

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14th OCTOBER 2013**

Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)
Councillors M Burn, P Gibson, E Hopper, J Lee, T Murray, J Smith and M Warin

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk)

Also in Attendance: County Councillor D Boyes, PCSO A Gilhooley, PCSO G Hughes and Mr N Frain

EVPC
13/14/123

Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED: Apologies RECEIVED and APPROVED for Councillor J Andrews.

EVPC
13/14/124

Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

Councillor J Smith declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 11 (i) as she was a member of the Parochial Church Council at St Mary's Church.

EVPC
13/14/125

Public Participation

Mr N Frain spoke about the need for a car park within the village. He suggested the Shoulder of Mutton as a potential site if Durham County Council could purchase it then knock it down to make a car park. He felt that there had been plenty of money spent in Easington Colliery and nothing spent in Easington Village.

Councillor Boyes replied that funding had been supplied through the AAP for the car park at the former Welfare Hall in Easington Colliery and for the 2012/13 budget the whole of the County Councillors AAP budgets had been spent on 3 schemes in Easington Village; new fencing and footpaths in the Cemetery, road improvements in Low Row and new furniture in Seaton Holme. He also spoke about the massive funding cuts the County Council were facing.

Councillor Morton advised that the Parish Council did not have the funds to purchase land on which to place a car park.

Mr Frain also spoke about the trees in St Mary's Churchyard and in front of the Greenseat that spoilt the view.

Mr Frain then left the meeting.

EVPC
13/14/126

Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 9th September 2013

RESOLVED: that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman.

EVPC
13/14/127

Minutes of the Meetings of the Cemetery Sub-Committees held 17th September and 24th September 2013

Members gave consideration to the minutes and the Clerk provided an update on the recommendations.

RESOLVED:-

- i) the minutes be APPROVED;
- ii) that fencing be replaced at the top of Thorpe Road Playing Fields

- at a cost of £96.80, subject to the fencing being able to be secured by wire to the posts.
- iii) that the planting scheme for Summer 2014 be agreed;

EVPC
13/14/128

Matters Arising

- EVPC
13/14/074 **Report of the County Councillors** – Due to unforeseen circumstances the joint ward surgery for 14th October had been postponed until November.
- EVPC
13/14/100 **Juniper’s Pantry – Potential Destination Venue** – the Clerk had written to Juniper’s Pantry advising of the Parish Council’s decision.
- EVPC
13/14/101 **Groundwork North East** –The Clerk had written to Groundwork North East with the Parish Council’s queries.
- EVPC
13/14/117 **Thornley Parish Council – Traveller Encampments** – The Clerk had written to Durham County Council regarding the Parish Council’s concerns over traveller encampments.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED
- ii) a joint Ward Surgery be held on 11th November 2013 from 6.15 until 6.45 pm in Seaton Holme. Councillor Morton offered to represent the Parish Council.

EVPC
13/14/129

Police Matters

PCSO A Gilhooley introduced PCSO G Hughes to the meeting.

PCSO Gilhooley reported a number of issues that had arisen since the last meeting. He spoke about the parking at Merrick House and advised that he had spoken to the staff working there about illegal parking.

A member advised that there had been problems at The Village Inn Public House with dogs on a roof to the premises and the late night noise particularly on a weekend. PCSO Gilhooley advised that incidents regarding barking dogs should be reported to Durham County Council and any issues of anti-social behaviour should be reported to the Police. He would, however, speak to the Street Wardens and get them to patrol the area.

A Member advised that he had recently been out on a Community Speedwatch with the Police which had proved very interesting and he thanked the Police for allowing him to take part.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Gilhooley and PCSO Hughes for their attendance at the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED

PCSO A Gilhooley and PCSO G Hughes then left the meeting.

EVPC
13/14/130

Report of the County Councillors

County Councillor Boyes reported on the following issues:-

- Flooding at West View
- Pot holes in Durham Lane
- Survey of Litter Bins
- Licensing of Waste Collection Vans
- County Durham Plan Pre Submission Draft

The Chairman thanked Councillor Boyes for his attendance at the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED

County Councillor D Boyes left the meeting.

EVPC
13/14/131

Floodlights

The Clerk advised Members that one of the floodlights at Seaton Holme was broken and in need of replacement. She was obtaining estimates for the replacement of the broken floodlight.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/132

Railings to Front Steps at Seaton Holme

The Clerk advised Members that she had received a quotation of £160 to supply and install railings to the steps at the front of Seaton Holme.

RESOLVED: that the railings be installed.

EVPC
13/14/133

Report of the Cemetery Superintendent

Members gave consideration to the report of the Cemetery Superintendent which had previously been circulated.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/134

In-Bloom Committee

Councillor Morton advised that winter planting would be carried out shortly. A Halloween Disco had been organised for Saturday 26th October. The In-Bloom Committee AGM would be held in November.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/135

Northumbria in Bloom – Results

Members gave consideration to the results of the Northumbria in Bloom Competition in which a Silver Award had been given.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/136

Request for Tree Reduction

Members gave consideration to a request for a tree reduction on an area of Parish Council land which fell with the conservation area. It was felt that a report should be obtained from a Tree Surgeon to assess whether any work needed to be carried out.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact a Tree Surgeon to assess what work, if any needed carrying out and the cost of any work.

EVPC
13/14/137

Proposed Roundabout and Landscaping Improvements on A182/B1283 to Easington

Members gave consideration on correspondence received from Durham County Council regarding landscaping improvements. Members

requested that further details of which plants to be installed be obtained.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED.
- ii) the Clerk request further details as to which planting was to be undertaken.

EVPC
13/14/138

Cemetery Fees 2014/15

Members gave consideration to an increase of 5% to the Cemetery Fees for 2014/15 with the interment fee for under 12s being reduced to nil. A copy of the fees had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED:-

- i) That the interment fee for under 12s be altered to nil;
- ii) That all other fees be increased by 5% (rounded to the nearest pound) with effect from 1st April 2014

EVPC
13/14/139

Grasscutting

Members discussed the grasscutting service that was currently provided by Durham County Council for the Village Green, Thorpe Road Playing Fields and Brampton Court. It was felt that the current service provided was not acceptable. Members agreed that preliminary enquiries be made from other suppliers to provide a similar service and a price for collection of the grasscuttings be obtained.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk obtain preliminary prices for grasscutting as detailed.

EVPC
13/14/140

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.09.13

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.09.13 were £108,382.76 in the Savings Account and £1443 in the Current Account totalling £109,825.76.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/141

Income and Expenditure Report to 31.09.13

The Clerk updated Members on the Council's income and expenditure.

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/142

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for September were £9055.18 from the Savings Account and £675.47 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
13/14/143

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the following invoices for payment together with payments of donations/petty cash/payroll as previously agreed:-

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
02.10.13	Poplar Tree Garden Centre	Plants & Seeds	£58.92	105767
16.09.13	Arco	Safety Boots	£29.87	105769
17.09.13	BDO LLP	Annual Return Audit	£480.00	105770
05.09.13	Greenham	Cleaning Supplies	£60.18	105771
18.09.13	Homecare DIY	Paint/Brushes/Nails	£69.41	105772
28.09.13	P Robson	Winter Bedding	£1622.00	105773
01.10.13	Durham Miners Gala Fund	Gala Advert – Seaton Holme	£160.00	105774

08.10.13	Plants R Ross	40 Bags Compost	£158.40	105775
12.09.13	Barclays	BACS Charges September	£9.00	DD
29.08.13	Payroll	Month 5 - Nett Wages	£4825.33	DD
19.09.13	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments - Month 5	£2187.03	DD
30.09.13	Payroll	Month 6 - Nett Wages	£5878.78	DD
01.09.13	Scottishpower	Cemetery - Electricity	£1.00	DD
01.09.13	Scottishpower	St Mary's Church - Electricity	£108.33	DD
01.09.13	N-Power	Seaton Holme - Electricity	£351.00	DD
26.09.13	Northumbrian Water	Water - Seaton Holme	£676.48	DD
09.09.13	Unicom	Phones/Broadband	£90.05	DD
09.10.13	Unicom	Phones/Broadband	£94.52	DD
01.10.13	Scottishpower	Cemetery - Electricity	£1.00	DD
01.10.13	Scottishpower	St Mary's Church - Electricity	£108.33	DD
01.10.13	N-Power	Seaton Holme - Electricity	£351.00	DD
04.10.13	Northumbrian Water	Cemetery - Water	£44.56	DD
		Invoice Total	£17365.19	

105768 - £300.00 - Petty Cash

EVPC
13/14/144

Income Received

SEPTEMBER 2013

Name	Description	Amount
Women Aglow	Room Hire	24.00
Peterlee & District Flower Club	Room Hire	15.00
Diane Robson	Room Hire	48.00
Cochranes	Cemetery Fees	242.00
Scotts Memorials	Cemetery Fees	167.00
K T Training	Room Hire	145.80
A Jones	Room Hire	6.00
Art Group	Room Hire	30.00
Member of the Public	WWW Book	5.00
J Delanoy	Cemetery Fees	418.00
Easington U3A	Room Hire	10.00
		£1110.80

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/145

Notice of External Audit

The Clerk advised Members of the completion of the Audit for the year ended 31st March 2013. There had been no issues arising from the completion of the Audit and the notice of conclusion of the audit had been displayed.

RESOLVED that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) the Annual Return for Year Ended 31st March 2013 was **APPROVED** and **ACCEPTED** by the Council;

EVPC
13/14/146

Great North Air Ambulance

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from the Great North Air Ambulance.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) the Clerk advise that they write again in the new financial year.

EVPC
13/14/147

County Durham and Cleveland Training Partnership – Data Protection and Freedom of Information Act Event – March 2014

The Clerk enquired whether any Members would be interested in attending a Data Protection and FOI Act Event.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk advise the County Durham and Cleveland Training Partnership that the Parish Council would be interested in securing 2 places on the course.

Councillor J Smith no took part in the discussion or voting on the following item of business

EVPC
13/14/148

Annual Clock Service

Members considered correspondence received from Smith of Derby offering a 3 year contract which provided a 15% discount on the servicing of St Mary's Church Clock if paid in advance.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/149

Planning Applications

CE/13/01043/OUT – Proposed Outline Application for Four Houses at Land to the East of Dairy Houses, Littlethorpe for Mr N and Mrs A Forbes

CE/13/00960/HPN – Proposed Garage Conversion at 17 Fennel Grove, Easington Village for Mr P Bellerby

CE/13/00950/AD – Proposed Erection of Display and 1 No. Non-Illuminated Fascia Sign at Isabella Brides Ltd, 9 Southside for Isabella Brides Ltd

CE/13/00812/FPA – for Proposed Extension to Agricultural Building at West Moor Farm, Durham lane for T H Stobart and Sons

RESOLVED: that an objection be made for application CE/13/01043/OUT on the grounds of over development of a hamlet and lack of interest in other sites.

EVPC
13/14/150

Planning Approvals

PL/5/2013/0258 – Proposed Conversion of Public House to Dwelling House at Masons Arms, Rosemary Lane, Easington .

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/151

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/152

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

There were no planning applications withdrawn

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/153

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/154

Hawthorn Parish Council

The Clerk advised Members on correspondence that had been received from Leanne Stubbs on behalf of the Parish Clerk at Hawthorn Parish Council requesting a quotation for provision and maintenance of hanging baskets and flower tubs in Hawthorn. As the letter was not on

official letterhead it was felt that this matter could not be considered further.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Ms Stubbs advising that before the matter could be considered further the request would need to be made in an official format.

EVPC
13/14/155

CDALC AGM

The Clerk advised Members of the candidates for Election at the CDALC AGM.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
13/14/156

Grievance Procedure

Members gave consideration to the Grievance Procedure which had been previously circulated. She advised that all members had been provided with a copy and there had been no comments or objections raised.

RESOLVED: that the Grievance Procedure be ADOPTED.

EVPC
13/14/157

Disciplinary Procedure

Members gave consideration to the Disciplinary Procedure which had been previously circulated. She advised that all members had been provided with a copy and there had been no comments or objections raised.

RESOLVED: that the Disciplinary Procedure be ADOPTED.

EVPC
13/14/158

Staffing Committee and Appeals Committee

The Clerk advised it would be necessary to appoint Members to serve on the Staffing Committee and Appeals Committee. There should be 3 Members to serve on the Staffing Committee and a different 3 Members to serve on the Appeals Committee with the remaining 3 Members being left available to serve on either of the Committees if required.

RESOLVED: that

- i) Councillors L Morton, J Smith and J Andrews be APPOINTED to serve on the Staffing Committee;
- ii) Councillors T Murray, M Warin and P Gibson be APPOINTED to serve on the Appeals Committee.

EVPC
13/14/159

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 11th November 2013

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date