



Boughton Aluph & Eastwell PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11 December 2024 at 7.15pm,
Iron Room, Faversham Road, Boughton Lees, Ashford, TN25 4HP

Present:

Cllr Peter Burrows
Cllr Adrian Coles
Cllr Jessica Fermor-Fox
Cllr Chelsea Pearce
Cllr Spencer Phillips
Cllr Doreen Titmuss
Cllr Steven Bartholemew (after co option)

Absent:

Cllr Paul Curry

In attendance:

Parish Clerk Mrs Rachel Girt

116/24. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

Approved: Reason for absence from Councillor Curry (personal commitment)

117/24. Disclosures of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None declared.

118/24. Opportunity for Members of the Public to Address the Meeting

None present

119/24. Minutes

Resolved: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 November 2024 were agreed as an accurate record by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

120/24.

- i. Resolved: to co-opt Steven Bartholemew to the Parish Council (Goat Lees Ward)
- ii. Resolved: to receive Declaration of Acceptance of Office from Steven Bartholemew.

121/24. **Finance**

- i. Resolved: to note income & expenditure account for the period ended 30/11/24.
- ii. Resolved: to approve renewal of CPRE membership at the new rate of £84.
- iii. Resolved: to agree payments schedule and note credit card and other payments made. Councillors Pearce and Titmuss to authorise online payments.
- iv. Resolved: to agree cessation of standing order to Bilting Farm Storage and approve set up monthly payment via credit card (according to revised terms) at the existing rate of £38.33 plus VAT.
- v. Resolved: to note the draft minutes of the finance committee held on 25 November 2025.

122/24

- i. Resolved: to approve a budget for 2025/2026 of £74931.17.
- ii. Resolved: to approve a precept of £45283.65 for 2025/2026.

123/24.

- i. The Clerk reported on her visit to Towers Tiny Tots (registered charity providing a pre-school, after school and community space) to hear their observations on community needs. They highlighted childrens communication needs, socialisation, deprivation, high additional needs and mental health in families
- ii. Resolved: to agree funding community projects to the value of £2000 through Towers Tiny Tots to including training, support and family days. Numbers of parishioners (i.e. those funding precept) able to access opportunities to be considered when agreeing fundable activities.

124/24. Updates were received: KCC Highways Seminar attended by the Clerk. It was a fast-paced informative event with the opportunity to listen to politicians and officer across a very wide range of areas. Usefully there were also exhibitors and contacts from Speedwatch and our local Highways

representative to speak to about promotion of the new 20mph zone, obtain materials and follow up missing road markings.

Highways Improvement Plan: the working group met last week to start work on updating the plan further.

Cricket Pavilion build update: groundworks underway following a delay, and the modular build of the pavilion will happen in January.

KCC warden service & opportunity to share a warden: information from KCC has been circulated. Boughton Aluph & Eastwell Parish has never had a community warden, so is unaffected by KCC cuts to the service, however, the opportunity may arise to share or part-fund a warden in the future.

125/24. Resolved: to work on the development of an appropriately scaled community resilience plan. Councillor Titmuss to lead work with input requested from other councillors.

126/24. The Clerk reported that the missing defibrillator from Goat Lees Community Centre is not housed in a locked box (for increased access) so may have been used in a medical incident without being logged. The Clerk had visited local premises with pictures and missing posters and had also been in contact with the primary school. Neighbourhood Watch had also promoted its loss online. Contact had been made with the ambulance service. The unit is covered by insurance subject to a £250 excess so a replacement will be arranged.

The Clerk reminded councillors of the government consultation on remote meetings and voting (closing 19 Dec).

127/24.

Borough Councillor Winston Michael contacted the Parish Council regarding the draft s.106 agreement associated with the Eureka Park development. He had seen this as a committee member at Ashford Borough Council (ABC). Councillor Michael was concerned that money would not be directly benefitting impacted residents and met with the Clerk and the Chairman to explain that he will be putting pressure on ABC in the allocation of resources to encourage benefit local to the development,

n.b. The Parish Council was directly involved in working with neighbouring parishes & ABC to propose allocations of allotment, cemetery, arts and voluntary sector money (but not allocations to other areas).

There has been a notification that Brock in the M20 will be deployed from overnight Sunday 15 December until 22 Dec.

Residents have expressed concerns regarding potential future development adjacent to Flying Horse pub site. They were signposted to the relevant planning guidance regarding trees in conservation areas, the conservation area boundary and advised on process.

The pub group that owns the pub freehold have also been contacted (not acknowledged) to advise of local conservation area regulations and the boundary of the area.

128/24. i. Planning Applications

The Parish Council is a consultee of Ashford Borough Council, the Local Planning Authority. The Parish Council is not the Planning Authority.

Case Reference: PA/2024/2093

Location: Electrical Substation North of, 314-316 Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford, Kent.

Proposal: Proposed micro-energy storage facility with fencing.

Object on grounds of visual appearance of installation and unresolved fire safety concerns.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Appendix 1

To pay:

Gross	VAT	Supplier
£21.00	0	J Hardie (war memorial plants)
£80.00	0	The Iron Room
£500.00	0	Air Ambulance Grant (agreed November) HMRC quarterly payment

Paid:

£500.00	0	Lady J Friends (grant agreed November)
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Credit Card November:

	£
Card fee	3.00
RWG mobile	3.50
Poppy Shop wreath	50.00
Zoho (email & IT platform annual)	311.04