

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 9TH MAY 2016**

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

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk)

Also in Attendance: County Councillor A Surtees, Mrs A Day, Mr W S Day, Mr P Wood, Mr J
W Froud, Mr A D Miller, Ms D Jarvis, Ms C Hagel, Ms I G Warburton, Ms
S Warburton and Mr G Haddick

EVPC
16/17/001

Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED: Apologies RECEIVED and APPROVED for Councillor M
Warin.

EVPC
16/17/002

Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of interest on the agenda.

EVPC
16/17/003

Public Participation

There were 5 members of the public registered to speak. The Clerk
advised that all those registering to speak had been supplied with a
copy of the Parish Council's policy on public participation. The
Chairman drew attention to the policy.

Mr J Froud spoke about the Horse event on 24th April on the Village
Green. He questioned whether they were allowed on the Village
Green. Were the Police invited to attend? What action had been taken
against those who brought vehicles on the Village Green?

The Chairman advised that permission had not been given for any
event to be held on the Village Green and the Parish Council had
contacted the Police to advise about the event once they had been
made aware of it by a member of the public. The Clerk advised that
she would contact the Police to ask what legal action had been taken
with regard to unauthorised vehicles on the Village Green and respond
to Mr Froud direct.

Ms D Jarvis asked why, after the questionnaire had rejected the gym
equipment scheme, was it displayed as an option at the Open Day?
There was already gym equipment at the Welfare Park, Easington
Colliery and this was not used. She also stated that the Village Green
is not a suitable place for gym equipment and asked whether the
Parish Council considered installing the equipment at Thorpe Road
Playing Fields? She also asked whether the gym equipment would be a
distance of 30 metres from the play equipment? She also suggested
that the money would be better spent on upgrading the play
equipment and placing boulders around the Village Green.

The Chairman advised that the gym equipment was always just a
proposal and it was included in the Open Day to allow residents to view
both of the schemes. He advised that the Parish Council had not
looked at installing the gym equipment at Thorpe Road Playing Fields,
to date, as this suggestion had come to light as a result of the Open
Day. He reiterated that the gym equipment was still a proposal only
and that at this stage no decision had been made.

Mr G Haddick spoke about the issue of installing gym equipment on the Village Green and asked whether the Parish Council had considered liability and insurance risks associated with installing such equipment? He also referred to Section 8 of the Human Rights Act and felt that if the Parish Council were to proceed with such a scheme then they would be in contravention of the Act. He asked if the Parish Council had considered the Human Rights Act in conjunction with the gym proposal?

The Chairman advised that, prior to the consultation advice had been sought by the play/gym equipment providers and the Council's insurers regarding liability issues and the legal requirements that would need to be met if such equipment was installed. The Clerk advised that she would consider the impact of the Human Rights Act with regard to the proposal if a decision had been made to progress the scheme.

Mr W Day said that it was not a good idea to install gym equipment on the Village Green. The Parish Council is the custodian of the Green and should help protect its beauty. The present play equipment was installed to cover the foot print of the original play equipment. He urged the Parish Council not to install gym equipment on the Village Green.

Mrs A Day said that the original consultation on installing gym equipment on the Village Green had been rejected by residents and yet this proposal was still included in the Open Day. She asked why the results of the questionnaire had not been taken into account? She urged the Parish Council not to proceed with the scheme to install gym equipment on the Village Green. She felt it was historic and beautiful asset to the Village that should be protected and not spoilt by installing such equipment.

The Chairman advised that the scheme for gym equipment was only a proposal and no decision had been made at this point in time.

The Chairman advised that as there were members of the public present who were interested in items 13 and 14 on the agenda they would be discussed now.

EVPC
16/17/004

Proposed Schemes for Section 106 Funding and Results of Open Day on Proposed Gym/Play Equipment Schemes on the Village Green

Members gave consideration to the correspondence received from residents and the results of the Open Day. Following discussion on the proposals it was felt that the proposal for gym equipment not be considered further; that the current play equipment (for younger children) be updated and the area fenced off; there was potential to have race course fencing around the rest of the Village Green; along with some replacement of seating around the Village.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the Clerk liaise with play providers for them to come up with a proposal for updated play equipment and fencing on the Village Green;
- ii) costings be sought for race-course fencing around the Village

- Green
- iii) Once the proposals were submitted then this be displayed at the School for the children to comment on the equipment;

Mrs A Day, Mr W S Day, Mr A D Miller, Ms D Jarvis, Ms C Hagel and Mr G Haddick then left the meeting.

EVPC
16/17/005

Horse Fayre

Members gave consideration to correspondence received. The Clerk advised that, following consultation with the Chairman, a response had been given to the resident.

The Clerk and Chairman are to be present at the meeting regarding the August Bank Holiday Horse Fayre where this item will be included on the agenda.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
ii) the issues relating to the Police be forward to them for their comment.

Mr J Froud then left the meeting.

EVPC
16/17/006

Minutes of the last Meetings held on 11th April 2016

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

EVPC
16/17/007

Matters Arising

EVPC
15/16/324

Village Green – Horse Fayre – Easter Monday – the Clerk had written advising of the course of action to be undertaken. Both County Councillors Boyes and Surtees and Sgt Footes had been contacted and they had advised that the Parish Clerk and Chairman would be invited to the meeting regarding the August bank holiday Horse Fayre where this matter would also be discussed.

EVPC
15/16/325

Report of the County Councillor – The Clerk advised she had met with County Councillor Surtees and an "Alice in Wonderland" themed event would be held in August at Seaton Holme.

EVPC
15/16/334

County Durham Citizens Advice – The Clerk forward the donation to the CAB.

EVPC
15/16/335

County of Durham School Benevolent Fund– The Clerk had advised the Group that they would not be receiving a donation.

EVPC
15/16/336

Contract for Lease of Photocopier – The Clerk had organised for the new lease of the photocopier to be signed and the new photocopier had been installed in the Parish Office.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED;

EVPC
16/17/008

Report of the County Councillor

County Councillor A Surtees was in attendance and updated Members on the following matters:-

- the County Councillors' Neighbourhood Budgets were to support the following schemes; the summer activities for children; traffic calming in North Crescent and Sunderland Road Allotments
- the Nature Reserve at Easington Colliery had been successful in securing £8,000 funding to be used to install seating and identity signage.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

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

EVPC
16/17/009

Police Matters

No police officer was in attendance, however, the Clerk read out a report which had been submitted. A Member advised that he had requested at a previous meeting that speed cameras be placed along Stockton Road and this had not happened.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) the Clerk contact the Police advising of the request for a speed camera along Stockton Road

EVPC
16/17/010

Seaton Holme – New Wall Lighting

The Clerk advised that as some of the wall lighting in the corridors to Seaton Holme had now become dangerous she had made the necessary arrangements to have them replaced with new energy efficient lighting.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/011

Report of the Cemetery Superintendent

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

RESOLVED that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/012

Annual Return for the Year Ending 31st March 2016

A copy of the Annual Return had been circulated to Members before the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement be APPROVED and the following be confirmed:

- 1 We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.
- 2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.

- 3 We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practice that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this smaller authority to conduct its business or on its finances.
- 4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
- 5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this smaller authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.
- 6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.
- 7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.
- 8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this small authority and, where appropriate, included them in the accounting statements.

EVPC
16/17/013

Accounting Statements for Year Ending 31st March 2016

Members gave consideration to the Accounting Statements for 2015/16 which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED: that the Accounting Statements for Year Ending 31st March 2016, be APPROVED

EVPC
16/17/014

Corporate Risk Assessment

Members reviewed the Corporate Risk Assessment which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED: that the Corporate Risk Assessment, be APPROVED.

EVPC
16/17/015

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.04.16

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.04.16 were £201,381.65 in the Savings Account and £2,315.54 in the Current Account totalling £203,697.19.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/016

Income and Expenditure Report to 30.04.16

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

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/017

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for April were £13,358.63 from the Savings Account and £124,426.64 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

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 – APRIL 2016

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
19.04.16	ADT Fire & Security	Upgrade of Alarm & Maintenance	£2435.28	106044
19.04.16	Barclays	Bacs Charges – April 16	£6.00	DD
25.04.16	Concept	Cost per Copy	£103.80	DD
07.04.16	Durham County Council	Trade Waster 2016/17	£648.00	106045
26.03.16	Durham Miners Association	Advertisement in Gala Brochure 2016	£80.00	106046
13.04.16	Greenham	Paper Towels/Toilet Rolls/Bin Bags	£140.43	106047
12.04.16	Homecare DIY	Paint and Brushes	£29.47	106048
21.04.16	IOS Ltd	Stationery	£60.89	106049
21.04.16	IOS Ltd	Stationery	-£30.56	CREDIT
18.04.15	Monk Hesleden Parish Council	Dog Bags – 12 Boxes	£87.84	106050
11.04.16	N-Power	Electricity – St Marys Church	£67.10	DD
19.04.16	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 12	£2351.10	DD
29.04.16	Payroll	Month 1 - Nett Wages	£5472.24	DD
08.04.16	Scottishpower	Electricity – Seaton Holme	£60.00	DD
28.01.16	TJs Heating & Home Impr	Repair/Replace Yale Lock to Main Door	£108.00	106051
12.04.16	Unicom	Phone & Broadband	£62.11	DD
12.04.16	Zurich Municipal	Insurance Renewal & Inspection Contract	£5360.90	106052
21.04.16	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – S'land Road Allot	£18.47	DD
03.05.16	Arco	Safety Clothing/Footwear	£272.14	106053
25.04.16	Harbro Electrical Ltd	Lights	£154.12	105054
		Invoice Total April 2016	£17487.33	

Cancellation of Cheque No. 106031 – ADT Fire & Security
106045 – Petty Cash - £200.00

INCOME RECEIVED

April 2016

Name	Description	Amount
J Delanoy	Burial Fees	£142.00
Easington Village	Room Hire – March	£125.00

Luncheon Club		
Monk Hesleden PC	Training	£367.80
Forever Living	Room Hire	£40.00
Women Aglow	Room Hire	£36.00
Mindful Therapies	Room Hire	£8.00
J Delanoy	Burial Fees	£142.00
J Delanoy	Sponsorship & Room Hire	£332.80
Lee Lane Allotments	Allotment Rent	£66.00
Easington Village WI	Affiliation Fee 2016/17	£30.00
Easington Village WI	Room Hire	£49.50
Art Group	Affiliation Fee & Room Hire	£80.00
U3A	Affiliation Fee & Room Hire	£42.50
Member of the Public	Room Hire Deposit	£43.00
Trimdon Parish Council	Training	£32.34
Mindful Therapies	Room Hire	£8.00
Summerhill Books	Royalties	15.20
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£60.00
		£1620.04

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/020

Planning Applications

DM/16/00782/TCA – Proposed Removal of Eucalyptus Tree at Oddicombe, Hall Walks, Easington for Mrs H Cowie
DM/16/00513/FPA – Proposed Erection of First Floor Extension to Side Existing Dwelling at Carmel House, Seaside Lane, Easington
DM/16/00502/FPA – Proposed Erection of Detached House and Garage at Land to the East of Dairy Houses, Little Thorpe
DM/16/00324/FPA – Proposed New Build 3 Bedroomed Dwelling at Plot 2, The Old Dairy, Little Thorpe

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED

EVPC
16/17/021

Planning Approvals

There were no planning approvals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/022

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/023

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/024

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/025

Chairman's Medal

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from County Councillor Jan Blakey, Chairman, Durham County Council regarding the Parish Council's unsuccessful nomination for the Chairman's Medal.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/026

**Land to the Rear of Hawthorn House and Richmond House,
Rosemary Lane, Easington Village**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Durham County Council regarding the sale of land to the rear of Hawthorn House, Rosemary Lane, Easington Village.

RESOLVED: that no comment be made.

EVPC
16/17/027

Consultation on Proposal to Remove Street Lights

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Durham County Council advising the proposal to remove streets lights along the B1432 would not proceed.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be RECEIVED.

EVPC
16/17/028

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Easington Village

Members gave consideration received from the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/029

Statement of Community Involvement – County Durham Plan

Members gave consideration received from Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/030

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th June 2016 at 7.00 pm.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date