



**The meeting of Egerton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 1st October 2024
7pm Committee Room, Millennium Hall, Egerton**

Present

Cllrs: Jeff Hopkins, Claire Foinette, Simon Palmer, Pat Parr, Susan Stone, Richard Wall, John Harper. Clerk Sonia Young. Borough Cllr Kayleigh Brunger-Randall.

Four members of the public were present.

1) Apologies

Cllrs Lawton and Rawlinson. County Councillor Charlie Simkins.

2) Proposal to elect Cllr Foinette as meeting chair

Proposed: Cllr Stone. **Seconded:** Cllr Parr. **All in agreement.**

Ratified. Cllr Foinette was elected to chair the October meeting and accepted the chair.

3) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parr: Neighbour to the Orchard Nurseries site proposed for development and neighbour to one site put forward for consideration for the Ashford Borough Council Local Plan 2041.

Cllr Harper: Neighbour to the Orchard Nurseries site proposed for development.

No councillors have a pecuniary interest in any of the sites put forward for consideration in the Ashford Borough Council Local Plan 2041.

Cllr Palmer: Neighbour to the Orchard Nurseries site proposed for development.

No councillors have a pecuniary interest in any of the sites put forward for consideration in the Ashford Borough Council Local Plan 2041

4) Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 3 September 2024

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed: Cllr Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Hopkins. **All in agreement.** Cllrs Palmer and Foinette abstained as not present at the 3 September meeting.

5) Matters Arising from 3 Sept 2024 (not covered by the agenda below).

• **Works at the sewage treatment works**

The planned start is 3 October.

• **Verges – New Road**

Cllr Stone is working to have logs installed as parking prevention measures on the newly repaired verges abutting Harmers Way – verges that have already been damaged by lorry tracks within days of repair.

Action: Cllr Stone.

• **Additional village waste bins**

The clerk has cancelled the original order as an additional 5-week delay was advised. An order with a new firm will be placed once the monies are refunded.

• **Trees overhanging the highway**

The trees stand on two different properties. It was agreed that the best approach would be a direct one to the homeowners.

Action: Cllr Stone.

• **Tree works**

The Clerk advised that the dead willow adjacent to the cricket ground remained a priority ahead of winter. The tree surgeon will be contact to confirm removal. An arborist has been contracted to produce a report on all at-risk trees identified on parish land.

Action: Clerk

6) Chair to close the meeting for public discussion

Meeting closed at 7.18pm

Meeting re-opened at 7.29pm

7) Footpaths Report 172 (See Appendix 1)

Cllr Parr advised that the footpath fence alongside the school had been reported as collapsing.

Cllr Parr contacted the school, and they are organising for the necessary repairs to be done.

8) Highways Report

No report available.

Cllr Stone has visited all blocked drains in Egerton and tracked their locations using the What3Words app. Cllr Stone has reported the issues to Kent Highways with the necessary location references.

Cllrs undertaking highways inspection work were reminded to wear high vis clothing and to put out warning triangles to slow traffic.

9) Planning and Development

Planning applications submitted to Ashford Borough Council this month for Egerton Parish Council to consider, details of which may be accessed online at:

<http://www.ashford.gov.uk/onlineplanning/>.

Case Reference:	AP-90699
Location	Malt House Farm, Rock Hill Road, TN27 9EB
Proposal	Listed Building Consent for rear single storey extension following demolition of existing single storey extension and porch; removal of chimney, widening of door opening; removal of a modern gas fireplace, reinstating a historic door opening; installation of a WC in understairs cupboard and repositioning of modern partition.

EPC view: No additional comment required.

Proposed: No further comment.

Proposed: Cllr Palmer. **Seconded:** Cllr Stone. **All in agreement.**

Other planning

Ratification of decision taken by email to comment on PA/2024/0654 Dering Farm.

Proposal to ratify the decision taken by email.

Proposed: Chair Foinette. **Seconded:** Cllr Parr. **All in agreement.**

Egerton Housing and Development Working Group (EHDWG) advised that a few concerns had been expressed by Egerton residents living adjacent to land known as Orchard Nurseries and the approved outline plans for development. EHDWG has advised those concerned to write in a constructive way to the developer to see if the layout might yet be further altered and had passed the contact details of the developer on to them.

G(S)ale Field

EHDWG advised that the outline permission for development was dependent on the s106 being signed and sealed. EHDWG understood that a draft agreement was under discussion by all involved parties.

10) Correspondence

One of the village defibrillators at the Good Intent Cottages is out of order. A replacement has been ordered. Cllrs thanked Egerton resident Stratton Richey for his work to maintain all defibrillators in the village.

It was proposed to communicate the information to the village.

Proposed: Cllr Stone. **Seconded:** Cllr Hopkins. **All in agreement.**

Action: Cllr Parr.

Website

October agenda

11) Accounts

		METHOD	£
Playground repair	T Kent	BACS	518.00
Employment	HMRC and salary	BACS	1403.35
Plants Glebe planters autumn	Reimburse M Garbutt	BACS	46.87
Total			£1967.70

Income			
Precept	ABC	BACS	24,475.00
Peppercorn Rent	Old School Court	BACS	50.00
Total			£24,525.00

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30 September 2024 = £37, 352.02

Actual balance = £37, 352.02 as at 30 September 2024

Accounts for Egerton update magazine

Expenditure			£
Total			£00.00

Income			
Advertising			225.00
Total			£225.00

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30 September 2024 £4,141.05.05

Actual balance = £4,141.05 at 30 September 2024

Accounts for Village Projects

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Total			£00.00

Income			
Interest		BACS	11.25
Total			£11.25

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30 September 2024 £13,251.90

Actual balance = £13,251.90 at 30 September 2024

Village Projects fund

Pre-school project			3,212.68
Esme Slater woodland			10,039.22

Proposal to approve the accounts for October as presented.

Proposed: Cllr Parr. **Seconded:** Cllr Palmer. **All in agreement.**

Consideration of the quote to repair the perimeter fence of the cricket field as circulated in advance of the meeting to Cllrs.

It was proposed to accept the quote as presented.



Proposed: Cllr Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Harper. **All in agreement.**

Cllr Hopkins advised that he had made temporary repairs to the fence between the lower rec and the football field and said wider repairs were required to keep the sheep from straying onto the football field.

Action: Clerk to review contracts to better understand who is responsible for repairs. Cllrs thanked Cllr Hopkins for the repairs made.

Notice of Conclusion of Audit.

The Clerk reported that EPC has successfully completed both the internal and external audit of the Parish accounts. Neither the internal auditor nor the external auditor raised any matters.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit was posted onto the EPC website ahead of the 30 September deadline.

12) Parish Plan and Future Projects Working Group – update

The PPFPWG has drafted a letter to be sent to Ashford Borough Council Chief Executive Tracey Kerly with questions about how s106 payments are agreed as there appeared to be a disconnect between ABC and the parish, and inconsistency in the procedure adopted between different developments. The PPFPWG aimed to ensure that Egerton benefits from, and is not deprived of, the finances needed for priority projects. A date for the next meeting for PPFPWG has not been confirmed.

Action: Clerk to circulate the letter via email for Cllrs to review, comment and approve.

13) Ashford Local Plan 2041 Working Group – update

Comments, as circulated in draft form for all Cllrs to review, were updated to reflect further input and then submitted to ABC on each of the six sites put forward by landowners and/or developers for possible development in Egerton within the 2041 Plan.

Cllrs thanked ALPWG member Lois Tilden for compiling first draft comments for each of the sites using the Egerton Neighbourhood Plan and Parish Design Statement as a basis for comprehensive assessments of the site suggestions submitted to ABC. It was noted that LT had no financial interest in any of the site suggestions nor was any site neighbouring, or in view of, her property.

ALPWG said that at the recent public consultations held by ABC, it had been made clear that central Ashford would take the bulk of the housing required to meet prospective Government targets in the 2041 Plan, followed by Tenterden; rural outlying villages will take the remainder. To date ABC had not completed its own assessments.

Borough Cllr Brunger-Randall will track the Egerton sites suggested for development in the 2041 Plan as it progresses through ABC assessments and will update EPC at the next meeting.

14) Egerton Village Website Working Group

EVWWG reported that the main village website domain has been renewed for one more year. They also said that the external auditors had told every parish that in the 2024-2025 audit it would look for parish councils to have an approved .gov.uk website and individual.gov.uk Cllr email addresses, although it was not a statutory requirement. The EPC website platform provider is in the process of seeking registration and approval as a .gov.uk supplier. The next meeting of the group is 15 October.

15) Renewal of the Asset of Community Value on The George

It was proposed to progress renewal of the Asset of Community Value for The George in January and to complete it by the end of February for submission.

Proposed: Cllr Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Stone. **All in agreement**

Action: Cllr Palmer to act as liaison between EPC and residents. Clerk to seek out the original documentation submitted to secure the existing Asset of Community Value in preparation.



16) Additional items

- **Replacement cricket steps**
No date set yet for installation.
- **Installation of French drain around the cricket ground**
Installation delayed due to bad weather.
- **HiP**
No update available. East Kent Highways steward has been in contact regarding visiting Egerton to review possible HiP works.
Action: Cllrs Stone and Harper to contact the steward and follow up on this, inviting them to the village to discuss possible highways improvements, including drain clearance and efficiency. Cllrs agreed that it was important to maintain impetus and interest as help has been offered.
- **KALC – information on .gov. website and .gov email addresses**
See item 13)
Action: Clerk to contact Hugo Fox to find out about email addresses.
- **ABC cable collection for recycling**
Cllr Foinette advised that the BP petrol station at Lenham is acting as a hub for the collection of old electrical leads and cables/chargers.
- **Rotten low fencing verge parking prevention adjacent to the parking bays on New Road**
Borough Cllr Brunger-Randall offered to liaise with ABC Streetscene to have the rotten and unsafe wood barriers removed and replacements installed to keep the green outside the New Road houses in good order.

The meeting closed at 20.35pm

Appendix 1

Report no. 172 of the Egerton footpaths representative for October 2024 Meeting

- 3 Outstanding Items remain from the September 2024 report.
- 0 Closed Items
- 0 New Items

The outstanding items below are listed with the KCC Reference, the date reported, the footpath number, the location, the difficulty experienced and the status of action.

1. **PROW211126930. 09/11/21.** Part of AW87 to the west of the church behind the Glebeland houses where the path is quite narrow has collapsed due to badger activity.

Status: Still Work Scheduled but it is accessible with matting in place until a more permanent solution is found. **Status:** Still In Progress.

2. **PROW230732955. 28/07/23. AW96.** Barhams Mill Road, before Frasers, on the right-hand side from Egerton village end. Broken stile at the entrance to the footpath from the road.

Status: Still Awaiting Allocation.

3. **PROW240835559. 04/08/24. AW74 Wanden Lane.** Reported by Egerton Running Club. This short footpath starting/ending part-way down the side of the property Heronsdale (but not within that property boundary) is obstructed at the gate entrance. The footpath exits/starts further down Wanden Lane but is completely obstructed at both ends, the



Egerton Parish Council

Heronsdale end gate is obstructed and the Wanden Lane end with tall thorny hedging and tree overgrowth which is completely hiding the footpath sign and the small metal gate attached to the locked 5-bar gate.

Status: Awaiting Allocation.

NEW ISSUES

None.