks.

e. Rural Fires: The clerk had been in touch with KFR but still required an answer to the query on water pressure.
Action: Clerk

f. Cricket pitch drainage: Bill Smyth reported that SE Water had confirmed the leak was not drinking water and the running water is within a sewer. Bill Smyth offered to contact Southern Water.
Action: Bill Smyth

g. Fields in Trust (Lower Rec): Roger Harper will report back on this at the next meeting.
Action: Roger Harper

h. Trees: Tim Oliver reported that he had done some clearing and would continue to do so, where necessary.
Action: Tim Oliver

i. Emergency planning: Pat Parr has set up a meeting with Bill Smyth and Peter Rawlinson for the 27th of July.
Action: Pat Parr, Peter Rawlinson, Bill Smyth

j. Glebe Furniture: It was agreed that a picnic table would be bought for around £200 and be a six seater if possible.
Action: Bill Smyth

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k. Village Hall Extension Fund bank account: The clerk would obtain the necessary forms to open a separate account for the proceeds of the coffee mornings and money raised for the village hall improvements. **Action: Clerk**

5. Planning

| | | |
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| 12/00561/AS | George Inn, The Street, TN27 9DJ Retrospective application for decking area to beer garden | Support. |
|-------------|---|----------|

It was noted that ABC are content with the decking and although Roger Harper’s objections were registered, it was agreed that no further discussion was required on this case.

6. Public Discussion

Alison Richey closed the meeting at 9.16pm for public discussion. The meeting re-opened at 9.22pm.

7. Correspondence (previously circulated unless marked *)

Action:

Emailed 3/7 ABC Terry Mortimer Legal Services – Standards Regime/Code of Conduct:

After discussion it was agreed that the draft Kent code dated 4 July sent by ABC would be adopted. This gives councillors 28 days to fill in the declaration of pecuniary interests form. Several councillors asked for hard copies of the form. It was agreed that the clerk would post members forms if they wished. **Action: All**

***Email from Karen Wydler of Touchwood Trees:** It was agreed that the Clerk would respond. **Action: Clerk**

Feedback to ABC on rural conference – emailed 14/6: it was agreed that the clerk would respond to ABC that EPC is interested but requires more detail, particularly, the financial impact of taking on additional services. **Action: Clerk**

Note:

*KALC Ashford Area Committee minutes held on 20/6 (Peter Rawlinson by email)

Ashford Olympic Torch relay volunteers wanted emailed 19/6

Grass cutting to highways – Pat and Tim only emailed 19/6

ABC Key decisions July to October – emailed 20/6

Terry Mortimer response to Susan Wood on Code of Conduct – emailed 26/6

8. Accounts

Cheque 1106 issued to Julia Bournes in respect of the Jubilee has been shredded by the recipient as a refund was obtained from Charing Heath on the hire charges for tables and chairs. Therefore, a smaller cheque has been issued, see cheque no 1110 below.

| Expenditure | Cheque No | £ |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Heber cutting grass for May | 1107 | 382.24 |
| DW Smyth reimburse for glebe plants | 1108 | 137.36 |

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| Clerk reimburse for dell ink for printer | 1109 | 76.73 |
| Julia Bournes – final jubilee cheque | 1110 | 456.15 |
| Clerk salary July | 1111 | 633.69 |
| HMRC | 1112 | 4.91 |
| Bill Smyth reimbursement for glebe plants no 2 | 1113 | 10.00 |
| Total expenditure | | 1701.08 |

Income:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Coffee am (to be moved to deposit account) | 54.00 |
| Friends of Egerton School donation for jubilee | 200.00 |
| Jubilee street party income | 189.00 |
| Total Income received | 443.00 |

Bank Reconciliation: The clerk noted that as the meeting was so early in the month the bank had not yet arrived, so this will be reported at the next meeting.

Approval of the accounts for the month, for cheques to be signed: *Proposed: Pat Parr; Seconded: Richard Wall*

9. AOB

Hymns: Alison Richey had received an email from Jan Burgess of St James requesting that the Parish Council suggest three hymns for their "songs of praise" style service, suggestions should be passed to the clerk. **Action: All**

Tree surgery: Bill Smyth reported that the trees in Peter and Sarah Widd’s garden were blocking the view of the church clock and they had agreed to them being cut back. It was agreed that the Parish Council would facilitate the necessary tree surgery as an anonymous donor had agreed to pay for the works. **Action: Bill Smyth**

Broadband: The clerk had attended a presentation at ABC regarding the campaign for superfast broadband for rural parishes. Egerton was in the 10% of the country not covered by the Government’s target for all households to have access to superfast broadband by 2015. ABC were putting together a bid for money from Central Government but needed to demonstrate demand. Parishes could help with this bid by asking all residents to register at www.makekentquicker.com. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to all residents asking them to register. In addition posters would be put up around parish and local groups and clubs contacted and an item put in the parish magazine.

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 2145.