



**Boughton Aluph & Eastwell**  
PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15pm (remotely via Zoom).

**Present:**

Cllr Spencer Phillips  
Cllr Nigel Bunker  
Cllr Laura Atkins  
Cllr Adrian Coles  
Cllr Jenny Li  
Cllr Doreen Titmuss

Clerk Mrs Rachel Girt

**Absent:**

Cllr Nikki Ellis, Cllr Jane Hall

There were no members of the public present

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**1. Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

Cllr Jane Hall was absent due to a meeting of the Goat Lees Primary School Board of Governors. Reason accepted.

**2. Disclosures of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**

None disclosed.

**3. Adjournment for Members of the Public to Address the Meeting**

No adjournment was requested.

**4. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11 November 2020 be approved for later signature (subject to typo correction of Councillor title).

## 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

A problem with the Royal Mail booking systems required an alternative delivery method for the newsletters to be found quickly. Dor2dor will now deliver. Whilst it is cheaper, the coverage is not quite as comprehensive so will need some 'top up' deliveries by hand.

Damage to the edge of the village green has occurred leaving vehicle tyre tracks. It is unknown whether it was accidental or deliberate.

The likely costings of monitored CCTV following the site visit are awaited.

6. No members of the public in attendance. No resolution required to exclude the public and press from item 7 under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

7i. A job grading assessment of the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer role had been carried out using the SLCC template. The resulting recommendation for the role was at LC2 (substantive benchmark range).

ii. Resolved: to adopt the job grading at LC2 and associated recommended salary scale for the role of Clerk to the Council & Responsible Financial Officer with effect from January 2021.

iii. The need to increase the contracted monthly hours of the Clerk & RFO was discussed. The demands on, and responsibilities of the Parish Council have increased, in addition to activity of the Council. Tasks for which the Clerk & RFO is responsible have increased in line with this.

Resolved: that the contracted hours of the Clerk and RFO be increased to 60 per month (with immediate effect).

## 8. Finance

8i. The accounts for the period ended 30/11/20 were received and noted.

8ii. Both the payments schedule and credit card payment summary were presented and noted.

Colourthirst Ltd (newsletters)	£350.00
Satswana Ltd (DPO)	£180.00
PKF Littlejohn	£240.00
KALC (Dynamic Councillor)	£60.00
Staff Costs	£784.40
Defib electricity contributions:	
Cricket Club	£10.00
(when account details provided)	
Towers Tiny Tots	£10.00

### Payments Made

InteractiveMLtd t/a Dor2Dor	£153.60
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## Credit Card Payments month ended 31/11/20

Zoom subscription	£14.39
Credit card fee	£3.00
Protonmail email upgrade	£43.55
Protonmail email upgrade	£43.79
HugoFox website monthly fee	£29.99
Royal British Legion wreath	£30.00

### **9. Budget & Precept Setting**

i. The draft budget proposal was considered

Resolved: to approve the proposed budget for 2021/2022

ii. The proposed (unchanged) precept request was considered. In the light of financial situation that may be faced by parishioners in the 2021/2022 financial year, no proposal to increase the precepted amount to compensate for the proposed removal of the Council Tax Support Grant and Concurrent Grant by Ashford Borough Council was made.

Resolved: to set the precept for 2021/2022 at £26,280

### **10. Planning Applications**

20/01521/AS

Gardeners House, Faversham Road, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4HP

Construction of detached garage with dormer and first floor storage.

#### **Object**

20/01550/AS

57 Aylesbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4QH

Replacement single storey rear extension

#### **No objection**

20/01615/AS

Wilmington, Canterbury Road, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent, TN25 4EW

Erection of detached car barn

#### **No objection, comment regarding suitability of build materials to setting**

**11.** Resolved: to confirm that the Highways Improvement Plan working group should proceed with joint investigation of improvements to the A251 with neighbouring Parish Councils. Other sites of concern identified to be retained in the plan for consideration.

**12.** Resolved: to investigate permissions required and associated practical matters in order to site an additional Parish Council noticeboard in the Eureka Park area.

**13.** Resolved: to adopt the 2021 KALC Community Awards Scheme

**14.** General correspondence, newsletters and circulars had all been posted to the remote storage system.

- Concerns had been raised by parishioners regarding work being carried out to a property on Wye Road. The property lies within the Conservation Area. Interruption had also been caused to the water and electricity supply. The Ward Councillor advised that Ashford Borough Council was aware of the work and that appropriate action was being taken.

**15.** Information items

- A response has been received from Ashford Borough Council and summary of responses from public to Reg 16 consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan have been provided to the Parish Council.
- Ashford Borough Council is in process of appointing the Parish Council's preferred examiner, hopefully this will start this month.
- The litter pickers at Boughton Lees were thanked, and in particular Ann Hardie whose contact with Ashford Borough Council has encouraged them to display night visible anti-fly tipping posters in the layby on Wye Road.
- Fly-tipping is unfortunately a regular occurrence. The Parish Council investigated in 2019 whether stopping up the Wye Road layby could prevent the problem. The conclusion was that the pull in is a necessary space for heavy agricultural machinery, to pass other vehicles and safely use the road.

Councillor Nigel Bunker has decided that he will be stepping down, this will be his last meeting. The Chairman thanked Cllr Bunker for his fine service to the Parish Council, noting that he had contributed greatly including to the Neighbourhood Plan, many committees and to the Iron Room and been a great support personally as the 'voice of reason' as Vice-Chair and as part of the Parish Council.

**16.** Future Agenda Items

Goat Lees engagement and Goat Lees School governor update.

**The meeting closed at 8.10pm.**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7.15pm (via Zoom)**

