

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 10th OCTOBER 2016**

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

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk)

Also in Attendance: County Councillor A Surtees, Sgt P Footes, PCSO L Gutcher, Mr P Wood and Mr H Lamb

EVPC
16/17/125 **Apologies for Absence**
RESOLVED: Apologies RECEIVED and APPROVED for Councillor J Andrews, P Gibson, J Smith and M Warin

EVPC
16/17/126 **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
Councillor J Lee declared a personal and prejudicial interest on items 11(f) and 18 as she was an allotment holder and a member of the Allotment Association Management Committee.

EVPC
16/17/127 **Public Participation**
There were no members of the public registered to speak under public participation.

EVPC
16/17/128 **East Monday Horse Event**
The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Footes to the meeting. Sgt Footes updated Members on the August Bank holiday event which was successful in terms of policing and management. He then outlined the options that were available to the Parish Council in dealing with the unauthorised horse event which took place on Easter Monday at Easington Village Green. As the Parish Council were the landowners the responsibility fell with them. If they wanted to remove the occupants this could be done by obtaining a Section 77 Notice. However this would be difficult to obtain as the event was only held for a couple of hours. Another option would be to seek legal advice regarding the validity of the byelaw from 1902. If the byelaw still stood then this would need to be passed to the Police's Legal Team to see whether it could be used. The Police are limited at present with what action they can take on the Village Green with regard to this event. They are, however, able to deal with any highway matters that might occur at the event. In cases of Civil trespass the Police are only able to act if there is disorder or a massive impact on the community. It can't be used to move unnecessary obstructions such as parking. The Chief Superintendent under S.61 and S.62 is able to authorise the lifting of vehicles in extremely serious situations. Sgt Footes was sympathetic to the Parish Council's situation. However he advised that the Police would not staff this event as a matter of course. He had spoken to Ian Hoult from Durham County Council and he had advised that although it was not Durham County Council's responsibility to clean up after the event they may be able to assist on request. The issue of the burger van is one of licencing enforcement and this is a matter for Durham County Council's Licensing Section. There are

certain streets around the Village Green where food vans are unable to trade.

Sgt Footes felt that the three options available were i) to leave things as they are ii) target hardening ie making the area secure; iii) contact the organiser. The Police would be able to facilitate this.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council await a report from Sergeant Footes regarding any progress made with the event organisers.

EVPC
16/17/129

Minutes of the last Meetings held on 12th September 2016

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

EVPC
16/17/130

Minutes of the Cemetery and Grounds Sub-Committee held on 19th July 2016

RESOLVED: that the minutes and recommendations be APPROVED.

EVPC
16/17/131

Matters Arising

EVPC
16/17/092

Flagpole –The Clerk had received information from DCC Planning Department that planning permission was not required provided that only certain identified flags were to be flown. She had also received costs of a flagpole. This item would be discussed as an agenda item.

EVPC
16/17/093

Additional Floodlighting - The Clerk had received information from DCC Planning Department that planning permission was not required for the floodlights. However, they would be able to provide advice on the position of the floodlights once details had been received. The Clerk had contacted another electrical contractor and was awaiting a response.

EVPC
16/17/110

Highway to the Front of Former Shoulder of Mutton – The Clerk had advised Michael Lavender Architects that the land in question was not in the Parish Council's ownership and was looking through records to ascertain any potential ownership.

EVPC
16/17/115

Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – The Clerk had submitted updated interest to Durham County Council for Councillors M Warin, J Lee, E Hopper, J Andrews, T Murray and M Burn.

EVPC
16/17/116

Parish Council Website
The Clerk would update Members on this item under the relevant agenda item.

EVPC
16/17/117

Proposed Planning Committee – The Clerk requested Members provide her with an up to date e-mail address.

EVPC

Section 106 Application – The Clerk had

16/17/118 contacted Durham County Council Planning Department to request the appropriate application form. She had also updated costs which would be discussed on the agenda.

EVPC
16/17/119 **Christmas Tree and Christmas Tree Lighting Service** – the Clerk had notified the relevant parties with regard to the tree lighting service. An order had been placed for a tree.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED;

EVPC
16/17/132

Police Matters

PCSO Gutcher was in attendance and reported on the following:-

- There had been no reported burglaries. However, there had been some thefts from farms that were under investigation.
- There had been an increase in Anti-Social Behaviour

The Chairman thanked Sgt Footes and PCSO Gutcher for their attendance. They then left the meeting.

EVPC
16/17/133

Report of the County Councillor

County Councillor A Surtees was in attendance and reported on the following:-

- Kings Mews Site – there were outstanding planning conditions that were in the process of being resolved. Work would then be carried out on the site.
- Former Village Club Site had received planning approval
- The Public Footpath between Thorpe Road and Carlton Terrace was not an adopted highway or on the public rights register. Therefore, DCC were unable to undertake any work to it. Documentary proof would be required to establish this as a public footpath.
- Cranford Terrace – concerns had been raised about the path/steps leading to the properties. Investigations were being carried out to establish ownership
- Cranford Terrace – A resident had raised concerns regarding parking on the road
- She had taken up the role of Chair of the Mental Health and Well Being Committee at the AAP. One of the main issues it was addressing was Dementia. There were to be 2 conferences; one aimed at adults and one aimed at young people. They would be held in November.

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
16/17/134

Flagpole

The Clerk advised that she had received advice from Durham County Council Planning Department that neither planning permission nor Listed Buildings Consent would be required; provided that only

authorised flags were flown.

The Clerk provided Members with an initial cost for 2 different types of flagpoles; one was a garden flagpole and the other a commercial flagpole and explained the differences.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED.
- ii) that the Clerk obtain purchase the commercial flagpole at a cost of £294.00 plus VAT
- iii) the Clerk obtains a Union Jack and St George's Flag and purchases additional flags as and when required.

EVPC
16/17/135

Additional Floodlighting

The Clerk advised that she had received advice from Durham County Council Planning Department that neither planning permission nor Listed Buildings Consent would be required. The Clerk had tried another electrical contractor to acquire a quotation; however, nothing had been received.

RESOLVED that

- i) the information given, be NOTED.
- ii) the Clerk would continue to in her efforts to obtain a quotation for the work.

EVPC
16/17/136

Room Hire Rates

Members gave consideration to the current room hire and equipment rates for Seaton Holme.

RESOLVED: that no increase be made for 2017/18.

EVPC
16/17/137

Report of the Cemetery Superintendent

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

RESOLVED that the information given, be NOTED

EVPC
16/17/138

Request for War Grave Headstone

Members gave consideration to the request from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for the erection of a headstone in memory of Gunner Bernard Wilfred Prentice.

RESOLVED: that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission be granted permission to erect a headstone in memory of Gunner Bernard Wilfred Prentice at the location identified.

EVPC
16/17/139

Request for Installation of Royal Mail Post Box at Low Road, Easington

Members gave consideration to a request by Royal Mail to allow the installation of a post box on land in the Parish Council's ownership. Royal Mail had confirmed that once installed the box would be insured and would be the sole responsibility of Royal Mail.

RESOLVED: that Royal Mail be authorised to install a post box at the location identified.

EVPC
16/17/140

Request for Pruning of Trees

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from a member of the public requesting the pruning of trees at Thorpe Road Playing fields. The Clerk advised that she had visited the site with a Tree Surgeon and he advised that the trees were safe and did not

require pruning.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk inform the resident of the Parish Council's decision.

EVPC
16/17/141

Burial and Cemetery Fees

Members reviewed the burial and cemetery fees, a copy of which had previously been circulated. The Clerk advised that the fees had been increased every year for at least the last five years.

RESOLVED: that no increase be made for 2017/18.

EVPC
16/17/142

Allotment Rents

Members reviewed the allotment rents for Lee Terrace and Sunderland Road Allotments. The Clerk advised that during the last five years at least there had been no increase.

RESOLVED: that the rent at Sunderland Road Allotment Site be increased to £30.00 for a full plot and £15.00 for a half plot and that the Lee Terrace Allotments be increased to £10.00 for a plot with effect from 1st April 2017.

EVPC
16/17/143

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.09.16

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.09.16 were £145,656.06 in the Savings Account and £1,120.00 in the Current Account totalling £146,776.06

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/144

Income and Expenditure Report to 30.09.16

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

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/145

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for September were £12,170.72 from the Savings Account and £2,185.36 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
16/17/146

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

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

September 2016

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
14.09.16	A1 Trophies & Engraving	Trophies – Scarecrow Competition	£49.30	106091
19.09.16	Durham County Council	Payroll – SLA 2016/17	£632.18	106092
23.09.16	Hi-Shine Cleaning Services	Seaton Holmes Windows Cleaned	£80.00	106093
16.09.16	Lloyd Ltd	Repairs – Kubota	£505.62	106094
27.09.16	TJs Heating & Home Impr	Remove/Purchase/Install Lights x 3	£449.76	106095
22.09.16	Durham Cathedral	Scarecrow Workshops	£900.00	106096
26.09.16	St Mary's Church PCC	Room Hire – Scarecrow Workshops	£400.00	106097
06.10.16	Miss A Morton	Printing/Camera/Refreshments – Scarecrow Competition	£421.68	106098
07.10.16	Crystal Cuisine	Buffet	£98.00	106099

26.09.16	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – Seaton Holme – 2 nd Quarter	£375.40	DD
06.09.16	Barclays	Bank Charges – BACS	£6.00	DD
19.09.16	Barclays	BACS Charges	£6.00	DD
21.09.16	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – Seaton Holme – 1 st Quarter	£565.77	DD
09.09.16	N-Power	Electricity – Cemetery	£38.97	DD
30.09.16	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 5	£5852.95	DD
16.09.16	Payroll	Month 6 - Nett Wages	£2521.94	DD
08.09.16	Scottishpower	Electricity – Seaton Holme	£60.00	DD
12.09.16	Unicom	Phone/Broadband	£68.78	DD
30.09.16	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – Allotments	£44.95	DD
07.10.16	Concept Group Ltd	Cost per Copy	£28.68	DD
		Invoice Total	£13105.98	

106100 – Petty Cash - £200.00

EVPC
16/17/147

INCOME RECEIVED

September 2016

Name	Description	Amount
Jan Burnham	Room Hire – August	£50.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire – August	£32.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£36.00
Mr M Broomfield	Bar Provision	£200.00
Member of the Public	Room Hire	£94.00
R Delanoy & Sons	Burial Fees	£142.00
Scotts Memorials	Inscription	£14.00
Church Bingo	Room Hire – September	£36.00
Member of the Public	Burial Fees	£96.00
Art Group	Room Hire – September	£62.50
	Total Income Received	£762.50

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/148

Haswell and District Mencap

Members gave consideration to a request for financial assistance from Haswell and District Mencap under Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1973.

RESOLVED: that a donation of £50.00 be GRANTED.

EVPC
16/17/149

Planning Applications

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

DM/16/02535/TPO – Proposed Tree Pruning Works at Plot 1, Old Dairy Farm, Little Thorpe

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/150

Planning Approvals

There were no planning approvals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/151

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/152

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/153

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/154

Traffic Calming B1283 Hall Walk, Easington Village

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Mr H Lamb regarding traffic problems along Hall Walk. The Clerk had spoken to Mr Lamb previously and he had been in contact with County Councillor Boyes regarding his concerns. He requested the Parish Council support him in his efforts to have parking restrictions for east bound traffic prior to the pedestrian refuge.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council write a letter of support to Durham County Council in relation to Mr Lamb's efforts to obtain parking restrictions near the pedestrian refuge along Hall Walk in the location of the primary school.

EVPC
16/17/155

Durham County Council – Public Consultation – Implementation of a Public Space Order (PSPO) for Dog Control

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Durham County Council regarding the above consultation.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/156

CDALC AGM – Saturday 22nd October 2016 – 10.00 am – County Hall, Durham

Members gave consideration to attendance at the above event.

RESOLVED: that no-one was available to attend.

EVPC
16/17/157

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

There were no reports given.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/158

Parish Council Website

The Clerk advised that she had recently attended a free training event from Durham County Council to look at the new website that they had designed for the Parish Council. The new site had "gone live" last week. The Clerk had been in communication with Durham County Council to see if they were able to provide discounted cost for hosting the website only.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the Clerk negotiate with Durham County Council to obtain a reduction in the costs associated with hosting and maintaining the website;
- ii) the Clerk continue to work with East Durham College with regard

to drawing up proposals for a potential website created by Students at the college.

EVPC
16/17/159

Section 106 Application

The Clerk provided Members with costs for replacement and additional race-course fencing around the Village Green. She also advised that there were a total of 6 seats around the village (excluding the Village Green, Seaton Holme and the Cemetery) that could be replaced with benches made from recyclable materials at a cost of £353.00plus VAT each.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk submit the application for Section 106 money for the new play equipment and fencing for the play area; replacement and extension of the race-course fencing around the village green, new seats through the village and additional hanging baskets for the Village Green.

EVPC
16/17/160

Allotment Meeting Venue

The Clerk advised that she had prepared an application to be submitted for consideration by the AAP to secure funding of £3,000 towards a meeting venue at the Allotment Site. The cost of refurbished containers varied from £3,500 to £5,000 depending on availability. The container would be owned, maintained and insured by the Parish Council.

Members considered the information provided and it was **RESOLVED** that funding of up to £1,000 be given to this scheme.

EVPC
16/17/161

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 14th November 2016 at 7.00 pm with a Budget Meeting to be held at 6.30 pm on the same date.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date