

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 11TH JULY 2016**

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 A Surtees, PCSO A Leigh, Mr P Wood, Mr L Barrass,
Mr M Carter, J Morrow, J Riddle and D M Walmsley

EVPC **Apologies for Absence**
16/17/059 There were no apologies for absence.

EVPC **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
16/17/060 Councillor J Lee declared a personal interest on item 11(a) as she lived
in Fennel Grove
Councillor P Gibson declared a personal interest on item 12(b) as he
lived in Hallfield Drive

EVPC **Public Participation**
16/17/061 Mr L Barrass spoke against the proposed development at Fennel Grove
and raised the following issues:-

- Lack of infrastructure
- Highways
- Road capacity
- no sustainable employment being created along
- the detrimental effect on the residents in Fennel Grove.
-

Mr P Wood spoke in favour of the proposed development at Fennel
Grove and raised the following issues:-

- Details regarding the land being designated for housing in
the former County Durham Plan
- sufficient educational places
- no effect on ecology or wildlife
- jobs would be created
- noise in the development was not a valid planning concern
- adequate visibility for on the junction of Fennel Grove and
Sunderland Road on both sides
- the development would be good for the Village.

Mr Wood asked as the planning application was valid how could
objections be made by the Parish Council?
Would it be a valid reason to turn down extra council tax receipts and
s.106 funding?

The Clerk advised that the application would be discussed and if the
Parish Council decided to object to the development then the
objections would be based on the National Planning Policy Framework.
She also advised that the Council's precept was agreed following the
receipt of the Council Tax Base from Durham County Council and new
housing may increase the base. The Council makes a decision on the
setting of the budget and the precept annually and considers all

relevant factors.

EVPC
16/17/062

Matters Arising

EVPC
16/17/038

Report of County Councillor – County Councillor Surtees had been in contact with the Clerk regarding the removal of street lighting along Thorpe Road in the village. The Clerk had submitted the Parish Council’s objections to this proposal.

EVPC
16/17/048

Request for Financial Assistance - The Clerk had clarified that the event was being organised on behalf of the Co-operative Food Store and was awaiting payment details from the organiser.

EVPC
15/16/055

Youth Employment Programme – The Clerk had been advised that there would not be any additional funding available through the AAP. She was working with Durham County Council and East Durham College in order to appoint an apprentice grounds operative.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED;

The Chairman advised that in acknowledging the number of members of the public in attendance that he would move the agenda items around so that they would not have to wait any longer than necessary.

EVPC
16/17/063

Police Matters

PCSO A Leigh was in attendance and reported on the following:-

- Concerns raised regarding people living in the Kings Mews development. This had been investigated and everything was in order. County Councillor Surtees advised that the new owners of the site were in the process of receiving the required permits and permissions to complete the development. She had requested that the outside of the development be tidied up and the developers had acceded to this request.
- Reports had been received from residents concerned about an alleged deaf man trying to sell art work.
- Youths have been throwing wet paper at walls at the school
- There had been a road traffic accident near the dog track along Sunderland Road

A Member reported parking issues along Seaside Lane near Merrick House.

The Clerk advised that she had received communication from a member of the public regarding traffic problems along Clappersgate. PCSO Leigh advised that she would contact the resident and investigate their concerns.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Leigh for her attendance at the meeting, who then left the meeting.

EVPC

16/17/064

Planning Application - DM/16/01970/FPA – Proposed 80 No. Dwellings (C3) with Associated Infrastructure, Landscaping and Car Parking at Land to the West of Fennel Grove, Easington Village for Persimmon Homes

Members gave consideration to the above application and lengthy discussion ensued. Members felt that the roads would not be able to withstand the increase in traffic, there were not enough school places and amenities were insufficient to cope with another development within the Parish boundaries.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council submit its objection to the proposed development. The Parish Clerk would refer to the National Planning Policy Framework when formulating the response.

Mr L Barrass, Mr M Carter, J Morrow, J Riddle and D M Walmsley left the meeting

EVPC

16/17/065

Report of the County Councillor

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

- She had submitted an objection with regard to the proposed removal of street lights at Thorpe Road.
- The August Bank Holiday Horse Fair would take place along the South Hetton Road in the same location as last year. A temporary 40 mph limit would be in place along the road and "no parking" signs would be installed.
- Work on the summer events programme with an event to be held at Seaton Holme on 23rd August themed on Alice in Wonderland
- Durham County Council was undergoing a staffing restructure and this was currently at Director Level
- Durham County Council monitoring the situation following European Referendum
- Improvements were being undertaken to street lighting
- County Durham Plan Issues and Options consultation was underway
- There would be a ward surgery held on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Library where both County Councillors would be in attendance.

A member raised the issue of the euro banners still being in place and that scrap vans were often piled very high.

County Councillor Surtees advised that she would arrange to have the banners removed and that if the Member forwarded the details of the scrap vans then this could be reported.

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

Seaton Holme

16/17/066

The Clerk advised there had been an influx of bookings for the summer months. A Member questioned progress regarding the installation of floodlights to the front of Seaton Holme. The Clerk advised that she would progress this matter and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED.
- ii) the Clerk obtain costs for the installation of floodlights and investigate whether planning permission would be required.

EVPC

16/17/067

Report of the Cemetery Superintendent

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

A Member advised that the planter that been moved to Brampton Court was from the entrance to the slip road when it should have been one of the planters from Lonen Burn. The Clerk advised that the planter would be replaced but this would need to be undertaken after the summer bedding had been removed.

A Member requested that the "No Parking" signs on the Village Green be replaced with metal posts concreted into the ground. They also requested that the caution "slippery paths" sign close to the steps at the entrance of Seaton Holme be improved.

RESOLVED that

- i) the information given, be NOTED
- ii) after the summer bedding had been removed then a planter from Lonen Burn be moved to the slip road entrance.
- iii) "No Parking" signs be installed at the Village Green;
- iv) the Clerk organise for the "slippery paths" signs to be improved.

EVPC

16/17/068

Hanging Basket and Floral Container Competition 2016

The Clerk advised that this event was usually sponsored by Plants R Ross. However, as they were no longer in business, she had contacted the new owners who had declined to sponsor the event. She also advised that as previously discussed the Parish Council would be able to fund the prizes. The event was currently being advertised and forms were available for residents to complete and return. The judging would take place during the week commencing 25th July 2016. Mr P Wood said that Oldfields Events would be willing to sponsor the event.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the Parish Council accepts the offer of sponsorship from Oldfield Events and that the Clerk liaise with Mr Wood with regard to the sponsorship. The prizes would consist of gift vouchers for the following amounts 1st Prize - £30 , 2nd Prize - £20 and 3rd Prize - £10
- ii) Councillors J Smith, J Andrews and J Lee undertake the judging on Monday 25th July.

EVPC

16/17/069

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.06.16

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.06.16 were £177,063.00 in the Savings Account and £2,271.50 in the Current Account totalling £179,334.50

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/070

Income and Expenditure Report to 30.06.16

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

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/071

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for June were £9431.94 from the Savings Account and £1138.01 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
16/17/072

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

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

June 2016

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
12.06.16	Barclays	Bacs Charges – June 16	£6.00	DD
19.06.16	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 2	£2462.30	DD
30.06.16	Payroll	Month 3 - Nett Wages	£5785.45	DD
08.06.16	Scottishpower	Electricity – Seaton Holme	£60.00	DD
10.05.16	Unicom	Phone & Broadband	£61.82	DD
28.06.16	PENA	Pat Testings	£119.00	DD
08.07.16	Concept	Cost per Copy	£41.50	DD
07.07.16	British Telecom	Redcare Line	£103.20	DD
15.06.16	Carrs Billington	Fertilizer	£79.20	106062
16.06.16	J Dent	Large Skip – Alltontments	£240.00	106063
30.06.16	IOS	2 x Addis Vac Jugs	£71.98	106064
16.06.16	IOS	Stamps & Cleaning Products	£89.78	106064
16.06.16	SLCC	Training Event	£29.40	106065
02.07.16	TJs Heating & Home Impr	Replace Wall Lights/Repair Stop Tap	£432.00	106066
02.07.16	TJs Heating & Home Impr	Check auto door closers/repair water heater in kitchen	£204.00	106066
02.07.16	TJs Heating & Home Impr	Repair Broken Window/Replace faulty socket (Emergency Call Outs)	£318.00	106066
30.06.16	Glasdon	2 x Memorial Benches & Plaque	£926.35	106068
		Invoice Total June 2016	£11029.98	

106067 – Petty Cash - £300.00

EVPC
16/17/073

INCOME RECEIVED

June 2016

Name	Description	Amount
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£24.00
Jan Burnham	Room Hire	£37.50
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£43.00
Durham CC	Room Hire	£250.00
R Delanoy & Sons	Burial Fees	£33.00
R Delanoy & Sons	Burial Fees	346.00

St Mary's Church Bingo	Room Hire	£18.00
Easington U3A	Room Hire	£10.00
Forever Living	Room Hire	£80.00
Member of the Public	Burial Fees	£346.00
Easington Village Luncheon Club	Room Hire	£100.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£138.00
R Delanoy & Sons	Room Hire	£112.00
Women Aglow	Room Hire	£31.50
St Mary's Church Bingo	Room Hire	£18.00
Art Group	Room Hire	£50.00
		£1637.00

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/074

County Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils – Training Event – Your Council, Your Finances, Your Responsibility

Members gave consideration to attendance at the above event on Thursday 8th September commencing at 10.00 am at Shotton Hall, Peterlee at a cost of £30.00 per person.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk together with Councillor L Morton and T Murray attend.

EVPC
16/17/075

Planning Applications

The Clerk advised that the following planning application had been received:-

DRC/16/00194 – Proposed Discharge of Condition 5 of Planning approval DM/15/02496/LB relating to render and pointing details at The Tithe Barn, Easington Village for Mr T McCabe

DRC/16/00196 – Proposed Discharge of Conditions 3, 4, 5 and 8 of planning approval DM/16/00324/FPA relating to materials, hardsurfacing details, boundary and contaminated land at Plot 2, The Old Dairy, Little Thorpe for Mr L Ward

DRC/16/00204 – Proposed Application to Discharge the Requirements of Conditions 3 (Materials), 4 (Means of Enclosure), 5 (Tree Protection Plan) and 8 (Land Contamination pursuant to Planning Permission) DM/16/00502/FPA

DM/16/02008/TCA – Proposed Crown Lift and Central Prune of 1 No. Sycamore Tree at Land to the North of 1A Thorpe Road, Easington for Easington Village Parish Council

DM/16/02011/FPA – Proposed Erection of 2.4m High Mesh Fence at Easington Church of England Primary School for Mrs A Swift

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/076

Planning Approvals

There were no planning approvals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/077

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

16/17/078

There were no planning applications withdrawn.
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC

16/17/079

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.
RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC

16/17/080

Fly the Flag for the Commonwealth in 2017

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from County Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils regarding the above.
RESOLVED: that the Clerk investigate whether a flagpole could be installed at Seaton Holme together with appropriate costs.

EVPC

16/17/081

Land Adjacent to 13 Rymers Close, Easington Village

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Durham County Council regarding the sale of the above land, a copy of which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council object to the sale on the grounds that the area is a public amenity space that is used by children as an area to play. However, if the land is sold then a restrictive covenant be placed on it so that it can be used solely as a garden.

EVPC

16/17/082

Members Reports of their Attendance at Meetings/Events on Behalf of the Parish Council

Councillor Andrews report that she had attended a meeting with representatives from Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council, County Councillors and neighbouring Parish Councils regarding the proposed East Durham Horse Fair which is usually held on the August Bank Holiday weekend. She reported that the event was proposed to take place at the same location as last year on private land located on the South Hetton Road opposite East Durham Garden Centre. The relevant bodies were working with the event organiser to ensure that minimal disruption and inconvenience was caused to members of the public.

She also reported that following this meeting a further informal meeting was held regarding the events that had taken place on the Village Green this year. The Police confirmed that they had spoken to the organiser of the event that was held in late April and had been advised that this was a one off event and would not be happening next year. The horse event that was held every year on the Village Green at Easter was then discussed. The Parish Clerk enquired which options were available to the Parish Council with regard to stopping the event. The Police advised that a byelaw would need to be in place to enable enforcement action to be taken to remove those attending from the Village Green. This option would be costly for the Parish Council to enforce. The Police had details of the event organiser who was willing to work with the Parish Council, Police and Durham County Council to overcome the problems that had been raised by members of the public regarding previous events and to discuss any other issues that may need to be addressed. The Police had advised that they would provide a presence at the event and assist with highways issues. The County Council advised that they would be able to provide "after event" clean up of the Village Green, and County Councillor Surtees and Boyes advised that they would address the issue of improved road markings

along Low Row. Those representatives present had advised that once the Parish Council had decided what course of action they wished to take that a further meeting could be arranged for the autumn of this year.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the Police to invite them to a future meeting of the Parish Council in order to discuss the options available for the Horse Event held at Easter.

EVPC
16/17/083

Parish Council Website

The Clerk advised Members that she had received 3 quotations regarding the creation of a new Parish Council website. The quotations were Company A - £790 hosting £100 per annum; Company B - £1240 hosting £70 per annum; and Company C - £1300 hosting £129 per annum. The Clerk advised that all 3 companies had carried out work for other Parish Councils. It was report that all had been satisfied with the work.

A Member suggested that the Clerk contact the local colleges of East Durham and Houghall, New College, Durham and Seaham College to see whether they would have a student who would be able to provide the Parish Council with a website. The Clerk queried how this would work, how would on-going support be provided, also how the hosting of the site would be undertaken. A member advised that hosting a website would only cost £10.00 per annum.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk make enquiries with the Colleges to see if they were able to provide the Parish Council with a website.

EVPC
16/17/084

County Durham Plan Issues and Options

Members gave consideration to the above consultation documents that had been previously circulated. The Clerk advised that this was the first phase of the consultation and at this stage was a strategic overview rather than a document relating to individual settlements within the County.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/085

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 12th September 2016 at 7.00 pm.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date