

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 14th NOVEMBER 2016**

Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)
Councillors J Andrews, M Burn, 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, Mr P Wood and Mr N Frain

EVPC
16/17/165 **Apologies for Absence**
RESOLVED: There were no apologies for absence received.

EVPC
16/17/166 **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
Councillor J Lee declared a personal interest on item 10(b) as she is a member of the Allotment Association Management Committee.

EVPC
16/17/167 **Public Participation**
Mr Peter Wood was in attendance and requested that, in light of recent revelations in the Journal newspaper concerning Councillor P Gibson, Mr Wood requested that Councillor Gibson resign from his position as Parish Councillor.
Mr N Frain spoke about an item on the agenda regarding the allocation of an allotment plot.

EVPC
16/17/168 **Minutes of the last Meetings held on 10th October 2016**
RESOLVED: that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record, to be signed by the Chairman.

EVPC
16/17/169 **Minutes of the Inquorate Meeting of the Cemetery and Grounds Sub-Committee held on 20th September 2016**
RESOLVED: that the minutes be APPROVED.

EVPC
16/17/170 **Matters Arising**

EVPC 16/17/134	Flagpole – Due to staff shortages the Clerk had delayed the order and installation of the flagpole. It was hoped that this would be undertaken in the near future.
EVPC 16/17/135	Additional Floodlighting – This item would be discussed on the full agenda.
EVPC 16/17/138	Request for War Grave Headstone – The Clerk had advised the Commonwealth War Graves commission of the Council’s decision.
EVPC 16/17/139	Request for Installation of Royal Mail Post Box at Low Row, Easington – The Clerk had advised Royal Mail of the Council’s decision.
EVPC 16/17/140	Request for Pruning of Trees – The Clerk had written to the resident advising them of the Parish Council’s decision.

EVPC 16/17/142	Allotment Rents – The Clerk had advised the Allotment Association of the increase to the rents.
EVPC 16/17/148	Haswell and District Mencap – The Clerk had forwarded the donation.
EVPC 16/17/154	Traffic Calming B1283 Hall Walk, Easington Village – The Clerk had written to County Councillors Surtees and Boyes in support of the residents’ request for traffic restrictions near the pedestrian refuge along Hall Walk, in the location of the Primary School.
EVPC 16/17/159	Section 106 Application – The Clerk had submitted the application to Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED;

EVPC
16/17/171

Police Matters

There were no Police in attendance. However, a report had been submitted which the Clerk read out for Members information.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED;

EVPC
16/17/172

Report of the County Councillor

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

- The theft of vehicle licence plates was quite prevalent in East Durham at present
- Carlton Terrace – the rubbish that had been reported has been removed
- Kings Mews Site – no update at present
- Fennell Grove Planning Application – revised plans have been submitted
- Osborne Terrace Step ownership – awaiting information from the Land Registry
- Dementia Conference had been well attended as well as at the Youth event on dementia
- AAP Joint Project between Health and Managing the Social Fabric of our Society Priority Groups to address mental health and unemployment

A member advised that they had received a number of complaints regarding traffic travelling the wrong way along Low Row and enquired about the possibility of installing a camera at this location. After discussion on this issue Councillor Surtees advised that she would request that the road markings be reinstated and request the installation of a no left turn indication along Seaside lane before the junction. She would also ask the Police to investigate the possibility of a camera at this location.

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
16/17/173

Additional Floodlighting

The Clerk gave details of a quotation she had received for the installation of additional floodlighting to Seaton Holme at a cost of £2060 plus VAT

RESOLVED: that the Clerk authorise the contractors to undertake this work.

EVPC
16/17/174

Office Accommodation

The Clerk advised Members that one of the tenants may possibly be terminating their tenancy. She also advised that she had received an enquiry from one of the existing tenants who had expressed an interest in leasing the Burn Room. Members felt that as Seaton Holme was a community building that the downstairs rooms be left available for community use.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk advise the tenant that the Burn Room would not be available to lease.

EVPC
16/17/175

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
16/17/176

Allocation of Allotment

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from a tenant regarding the allocation of an allotment plot during the summer. The Clerk read out correspondence received from the Allotment Association regarding the allocation of plots in line with the rules and constitution of the Allotment Association.

Members felt that although the tenant had undertaken work on the plot prior to its allocation this was undertaken as a gesture of goodwill and did not give entitlement to the plot. The Clerk advised that the allotment rules did currently state that tenants should only be allocated one plot. Members gave considering to the correspondence received by the Secretary of the Allotment Association who advised that it was unclear when the change to the rule regarding the number of plots a tenant could occupy had occurred. This rule change had not been noted in the minutes of Annual General Meetings, therefore, the validity of the rule change was now in question.

Members gave consideration to the points that had been raised and **RESOLVED** that the allocation of the plot be upheld.

EVPC
16/17/177

National Tree Week Grant

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Durham County Council regarding National Tree Week.

RESOLVED: that no application for a grant be undertaken.

EVPC
16/17/178

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 31.10.16

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31.10.16 were £134,707.156 in the Savings Account and £1,000.00 in the Current Account totalling £135,707.15.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/179

Income and Expenditure Report to 31.10.16

The Clerk updated Members on the Council's income and expenditure.
RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/180

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for October were £11,877.20 from the Savings Account and £928.29 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
16/17/181

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

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

October 2016

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
20.10.16	ADT Fire & Security Plc	Alarm Call Out	£170.40	106103
13.10.16	Arco	Uniform & PP Clothing	£330.08	106104
19.10.16	Arco	Uniform & PP Clothing	£95.53	106104
21.10.16	Arco	Uniform & PP Clothing	£16.49	106104
12.10.16	Barclays	Bank Charges – BACS	£6.00	DD
06.10.16	British Telecom	Line Rental	£39.71	DD
31.10.16	CDALC	Finance Training x 3	£90.00	106105
28.10.16	Ignis Contract Services Ltd	Fire Alarm Service	£124.00	106106
12.10.16	Northumbrian Water	Water Rates – Allotments	£477.51	DD
11.10.16	N-Power	Electricity – Church Lighting	£19.84	DD
16.10.16	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 6	£2521.94	DD
31.10.16	Payroll	Month 7 - Nett Wages	£5738.00	DD
20.10.16	Real Christmas Trees Ltd	15ft Nordman Fir plus delivery	£335.00	106107
01.10.16	Scottishpower	Electricity – Seaton Holme	£60.00	DD
01.10.16	Screwfix	Barrier Tape	£11.99	DD
20.10.16	Summerhill Books	Printing Deposit for Book	£1000.00	106102
12.10.16	Unicom	Phone/Broadband	£43.82	DD
22.10.16	Xerox Finance	Photocopier Rental	£112.47	DD
14.10.16	Zurich Management Ser	LCAS Membership 16/17	£114.00	106108
30.10.16	Tree & Garden Maint.	Crown Lift and Prune - Penfold	£140.00	106109
07.11.16	British Telecom	Line Rental	£32.26	DD
28.10.16	CDS Security & Fire	Cemetery Alarm Parts	£37.20	106110
08.11.16	N-Power	Gas – Seaton Holme	£1023.30	DD
10.11.16	Unicom	Phone/Broadband	£58.60	DD
09.11.16	N-Power	Electricity – St Mary's church	£48.87	DD
		Invoice Total	£12,647.01	

106111 – Petty Cash - £200.00

EVPC
16/17/182

INCOME RECEIVED

October 2016

Name	Description	Amount
Easington U3A	Room Hire – September	£12.50
Scotts Memorials	Cemetery Fees	£46.00

Angela Jones	Room Hire – September	£80.00
Jan Burnham	Room Hire – September	£50.00
Luncheon Club	Room Hire – September	£100.00
Women Aglow	Room Hire – August/Sept	£72.00
Easington Colliery Regeneration P’ship	Activities Seaton Holme	£350.00
Easington Village WI	Room Hire – September	£22.50
Diane Robson	Room Hire – Sept/Oct	£60.00
	Total Income Received	£793.00

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/183

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The Clerk requested Members approve a financial donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal of £60 in line with previous years’ donations under Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1973.

RESOLVED: that a donation of £60.00 be APPROVED.

EVPC
16/17/184

Planning Applications

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

DM/16/02921/FPA – Proposed Erection of General Purpose Agricultural Building at Calf Close Farm, Durham Lane, Easington for Mrs Natalie Wilson

DM/16/03000/FPA – Proposed Demolition of Existing Garage and Outbuildings and Erection of New Detached Double Garage with Attic Rooms at Thorncliffe, Durham Lane for Mr and Mrs R Weightman

DM/16/03370/FPA – Proposed Erection of Detached House and Garage at 4 Dairy Houses, Little Thorpe for Mr and Mrs Munro

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/185

Planning Approvals

DM/16/02011/FPA- Proposed Erection of 2.4 High Mesh Fence at Easington Church of England Primary School, Hall Walk, Easington for Mrs Andrea Swift

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/186

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/187

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/188

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/189

Haswell and District Mencap

Members gave consideration to a letter of thanks received from Haswell and District Mencap.

RESOLVED: that the information be RECEIVED.

EVPC
16/17/190

Sunderland Echo – Best of Wearside

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Sunderland Echo.

RESOLVED: that no nominations be made.

EVPC
16/17/191

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

Councillor Murray had attended an Area Action Partnership meeting regarding the proposed rail halt at Horden and also the East Durham Trust Conference.

Councillor Morton had attended the Remembrance Service and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
16/17/192

Christmas Tree Lighting Event

The Clerk advised that some funding had been made available from County Councillors Boyes and Surtees towards a Christmas event at Seaton Holme on Wednesday 7th December. There was to be a Santa Clause for the children to visit, light refreshments for adults and children and a small craft fair. The event would run from 3.30 pm until 7.30 pm.

RESOVLED: that the actions of the Clerk be ENDORSED.

EVPC
16/17/193

Parish Council Website

The Clerk advised that she was unable to secure a reduced Service Level Agreement with Durham County Council. The creation of the website with the East Durham College would involve a lot of time for the Clerk and then the hosting and maintenance was an issue that needed to be considered.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk continue to pursue the options available to the Parish Council and report back to the next meeting.

EVPC
16/17/194

Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved information prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

EVPC
16/17/195

Councillor Correspondence

The Clerk distributed to Members correspondence received from Councillor P Gibson. She advised of the criteria for disqualification as a member of a local authority under the Local Government Act, 1972, Section 80. Members discussed this matter and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to Councillor Gibson advising that the decision for resignation or a leave of absence was entirely a personal decision for Councillor Gibson and was not something that the Parish Council could undertake.

EVPC
16/17/196

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 12th December 2016 at 7.00 pm with a Precept Meeting to be held at 6.00

pm.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date