

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2014**

Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)
Councillors J Andrews, 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 A Surtees and Mr N Frain

EVPC **Apologies for Absence**
14/15/113 There were no apologies for absence received.

EVPC **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
14/15/114 Councillor J Smith declared a personal interest in item 12(g) as she was the person making the request for seating in Stockton Road.
Councillor J Andrews declared a personal interest in item 11(a) as she lived next door to the property.
Councillor M Burns declared a personal interest in item 8 (b) as she was one of the people suggested to name a room after.

EVPC **Public Participation**
14/15/115 Mr N Frain spoke about the County Durham Plan Pre-Submission Hearing and raised his concerns regarding the Plan and the Planning Application at Lowhills Road.

EVPC **Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 14th July 2014**
14/15/116 **RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman.

EVPC **Matters Arising**
14/15/117

EVPC 14/15/080	Police Matters – The Clerk had notified the Police of the Parish Council’s concerns on the parking problems on the Village Green.
EVPC 14/15/086	Fencing Village Green – The Clerk was looking into suitable companies from which to obtain quotes.
EVPC 14/15/092	Easington Children’s Centre – The Clerk had forwarded the donation.
EVPC 14/15/096	Planning Applications DM/14/01693/FPA the Clerk had written requesting that the concerns highlighted by the Highways Section of Durham County Council be adhered too.
EVPC 14/15/104	Plants R Ross – Easington Village Parish Council Facebook Page – The Clerk had written to Plants R Ross advising that the Council’s procedure as detailed would continue to apply.
EVPC 14/15/105	The County Durham Plan – The Clerk had spoken to the Chairman and Councillor Murray and Councillor Murray had advised he would endeavour to attend the meeting.

EVPC
14/15/106 **St Mary's Church Floodlights** – There had been no further communications received regarding the matter.

EVPC
14/15/107 **Durham County Council – Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places** – The Clerk had written to the County Council expressing concern that the only Polling Station in the Village was at Seaton Holme.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
14/15/118

Police Matters

The Police were unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report which highlighted incidents that had taken place over the last month.

A member advised that he had spoken to Ron Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner, who had said he would be willing to attend a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss any relevant policing issues.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) the Clerk contact Ron Hogg to make arrangements for him to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

EVPC
14/15/119

Report of the County Councillors

County Councillor Surtees updated Members on the following:-

- Traveller Site – At the last meeting a Member had commented that he had been advised that a traveller site had been identified within the Parish boundaries at the former Fisher Price site. Councillor Surtees advised that she had been in contact with the relevant department at Durham County Council and confirmed that at present no site had been identified in the Easington Village area and that the County Council was still looking into potential sites for Temporary Stop Over site and if affected parishes would be advised.
- Litter Bins at the schools and in Stockton Road – She had chased up the installation of the bins
- Following a meeting with the Police regarding traffic issues in the village she could report that as the highway along Stockton Road was a distributor road to the A19 slip road then no 30 mph signage would be installed on health and safety grounds by DCC. She was, however, looking into potential traffic calming measures in this location. The entrance along Mill Terrace to the slip road on the A19: there were no appropriate measures available. North Crescent junction with Thorpe Road as this was a residential area then there were few measures that could be taken to alleviate the problem, however, the Police would be looking at cars parking in this area. Following a report regarding parking problems at St Thomas Close arrangements had been made to have "Keep Clear" repainted on the road.

- Eagle Hall Farm Bank – Drainage to be installed to prevent flooding
- School Crossing Patrols – they were sited at following locations in the village:-
- Shrubs on the A19 Slip Road were to be cut back
- Fly-tipping at Andrews Hill had been reported and removed
- Paths on the Village Green had a 2mm screed of the pavement which would extend the life of the pavements. The paths were sprayed with weeds four weeks prior to works being carried out. The contractor had been instructed to carry out remedial work as required.
- The Kings Mews Site had been accepted onto the County Council's Blight List and Councillor Surtees was working with the appropriate Officers to improve the site

Members raised the following issues/queries with Councillor Surtees:-

- Fly-tipping at a Lay-by on the South Hetton Road – She would report this matter to the relevant section at Durham County Council.
- The former Colliery Site had been removed from the County Durham Plan for housing and would now become a Nature Reserve. However, the boundaries for the Nature Reserve did not include the area of the 'C' Streets anymore. Councillor Surtees advised that although this area was not included in the Nature Reserve the area would not be developed for housing as it was too close to the sea.
- Request for a Salt Bin at Stockton Road near the bridge on the left handside at the top. Members advised that there had some years ago been a salt bin in this location – Councillor Surtees would investigate and report back.
- The condition of the road markings along the top of the village green towards the Half Moon Public House – Councillor Surtees would investigate and report back
- The unauthorised advertising at North Terrace – Councillor Surtees would make enquiries as to the current position with regards to it's removal.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Surtees for her attendance. She then left the meeting.

Mr N Frain left the meeting.

EVPC
14/15/120

Seaton Holme – Room Hire Charges

The Clerk advised Members that the current room hire charges needed to be more reflective to the actual cost of hiring out the rooms, in particular on evenings and weekends. Following discussion it was agreed that increases be made to the room hire charges to be effective from 1st April 2014. The room hire would increase by £2.00 per hour for non-affiliated groups and £1.00 per hour for affiliated groups; building hire on a weekend for the rooms downstairs would be £40.00

per hour, with a deposit of £50.00 for those functions where catering and refreshments were undertaken by the hirer. This would enable the Clerk to assess how much work had been undertaken at the function by Parish Council staff and whether the deposit would be refunded. For those functions on a weekend where room hire would be for a single room then a £30.00 charge would be made on top of the room hire rate.

Members felt that it would be beneficial to offer exclusive bar rights for Seaton Holme with a fee to be paid to the Parish Council for each event.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the changes to room hire become effective from 1st April 2014
- ii) the Clerk make enquiries and negotiations to give exclusive rights to providing a bar for functions at Seaton Holme.

EVPC
14/15/121

Seaton Holme – Room Names

Members gave consideration to the room names that had been submitted by members of the public. Councillor Murray proposed that the former Discovery Centre Room be named the Lewis Carroll Room, after the author's alleged connection with Seaton Holme; Councillor Andrews proposed that the former Discovery Centre Room be named the Burn Room after Mavis Burn who had been influential in the development and sustained growth of the Discovery Centre. Following a tied vote the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of naming the room the Burn Room. A suggestion was received to name the library after Alan Milburn for his work in securing the purchase and restoration of Seaton Holme. Another Member advised that Alice Milburn had also played a major role in the formation of Easington Village Parish Council and Seaton Holme's restoration. It was proposed that the Library Room be renamed the Milburn Room. The proposal was carried.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk organise history boards and name plaques for each of the three rooms.

EVPC
14/15/122

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
14/15/123

In-Bloom Committee

Councillor Morton advised that there was nothing to report at present.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be RECEIVED.

EVPC
14/15/124

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 31.08.14

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31.08.14 were £128,038.43 in the Savings Account and £1,317.00 in the Current Account totalling £129,355.43.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
14/15/125

Income and Expenditure Report to 31.08.14

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

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
14/15/126

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for July were £11,468.71 from the Savings Account and £3410.77 from the Current Account. The August transfers were £6,767.89 from the Savings Account and £220.30 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
14/15/127

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

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

INVOICES – JULY 2014

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
04.06.14	DDR Staffing Solutions Ltd	Fire Warden Training	£42.00	105856
15.07.14	Lloyd Ltd	Machine Parts	£6.53	105857
17.07.14	Barclays	Bank Charges – June	£6.00	DD
01.07.14	N-Power	Seaton Holme – Electricity	£351.00	DD
18.07.14	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 3	£2308.84	DD
31.07.14	Payroll	Month 4 - Nett Wages	£5848.29	DD
01.07.14	Scottishpower	Cemetery – Electricity	£1.00	DD
01.07.14	Scottishpower	St Mary’s Church – Electricity	£16.00	DD
16.07.14	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – Allotments	£454.69	DD
		Invoice Total for July 2014	£10686.45	

105853 – Durham County Council (Easington Children’s Centre) – S.137 Donation - £20.00

105854 – Petty Cash - £132.00

INVOICES – AUGUST 2014

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
07.08.14	Arco	Uniform/Safety Wear	£283.74	105858
01.08.14	BDO LLP	Annual Return – Audit Fee 2014	£480.00	105859
22.08.14	Greenham	Mops/Toilet Rolls/Paper Towels/ Paper Rolls/Bin Liner/Spade	£251.09	105860
28.07.14	J J Tooby & Co	Oil/2 Stroke	£38.00	105861
26.08.14	TJ’s Heating & Home Impr	Replace Roof Tiles/Clean Guttering/Misc Repairs	£485.00	105862
26.08.14	TJ’s Heating & Home Impr	Remove/Replace Heat Exchanger	£1080.00	105862
26.08.14	Zurich Management Services	LCAS Subs 14/15	£114.00	105863
12.08.14	Barclays	Bank Charges – July	£6.00	DD
11.08.14	N Power	Gas – Seaton Holme	£471.55	DD
01.07.14	N-Power	Seaton Holme – Electricity	£156.00	DD
18.08.14	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 4	£2782.23	DD
29.08.14	Payroll	Month 5 - Nett Wages	£5159.20	DD
01.08.14	Scottishpower	Cemetery – Electricity	£1.00	DD
01.08.14	Scottishpower	St Mary’s Church – Electricity	£16.00	DD
11.08.14	Unicom	Phone/Broadband – Cemetery Phone Repairs	£383.38	DD
08.08.14	Xerox Finance	Photocopier Rental – 2 nd Quarter	£108.00	DD
		Invoice Total for August 2014	£11815.19	

Petty Cash - £300.00 – 105864

INCOME RECEIVED

July 2014

Name	Description	Amount
Durham County Council	Room Hire	£150.00
Dalton Homes	Room Hire	£100.00
Pretty Wild Affair	Room Hire	£75.00
East Durham Photo Soc	Hire of Gallery	£20.00
Millenium Luncheon Club	Room Hire	£100.00
Helen Tait	Room Hire	£10.00
Scotts Memorials	Cemetery Fees	£168.00
Women Aglow	Room Hire	£24.00
East Durham Funeral Srvs	Cemetery Fees	£322.00
Diane Robson	Room Hire	£42.00
U3A	Room Hire	£10.00
Main Project	Room Hire	£224.00
Debra Jones	Scarecrow Craft Fair	£10.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£42.00
Art Group	Room Hire	£40.00
	Total Income	£1337.00

AUGUST 2014

Name	Description	Amount
Durham Community Action	Room Hire	£60.00
Millenium Luncheon Club	Room Hire	£75.00
WI	Room Hire	£20.00
U3A	Room Hire	£10.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£120.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£24.00
Scotts Memorials	Cemetery Fees	£42.00
Art Group	Room Hire	£50.00
	Total Income	£401.00

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Members gave consideration to making a donation to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2014.

RESOLVED: that a donation of £60 be GRANTED under Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

County Durham & Cleveland Training Partnership – Upcoming Training Courses

Members gave consideration to upcoming training courses provided by County Durham and Cleveland Training Partnership at a cost of £30.00 per delegate plus VAT.

RESOLVED: that no-one was available to attend.

- EVPC
14/15/131
Medium Term Financial Planning and 2015/16 Budget Setting
The Clerk provided Members with the potential implications of the Parish Council's budget setting process. It was noted that the budget could not be set until January 2014 when Easington Village Parish Council would be given details of its Council Tax Base.
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.
Councillor J Andrews left the Meeting.
- EVPC
14/15/132
Planning Applications
DM/14/02393/VOC – Proposed Variation of Condition 4 (Compliance with approved plans) relating to approval of PLAN/2006/0502 for 7 houses at 5 Stonelea Court, Easington for Mr J Harris
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED
Councillor J Andrews returned to the meeting.
- EVPC
14/15/133
Planning Approvals
DM/14/01477/RM – Reserved Matters application relating to plot layout and access points only for the erection of four dwellings relating to outline approval CE/13/01043/OUT at Land to the East of Dairy Houses, Little Thorpe
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC
14/15/134
Planning Refusals
There were no planning refusals.
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC
14/15/135
Planning Applications (Withdrawn)
There were no planning applications withdrawn
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC
14/15/136
Planning Appeals
There were no planning appeals.
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC
14/15/137
Easington Colliery Regeneration Partnership
Members gave consideration to a letter of thanks received from The Easington Colliery Regeneration Partnership for the Parish Council's donation toward the Church of the Ascension Fund Raising.
RESOLVED: that the correspondence be RECEIVED.
- EVPC
14/15/138
Easington Children's Centre
Members gave consideration to a letter of thanks received from Easington Children's Centre for the Parish Council's donation.
RESOLVED: that the correspondence be RECEIVED.
- EVPC
14/15/139
Durham Heritage Coast Partnership's Annual Coastal Forum 2014
Members gave consideration to attending the above event on Thursday 18th September at Shotton Hall, Peterlee.
RESOLVED: that no-one was available to attend.

EVPC
14/15/140

Easington Seed Pods

Members gave consideration to correspondence received and as the Easington Village In-Bloom Group already used the plants then this request could not be acceded to.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk advise Easington Seed Pods of the Parish Council's decision.

EVPC
14/15/141

North East Enterprise Trust

Members gave consideration to correspondence received.

RESOLVED: that the correspondence be NOTED.

EVPC
14/15/142

Smoke Free Parks Stakeholder - Questionnaire

Members gave consideration to the above scheme and questionnaire from Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council not complete the questionnaire.

Councillor J Smith took no part in the voting on the following item.

EVPC
14/15/143

Request for Seat

Members gave consideration to correspondence received requesting a seat along Stockton Road on the left-hand side beside the planter.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk ascertain whether it would be possible to site a seat at this location.

EVPC
14/15/144

Representatives to Outside Bodies

There were no reports to make.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
14/15/145

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th October 2014.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date