



The meeting of Egerton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 3 October 2023
7.30pm Committee Room, Millennium Hall, Egerton

Present

Cllrs John Lawton, Peter Rawlinson, Jeff Hopkins, Pat Parr, Claire Foinette, Richard Wall, Graham Howland, Simon Palmer, and Sonia Young (Clerk).

Borough Councillor Kayleigh Brunger-Randall

Three members of the public were present.

1) Apologies

County Councillor Charlie Simkins.

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Graham Howland: Neighbour to North Field and relative to the owner of G(S)ale Field.

Cllr Pat Parr: Neighbour to the Orchard Nurseries site proposed for the Older People's accommodation.

Cllr Simon Palmer: Neighbour to the Orchard Nurseries site proposed for the Older People's accommodation.

Chair John Lawton: neighbour to North Field

3) Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 5th September 2023

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

Proposed: Cllr Richard Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Graham Howland. **All in agreement.** Cllr John Lawton abstained as he was not present at the 5th September meeting.

4) Matters Arising from 5th September (not covered by the agenda below)

a) **The George Pub.** A meeting to be organised.

Action: Cllrs John Lawton and Simon Palmer

b) Emergency Plan

The Plan is in draft form and the final document will be circulated ahead of the next meeting for approval.

Action: Cllr Pat Parr

c) Renewal of fencing around the cricket field

No quotes received from EPFA.

d) Village tidy up – sign cleaning

Prior to the meeting the Clerk circulated a list of village signage allocated by volunteer: Cllrs Parr, Lawton, Palmer, Rawlinson, Foinette and the Clerk. The cleaning to be done 9am-11am Saturday 7th October and all broken signage reported to the Clerk.

5) Chairman to close the meeting for Public Discussion

Meeting closed at: 19.40pm

Meeting re-opened at: 20.14pm

6) Footpaths Report 161 (See Appendix i)

7) Highways Report (See Appendix ii)

KCC Highways has wiped off all outstanding issues listed on its portal for Egerton, to give the impression that it had done all the work needed. However, this is not the case i.e., the repairs needed to the verges in Green Lane is no longer showing as a live issue, but no repair works have been done.

Action: Chair John Lawton to investigate with the Egerton highways steward.

8) Planning

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/online_planning/. Individuals may also register via the website with ABC to receive regular alerts of new applications and decisions and any matters under or for investigation because of potential planning breaches.

Case Reference:	PA/2023/1453
Location	2, Goodwin House, Bedlam Lane, TN27 9DA
Proposal	Excavation of a wildlife pond for Great Crested Newts

EPC view: The application is seen as a positive development and is supported by Natural England.

Propose: Support.

Proposed: Cllr Richard Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Simon Palmer. **All in agreement.**

Case Reference:	OTH/2023/1681
Location	Middle Barn, Mundy Bois Road, TN27 9ER
Proposal	Details submitted pursuant to Conditions 4 (Landscaping), 5 (Materials), & 6 (Details of Walls and Fencing) of planning permission NOT/2022/3011

EPC view: No objections were made at the time of the original application as the application at that time met the Parish Design Statement. However, the details now submitted show manufactured black slate roof tiling which is not a natural product and not in keeping with the Parish Design Statement. The black slates do not meet the prevailing vernacular of the village, or the adjacent Listed property, and EPC would like clay roof tiles to be used; there is no objection to the use of black shiplap cladding on the building itself.

Propose: Object to the proposed roofing materials.

Proposed: Cllr Richard Wall. **Seconded:** Cllr Peter Rawlinson **All in agreement.**

8.1 Planning appeal – **no update available**

9) Older People's Accommodation

No update available.

10) Affordable Housing

KCC Highways is seeking improvement to the footpath across fields towards the village which would require a contribution from English Rural Housing (ERH).

Action: Chair John Lawton and the Housing and Development Working Group to investigate this via County Councillor Charlie Simkins, ABC Borough Cllr Kayleigh Brunger-Randall, planning officers and ERH.

11) Electric charging points

The Clerk has submitted an expression of interest into ABC which has some small grants available to help offset some of the costs of installing rural charging points.

An EPC working group will be formed to take this further should funding become available.

12) Correspondence

Note: All circulated by email in advance unless marked with a *

KALC news and training schedule. All. 7/09

KALC – update on 80th Anniversary D-Day celebrations. All. 07/09/2023

KCC invitation to Rail Summit 18 October. All. 07/09/2023

ABC call for sites 8 Sept to 20 Nov. All. 07/09

KALC Area meet minutes. All. 14/09

ABC Community Amenities Grants. 19/09 All plus Village Hall Committee and G Barn Committee.

Kent Highways – Moveable barrier project. All. 19/09

Slow ways – consultation and solicitation of comment/support. All. 19/09



MBC Local Plan consultations. Link to engage. All. 03/09
 MBC Local Plan – open for consultation. All 03/09
 MBC Sustainability Appraisal Addendum. All 03/09
 MBC Habitats Assessment Addendum. All. 03/09
 Fields in Trust – All 03/09

Website

July minutes
 October agenda

Accounts

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Legal work	Brachers	BACS	5317.20
Clearance – lower rec	G Green	BACS	150.00
Domain renewal – Egerton Neighbourhood Plan site	Sandra Laws	BACS	110.00
Clerk Salary – Oct	S Young		984.26
Tax & NI	HMRC		170.17
Hugo Fox website			122.28
Tree works	Stumpout		144.00
Total			£6,997.71

Income			
ABC precept		BACS	21,528.00
Internal transfer		BACS	2612.00
Donation		cheque	50.00
Total			£24,190.00

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30th September 2023 = £38,105.77 Less unrepresented cheques as follows

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Actual balance = £38,107.77 at 30th September 2023

Accounts for Egerton update magazine

Expenditure			£
Total			

Income			
Total			

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30th September 2023 £3,101.80 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

Actual balance = £3,101.80 at 30th September 2023

Accounts for Village Projects

Expenditure		Cheque No	£
Transfer	Costs	BACS	2612.00
Total			£2,612.00

Income			
Interest		BACS	23.58
Total			£23.58

Bank Reconciliation Balance at 30th September 2023= £23,071.23 Less un-presented cheques as follows:

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Actual balance = £23,071.23 at 30th September 2023

Village Projects fund

Pre-school project		3,103.88
Esme Slater woodland		10,000.00
Village Hall upgrade		9967.35

Proposal to accept the accounts as stated.

Proposed: Cllr Jeff Hopkins. **Seconded:** Cllr Pat Parr. **All in agreement.**

13.1 EPC website costs

EPC website platform provider Hugo Fox has, at extremely short notice, introduced a three-tier charging scale for all parish websites starting 4 October 2023. EPC Cllrs discussed the packages. It was proposed that the most appropriate package for EPC was the entry-level bronze package at a cost of £122 per annum. Longer term, EPC will look to merge the village website with the EPC website. At that point, EPC will review the offer of Hugo Fox and agree a solution that best supports the dual needs of the village and official legal requirements.

Proposed: Chair John Lawton. **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Peter Rawlinson. **All in agreement.**

Action: Chair John Lawton to contact Hugo Fox.

13.2 Consideration of estimates for replacement of the cricket steps

The Clerk has secured two estimates to replace the existing wooden steps with a long-term solution of brick and slabbing. Further quotes are being sought.

13.3 Notice of Conclusion of the Audit Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2023

The Clerk reported that Mazars has concluded its independent external audit of EPC accounts. The accounts have successfully passed both the internal and external audits and confirmed as correct by both accountancy firms.

Chair John Lawton thanked The Clerk for the amount of work needed to ensure that the Parish accounts continue to be robust and passed the challenges levelled by the two stages of independent audit, as well as the set 30-day period of public inspection by village residents.

14) Additional items

- Games Barn Heating – approval of quote

Four quotes were discussed. EPC approved the quote submitted by CS Heating subject to an on-site inspection, by CS Heating, of the Games Barn Electrics.

Action: Cllr Claire Foinette to organise the site visit.

- Letter of condolence



Egerton Parish Council marked the passing of former EPC chair Harold Hilder at the age of 99 and paid tribute to his tireless voluntary work for the community of Egerton.

Action: Clerk to send a letter of condolence to Harold's widow Kath, and his family.

- **Village-wide 80th Anniversary celebrations for D-Day**

EPC events sub-committee is hoping to organise village events to celebrate the anniversary on June 6 – 8th June 2024 such as a special film night, lighting the beacon, and hosting a dance in the village hall.

Meeting closed at 21.49pm

Next meeting Tuesday 7 November 2023

Appendix (i)

Report no. 161 of the Egerton footpaths representative for October 2023

7 *Outstanding Items remain from the July 2023 report.*

0 ***New Items***

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

1. PROW 210959063. 10/09/21. AW75 at Heronsdale, Wanden Lane. Egerton resident complaint of overgrowth (brambles) and fence panel leaning towards the footpath. Status: Still Awaiting Allocation.
2. 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.
3. PROW211117086. 21/11/21. AW64 Footpath opposite Egerton House on Greensand Way in a small, wooded area towards the byway up to Coach Road. Two planks missing/broken on the bridge over a small stream. Status: Still Work Added to Forward Maintenance Plan.
4. PROW230285561. 07/02/23. AW67. Egerton House Road, next to Willowdene, the 'finger' of the fingerpost at the entrance to this footpath has fallen off the post. Status: Work Added to Forward Maintenance Plan.
5. PROW230288567. 07/02/23. AW97. Near Frasers on Barhams Mill Road the fingerpost is leaning into, and being held up by, the hedge. Status: Work Added to Forward Maintenance Plan.
6. 12/07/23. AW73 at Newland Green Farm. Access from AW73 Pluckley end onto Newland Green Lane used to be permitted along a short track at this farm. Since new occupation this has been closed with gates and a notice. A resident has asked the Parish Council "*There could be a simple linking path across the first field to preserve their privacy at the discretion of the landowner. Can the Parish Council request this and offer to pay for any stile or such?*" The Parish Council considered this request at their September meeting and a Councillor offered to speak to the landowner to gauge whether this request would be possible.
7. 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: Awaiting Allocation.

Note: Items 4 and 5 have moved on from 'awaiting inspection' to 'added to forward maintenance plan'.

NEW ISSUES: None

Appendix ii)

Report no. 4 of the Egerton Highways Representative – October 2023

Summary

Closed Items	1
Open Items	2
New Items	2

Closed Issues

Reference	Description & Status
742594	Mundy Bois Road – Rocks on road
Logged	August 2023
Status	Enquiry investigated and customer updated

Outstanding Issues

Reference	Description & Status
646549	Egerton House Road near The Coppice – Dip/Depression
Logged	20/07/2022
Status	Works being programmed
706534	Egerton House Road – Blocked Drain/Gully
Logged	March 2023
Status update	Gully scheduled to be cleaned

New Issues

Reference	Description & Status
748541	Multiple Potholes – Link Hill Lane
Logged	Set 2023
Status	Works being programmed
716527/714234	Multiple potholes – Coldbridge lane
Logged	September 2023
Status	Enquiry attended - more work required



Egerton Parish Council