

**THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017**

Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)  
Councillors L Barrass, W S Day, J Lee, T Murray, J Smith and M Warin

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk) and Mrs K Hall (Admin Assistant)

County Councillor A Surtees and PCSO A Leigh

EVPC **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

17/18/001 A nomination was received for Councillor L Morton.

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor L Morton be ELECTED.

EVPC **CHAIRPERSON'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

17/18/002 Councillor Morton signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

**RESOLVED:** that the declaration of acceptance of office be ACCEPTED.

EVPC **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

17/18/003 A nomination was received for Councillor T Murray and Councillor J Lee.

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor T Murray be ELECTED Vice-Chairperson for the forthcoming year.

EVPC **TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH  
COUNCIL FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2016/17**

17/18/004

I would like to thank fellow members and staff for the work they have done in the past year, in quite a difficult year staff wise. After consultation with the public and several letters of objection, we had a lively meeting at Seaton Holme, which was very well attended and objections were heard from a number of residents. Suggestions to install gym equipment on the Village Green was voted against, fencing on the green will go ahead and enhancement to the children's play area will go ahead, therefore, the wishes of the village were adhered to.

Seaton Holme is well tenanted and income and expenditure are good. Public room hire remains buoyant weddings etc and artist Jimmy Kays exhibition went down very well. The alarm system has been upgraded and CC TV system is to be considered by members at a later date. Floodlights upgraded, new wall lights, curtains and resurfacing the rear car park are all work that's been done at Seaton Holme. Review of exclusive bar rights, to stay the same for Mr M Bloomfield.

November saw the launch of Eileen's new book the third about Easington, the launch was opened by our MP Grahame Morris it went very well we had a good day.

The tenancy problems at the allotments resolved. An application was submitted for funding for a meeting hut on behalf of the Gardens Association. Flooding problem of the allotment seems to be sorted. Reviewed rents, to be raised to £30 for a full garden £15 for a half garden.

Councillor P Gibson resigns.

Proposals to remove some street lighting in Sunderland Road by Durham County Council, members expressed concerns that the PC had not been

consulted directly. And considered the removal would be detrimental to residents. Following a review by Durham County Council lights will not be removed but changes to the LED light on south side have raised objections from the public.

Fly tipping is still a problem. Review and update of the cemetery fee completed. Parking still a major problem, on all roads in the village. Parking on the Green has improved thanks to signs and letters to offenders.

The normal donations were given to Parish Patch, C of E School towards a greenhouse and ongoing support of St Mary's Church. The Christmas tree lights were blessed and counted down by Rev Kate, the children from the C of E School sang carols and met Santa Claus, a good beginning to the Christmas period.

Reviewed and updated contract of employment for the Parish Clerk. New photocopier and purchased computer equipment for the office. Approval of the annual governance statement and external audit. Congratulations to the Clerk on her attaining CI LCE qualification well done. Staffing has had its problem this year, with the Cemetery Superintendent on long-term sick leave and the Clerk also having to have quite some time off. Fortunately the ground staff were able to cope and with a temporary assistant in the office and the Caretaker handling Seaton Holme everything went well. After consulting members it was decided to advertise for a part-time administration assistant to enable the Clerk to promote Seaton Holme and manage day-to-day running.

Withdrawal of the Durham County Plan seems to have opened up the floodgates to housebuilding in Easington Village, and any opposition seems pointless with the first phase of 360 about to start on Mickel hill later this year and the club site to start soon. Fennel Grove and Little Thorpe etc all in the pipeline.

The horse event on the green at Easter, Sgt Footes our local police sergeant who was well updated with the event etc reported that no adverse report had come to police attention.

I like to say thank you to County Councillors David Boyes and Angela Surtees for their help and support throughout the year.

Kings Head finally the end is in sight, the current owners expect occupancy to start any time now, and viewing are currently taking place.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Eileen Hopper for her time and energy over many years as member and Chair of Easington Village Parish Council an outstanding record, I am sure all will agree. Many many thanks, we hope you and John enjoy your retirement.

**RESOLVED:** that the report of the Chairman, be RECEIVED.

**TO REVIEW STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**RESOLVED:** that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be APPROVED and ADOPTED.

EVPC  
17/18/005

EVPC  
17/18/006

**TO REVIEW COUNCIL POLICIES**

- a) Code of Conduct
- b) Corporate Risk Management
- c) Complaints Procedure
- d) Publication Scheme (Freedom of Information) minor amendments were made to include more information available via the website
- e) Health and Safety Policy
- f) Fire Risk Assessment

Members gave consideration to the review of the above Council Policies which were APPROVED and ADOPTED.

EVPC  
17/18/007

**APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

- a) Easington Area Action Partnership  
**RESOLVED** that Councillors L Morton, T Murray and M Warin Plus the Clerk be the Parish Council's representatives.
- b) Easington Area Association of Parish and Town Councils  
**RESOLVED** that Councillor W Day plus the Clerk be the Parish Council's representatives.
- c) Small and Medium Council's Forum  
**RESOLVED** that Councillors J Lee plus the Clerk be the Parish Council's representatives.
- d) Easington Village Allotment Association  
**RESOLVED** that Councillor L Morton be the Parish Council's representative.

EVPC  
17/18/008

**TO APPOINT PERSONS TO PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

Cemetery and Grounds Committee

**RESOLVED** that Councillors J Smith, J Lee, W Day, L Morton and J Andrews, be appointed to the Cemetery and Grounds Sub-Committee.

Staffing Committee

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Councillor T Murray, J Smith, M Warin, L Barrass and J Lee be appointed to the Staffing Committee.

EVPC  
17/18/009

**TO CONSIDER PAYMENT OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Members gave consideration to the payment of the annual subscriptions which had been previously circulated.

**RESOLVED:** that the payments be AUTHORISED.

EVPC  
17/18/010

**TO APPOINT CHEQUE SIGNATORIES**

**RESOLVED** that Councillors L Morton, J Smith and J Andrews be APPOINTED as cheque signatories.

EVPC  
16/17/011

**TO APPOINT KEYHOLDERS**

- a) Seaton Holme  
**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk, Caretaker, Administration Assistant and Chairman be APPOINTED as keyholders.
- b) Cemetery  
**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk and Cemetery Superintendent be APPOINTED as keyholders.

EVPC  
16/17/012

**MEETING DATES FOR 2017/18**

Members gave consideration to meeting dates for 2017/18 which had been previously circulated.

**RESOLVED** that the meeting dates be APPROVED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN .....

DATE .....