

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2014**

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

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk)

Also in Attendance: County Councillor D Boyes

EVPC **Apologies for Absence**  
14/15/214 There were no apologies for absence.

EVPC **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**  
14/15/215 Councillor T Murray declared a personal interest in item 9(a) as he is related to the correspondent.

EVPC **Public Participation**  
14/15/216 There were no members of the public registered to speak.

EVPC **Minutes of the Last Meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014**  
14/15/217 **RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor J Andrews and J Lee's declarations of interest and Matters Arising EVPC14/15/165 Christmas Tree Lighting should read 2.30pm not 1.30 pm, to be signed by the Chairman.

EVPC **Minutes of the Cemetery and Grounds Sub-Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014**  
14/15/218 **RESOLVED** that  
C&G 14/15/022 –the bedding area identified as unsuitable for plants be grassed over; the purchase of additional plants for grounds maintenance be included in the Parish Council's long term financial plans.

EVPC **Matters Arising**  
14/15/219

EVPC **Mr Ron Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner–**  
14/15/148 The Clerk had written to Mr Hogg thanking him for his attendance at the Parish Council meeting in October.

EVPC **Thorpe Road Playing Field** – The Clerk had been  
14/15/194 in contact with the Council's insurers who confirmed that seats/benches were not covered under the Council's current policy. She had asked that the seats be included when the policy was renewed.

EVPC **Proposed Move to New Premises and Branch**  
14/15/206 **Modernisation – Easington Post Office** – the Clerk had written Grahame Morris MP advising that the Parish Council had no comments to make with regard to the proposal.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/220

### **Police Matters**

There were no police officers were in attendance.

EVPC  
14/15/221

### **Report of the County Councillors**

The Clerk provided Members with County Councillor Surtees' update from the last meeting:-

- Speeding/Traffic calming at Stockton Road – Currently looking at potential options
- Drainage issue on footpath between Easington and Hawthorn – footpath has been cleared back and no further problems with water identified
- Former Kings Head Site – Planning Enforcement Officers have raised further concerns with owners about the appearance of the site and advised that concerns should be addressed. The dilapidated sign has been identified as a priority for removal.

County Councillor Boyes was in attendance at the meeting and provided the following information:-

- Collection of leaves from various areas throughout the village had been organised as a result of complaints from residents
- The approval of the planning application at the former Thorpe Road hospital site had been disappointing but he felt that the presence and representation by County Councillors for Easington, Easington Village Parish Councillors and representatives of the public had resulted in the initial tied vote.
- The Planning application to discharge some of the planning conditions at the former Council Offices Site – the TPO's on the site would ensure that approximately 40 trees will remain on the site which is over half of the trees that were there previously.

A Member enquired about the potential re-surfacing of the private road to the rear of Carlton Terrace as a result of traffic being diverted along this road when recent resurfacing works had been carried out along Thorpe Road. Councillor Boyes advised that the County Council would be carrying out patching up work to the road and that he would follow this matter up.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

*The Chairman thanked Councillor Boyes for his attendance. He then left the meeting.*

EVPC  
14/15/222

### **Request for Use of Function Room**

The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from Easington Ladies Circle for two events, one in February and one in March 2015. Previously this Group had received a reduction in room hire making the hire charge £15.00 instead of £24.00.

**RESOLVED:** that the Easington Ladies Circle be given the discounted room hire charge of £15.00 per event.

EVPC  
14/15/223

### **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  
14/15/224

**In-Bloom Committee**

Councillor Morton advised that weeding had been carried out at the brick bed along Rosemary Lane and plants put in. New barrels had been purchased to replace those on the village green.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be RECEIVED.

EVPC  
14/15/225

**Northumbria in Bloom**

Members gave consideration to the marking sheet for the 2014 competition. It was felt that the Parish Council had lost marks on areas where they could not have any influence, ie the Kings Head site and other areas that were in private ownership. It was disheartening for all those who put time and effort into the village and there was no realistic chance of improving the award. Members felt that cost of the entry fee of £75.00 could be better utilised in these times of austerity and that the Parish Council would not enter the 2015 Northumbria in Bloom Competition.

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) the information given, be noted;
- ii) the Parish Council not enter the 2015 competition and the Clerk write advising the reasons for non-entry to the Competition.

EVPC  
14/15/226

**Memorial Stone**

The Clerk had received a request for a bespoke Memorial Stone to be installed in the Durham Lane Cemetery. The Cemetery Superintendent advised that this type of memorial would make it difficult for grasscutting and strimming in this area.

**RESOLVED:** that the applicant be advised that this type of memorial stone was not in line with the Parish Council's current policy and if a memorial stone was required then it should be in line with the details previously given to the applicant.

EVPC  
14/15/227

**Fencing to Village Green**

The Clerk advised Members that she had received a quotation for the removal and replacement of the race course fencing and was awaiting further quotations.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/228

**Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.11.14**

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.11.14 were £102,512.16 in the Savings Account and £845.68 in the Current Account totalling £103,357.84

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/229

**Income and Expenditure Report to 30.11.14**

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

**RESOLVED:** that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/230

**Bank Transfers**

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for November were £9890.01 from the Savings Account and £717.94 from the Current Account.

**RESOLVED:** to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC  
14/15/231

**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 – NOVEMBER 2014**

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
12.11.14	Barclays	Bank Charges – October	£6.00	DD
07.11.14	Concept Group Ltd	Cost per Copy	£61.31	DD
01.11.14	N-Power	Seaton Holme – Electricity	£156.00	DD
06.11.14	N-Power	Seaton Holme – Gas	£1035.56	DD
18.11.14	Payroll	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Payments – Month 7	£2254.49	DD
28.11.14	Payroll	Month 8 - Nett Wages	£4508.13	DD
01.11.14	Scottishpower	Electricity – Seaton Holme	£295.00	DD
10.11.14	Unicom	Phone/Broadband	£79.45	DD
08.11.14	Xerox Finance	Photocopier Rental – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	£108.00	DD
13.11.14	A1 Trophies & Engraving	3 x Brass Name Plates	£99.00	105882
26.11.14	B Smithson	Buffet for 20	£110.00	105883
31.07.14	CDS	Alarm Services – Cemetery	£198.00	105884
14.10.14	Durham County Council	Grasscutting 2014	£1449.95	105885
21.11.14	Ignis Contract Services Ltd	Seaton Holme – Fire Alarm/ Emergency Light Service	£144.00	105886
11.11.14	SLCC	Annual Subscription	£187.00	105887
01.12.14	Durham County Council	Servicing of 7 Dog Bins	£867.05	105888
02.12.14	Darlington Borough Council	Autumn Bedding	£1061.42	105890
		<b>Invoice Total for November 2014</b>	£12620.36	

EVPC  
14/15/232

**INCOME RECEIVED**

**November 2014**

Name	Description	Amount
N Quarmby	Cemetery Fees	£95.00
A Jones	Room Hire	£60.00
E'ton Village WI	Room Hire	£72.00
Main	Room Hire	£236.00
Women Aglow	Room Hire	£24.00
D Robson	Room Hire	£60.00
Member of the Public	Book	£5.00
E'ton Millennium Lunch Club	Room Hire	£100.00
Delanoys	Cemetery Fees	£132.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£240.00
A Burnham	Room Hire	£40.00
R Delanoys	Cemetery Fees	£30.00
D Robson	Room Hire	£60.00
E;ton Millennium Lunch Club	Room Hire	£125.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£10.00
Tyne & Wear Care Alliance	Room Hire & Refreshments	£230.00
Tyne & Wear Care Alliance	Room Hire & Refreshments	£136.48
NHS	Room Hire & Refreshments	£135.20
R Shelton	Room Hire – Craft Fair	£75.00

		£1865.68
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**RESOLVED:** that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/233

**The Church of the Ascension Christmas Tree Festival**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received regarding the above event. The Clerk advised that in consultation with the Chairman it had been agreed to sponsor a Christmas tree at a cost of £10.00.

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) the actions of the Clerk, be endorsed;
- ii) that the Clerk liaise with Miss Alice Morton with regard to the decoration of the tree.

EVPC  
14/15/234

**St Mary's Church Floodlights**

The Clerk advised Members that in previous years the Parish Council had made repairs to the floodlights. She gave details of the costs of repairs which could be met from this year's current budget.

**RESOLVED:** that the Parish Council pay for the repairs to the Church floodlights at a cost of £500 including VAT.

EVPC  
14/15/235

**Planning Applications**

DM/14/03323/TPO – Proposed Crown Lift and Crown Thin 1 No. Beech Tree, Crown thin 1 no. Lime Tree, crown lift and crown Thin 3 No. Sycamore Trees at Ladywood, Durham Lane, Easington.

DRC/14/00310 – Proposed Discharge of Planning Conditions 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12 pursuant to DM/14/00041/FPA at former Council Offices, Seaside Lane, Easington for Persimmon Homes

DM/14/03368/FPA – Proposed 3 No. Extensions to Offices, Classrooms and Hall at Easington CE Primary School, Hall Walk, Easington

DM/14/03629/FPA – Proposed Erection of First Floor Extension to Rear and Application of Render to Dwelling at Lambourn, Little Thorpe for Mr C Holmes

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED

EVPC  
14/15/236

**Planning Approvals**

DM/14/03002/FPA – Proposed Erection of Two Storey Extension to East Side of Dwelling and Construction of Pitched Roof Over Flat Roof at Front at Linton House, Seaside Lane, Easington for Mr A Million

DM/14/03080/FPA – Proposed Erection of Single Storey Extension to Southern Elevation Including New Ramped Access at Merrick House, Seaside Lane, Easington for Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust

DM/14/03159/VOC – Proposed Variation of Condition 4 (Compliance with approved plans) relating to approval of PLAN/2006/0502 for 7 houses at 7 Stonelea Court, Easington for Mr J Harris

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/237

**Planning Refusals**

There were no planning refusals.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/238

**Planning Applications (Withdrawn)**

There were no planning applications withdrawn

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/239

**Planning Appeals**

There were no planning appeals.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/240

**The Durham Ask and Funding Boost To Support Services**

Members gave consideration to correspondence.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/241

**Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Councillors Morton and Andrews had attend the Area Planning Committee and had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council against the planning application for Proposed Residential Development (Outline) at former Thorpe Maternity Hospital.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC  
14/15/242

**Parish Clerk – Holiday Cover**

The Clerk advised that this item had been placed on the agenda as a result of a request made by Councillor T Murray. She also advised that she had contacted County Durham Association of Local Councils to enquire whether there was list of locum Parish Clerks in the area to which she was advised there was not.

Councillor Murray advised that he had the details of the Clerk to Langley Parish Council who would be willing to provide cover.

Councillor Hopper stated that during her time as a Parish Councillor of over 30 years there had never been holiday cover for the Parish Clerk and felt that there was no need now. Provision was made for cover during the Clerk's holidays and Parish Council staff still had direct contact with the Clerk unless she was out of the country.

Councillor Murray felt that when the Clerk was absent from work there had been problems.

After considerable discussion it was **RESOLVED:** that cover arrangements during the Clerk's absence remain unchanged.

EVPC  
14/15/243

**Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman .....

Date .....