

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

- Present: Councillors L Morton (Chair)  
Councillors L Barrass, M Burn, W S Day and J Smith
- Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk); Mrs K Hall (Admin Assistant)
- Also in Attendance: County Councillor D Boyes  
Mr J Froud, Mrs D Froud, Mr L Burn, Mrs J Daniel, Mrs I Cummings, Mr J Cummings, Mr D Mullaney and Mr J Mullaney
- EVPC  
17/18/118                    **Apologies for Absence**  
Apologies for absence were J Andrews, J Lee and T Murray
- EVPC  
17/18/119                    **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**  
There were none.
- EVPC  
17/18/120                    **Public Participation**  
Mrs J Mullaney spoke about the installation of additional play equipment and fencing of the play area on the Village Green. She thanked the Parish Clerk for taking the time to speak with her regarding the Parish Council's procedures for speaking at Parish Meetings under Public Participation. She said that the Parish Council may have adhered to the legal guidelines but she felt the Parish Council had a moral obligation to fulfil. She then asked 1) Had any member of the Parish Council done any research into any other ancient village green having a play area? 2) Had any member of the Parish Council done any research into what play provisions other Parish Councils provide? She said that the Village Green was the jewel in the crown of the village and she was worried about the Parish Council making decisions which she felt had been made without considering moral issues. The Chairman advised that he agreed that the Village Green was the jewel in the crown of the village. It is, however, a public open space and is for the benefit of all residents. The play equipment provides a recreational facility which he had received a lot of positive responses about. He had personally looked at other areas that had Village Greens particularly in North Yorkshire where there was play equipment.  
Mr J Froud spoke about any potential financial loss of value to the properties on Southside, that the Human Rights of all should be protected and the Parish Council's Code of Conduct, Rule 3. He then asked the following questions:- 1) Would the Parish Council compensate the effected owners? 2) Would the Parish Council be prepared to defend a court action which could be instigated by three like minded estate agents? 3) Restore the Village Green by moving your "menagerie" to your authorised play area near Carlton Terrace, where it should have been installed in the first place?  
Councillor Burn advised that a previous play area, on land leased from a farmer at the time, had become unsuitable. It's enclosed location had meant that there had been problems with misuse of the area and it had become unsafe for children to use. The playing field at Thorpe Road was used for sporting activities.

The Chairman answered Mr Froud's questions as follows: 1)No; 2) Easington Village Parish Council would consider defending any court action at the appropriate time 3) Not at the present time. Mr Mullaney advised that he had submitted his questions in writing for consideration by the full Parish Council which he believed had been circulated to all members of the Parish Council and a response would follow the correspondence being considered.

He said that the Parish Councillors were the custodians of the Village Green and in his opinion had presided over the ruination of the green.

If the Parish Council has the legal right to install the fencing and additional play equipment then he would propose; a) that the fence be removed in its entirety and b) the larger play equipment be re-located.

The Chairman advised that correspondence had been received and circulated for consideration under agenda 6 and until this had been considered, no decision could be reached.

The Clerk advised that Mr Mullaney's proposal could not be considered under public participation but that it may be considered by the Parish Council at its next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

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

EVPC  
17/18/121

### **New Play Equipment and Fencing – Village Green**

Councillor W S Day advised that he and Councillor Barrass had not been members of the Parish Council when the scheme had been agreed. Councillor Barrass said that although he did not like the colour of the fencing he agreed it was necessary to secure the area and that the new equipment was an addition to the existing play area.

Councillor Day said that the fence should be there but proposed that the colour be changed to Green. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Barrass and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) the fencing to the play area on the Village Green be changed to Green
- ii) the Clerk consult with those residents who had expressed concern regarding the fencing about the shade of Green to be used;
- iii) once the colour had been decided then this would be made available for other residents to see. To allow for public comments contact details would be displayed via the Parish Council's Noticeboard, Facebook page and website.

The Chairman commented that correspondence had been received from residents in favour of the play area and fencing as well as from resident who were against either the fencing or the fencing and play area. He said that he had personally received comments from a large number of residents who thought the new equipment and fencing was a significant improvement. Members proposed that a single response be issued to the complainants. It was noted that some of the questions were leading questions and would not be answered. It was proposed

that the Clerk to draft a letter responding to the main issues raised in the correspondence. This would then be circulated for all Members to consider and to make suggested amendments or additions as they felt necessary.

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** that

- i) the Clerk compose draft correspondence as detail above for all Members to consider and amend/add as required
- ii) the Clerk respond to the residents submitting comments in support of the scheme thanking them for their contribution.

EVPC  
17/18/122

**Report of the County Councillor**

County Councillor D Boyes was in attendance and reported on the following:-

- Traveller Fair – the August Bank Holiday Fair had proceeded without significant incident
- Kings Mews Site – There had been problems with anti-social behaviour and a meeting had been called with various agencies to look at the issues. A Member asked about the needs of the people living there. Councillor Boyes advised that it was 50% learning difficulties and 50% with supported living due to mental health needs.
- 20 mph Zone for Schools had been extended to Easington Village CE Primary School
- The PACT Priority was anti-social behaviour on the village Green
- 

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

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

EVPC  
17/18/123

**Minutes of the last Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

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

EVPC  
17/18/124

**Matters Arising**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| EVPC<br>17/18/094 | <b>Alice in Wonderland Event</b> – the Event had been very successful. The Clerk had researched the Lewis Carroll Foundation and confirmed that it was a Group who studied the author's works. |
| EVPC<br>17/18/096 | <b>Salt Bin, Stockton Road</b> – The Clerk was in the process of obtaining a map of salt bins in the parish from DCC.  |
| EVPC<br>17/18/097 | <b>Allotment Boundary Issue</b> – the Clerk had written to the Allotment Association and the tenants concerned regarding the Parish Council's decision.  |
| EVPC<br>17/18/104 | <b>Planning Applications</b> – DM/17/02066/TPO – the Clerk had submitted the Parish Council's objections.  |

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

EVPC  
17/18/125

**Police Matters**

The Police were unable to attend the meeting and submitted a report which the Clerk read for Members information.

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

EVPC  
17/18/126

**Office Accommodation, Seaton Holme**

The Clerk advised Members that A Ward Heating had vacated their offices in Seaton Holme. She had received a request from L G Therapy to rent the rooms and was in the process of finalising the agreement.

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

EVPC  
17/18/127

**Report of the Cemetery Superintendent**

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

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

EVPC  
17/18/128

**Free Cycling Parking**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Parkthatbike Scheme. It was considered that there was not a suitable location for a stand to be located at the present time.

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

EVPC  
17/18/129

**Request for Allotment**

The Clerk advised that she had contacted the Secretary of the Allotment Association regarding the request from Next Stage and they had no objection to the request. However, it would be dealt with under the normal waiting lists guidelines.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk advise the applicant that their details had forwarded their details to the Allotment Association.

EVPC  
17/18/130

**Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 31.08.17**

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31.08.17 were £163,067.20 in the Savings Account and in -£4,766.40 in the Current Account totalling £158,620.60

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

EVPC  
17/18/131

**Income and Expenditure Report to 31.08.17**

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

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

EVPC  
17/18/132

**Bank Transfers**

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for July were £9363.20 from the Savings Account and £2081.43 from the Current Account and for August were £10863.70 from the Savings Account and £5210.86 from the Current Account.

**RESOLVED:** to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC  
17/18/133

**Invoices for Endorsement for Payment**

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

**July 2017**

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
12.7.17	S Walker	PAT Testing	£158.00	106207
17.7.17	HAGS SMP Ltd.	Playground Equip & Installation	£37188.00	106208
19.7.17	Harbro Electrical	LED Candle Bulbs	£7.20	106209
20.7.17	Care Care	Tractor Battery	£42.50	106210
20.7.17	Hygiene Services Direct	Weed Killer	£52.79	106210
21.7.17	IOS	Postage Stamps	£121.00	106211
20.7.17	IOS	Paper Cups / Lids	£10.22	106212
20.7.17	DCC	Occupational Health	£60.00	106213
22.7.17	Xerox	Rental Photocopier	£112.47	DD
14.7.17	Trade UK (Screwfix)	Gloves x2	£3.18	DD
17.7.17	Unicom	L/line, Bband, Fraud Defender	£64.07	DD
17.7.17	N Power	Church Floodlights Electric	£185.25	DD
17.7.17	N Power	Cemetery Electric	£78.02	DD
25.7.17	Barclays	Bank Charges	£6.00	DD
10.7.17	Scottish Power	Seaton Holme Electricity	£43.00	DD
10.7.17	B.T.	Line Rental	£43.32	DD
13.7.17	NWG	Water Rates Cemetery	£9.76	DD
17.07.17	Payroll	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Payments - Month 3	£2213.56	DD
31.07.17	Payroll	Nett Pay - Month 4	£5839.12	DD
			<b>£46237.46</b>	

**August 2017**

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
26.7.17	TJ's Heating & Improvmen	Repair Leak	£50.00	106214
03.8.17	Lloyds Ltd	Tractor Repairs	£1369.64	106215
03.8.17	Arco	Litter Grabbers,Hoop, Gloves	£67.83	106216
04.8.17	D.C.C.	HR Advice & Guidance	£270.00	106217
04.8.17	C.D.S. Security & Fire	Alarm Service	£198.00	106218
4.8.17	Greenham	Cleaning Products	£100.08	106219
4.8.17	Cateraid	Boiler Filter	£42.00	106220
3.8.17	Darlington Borough Council	Summer Bedding Plants	£1712.86	106221
9.8.17	A1 Trophies & Engraving	Signage	£94.20	106222
14.8.17	Greenham	Wheelie Bin Sacks	£52.68	106223
16.8.17	Zurich Municipal	Additional Premium	£126.13	106224
16.8.17	IOS	Reissue of chq no. 106202	£56.82	106225
30.8.17	A1 Trophies	Signage	£128.40	106226
31.8.17	Rialtas Business Support	Cashbook Support Maintenance	£570.00	106227
30.8.17	Lloyd Ltd	Kubota Repairs	£2595.64	106228
30.8.17	B D O	Annual Return Review	£480.00	106229
11.8.17	Unicom	L/line, Bband, Fraud Defender	£70.78	DD
4.8.17	Barclays	Bank Charges	£6.00	DD
31.8.17	Scottish Power	Seaton Holme Electricity	£32.66	DD
9.8.17	B.T.	Line Rental	£32.88	DD
16.8.17	Payroll	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Payments - Month 4	£2210.98	DD
31.8.17	Payroll	Nett Pay - Month 5	£5839.12	DD
4.8.17	NWG	Petwell Allotments Water	£231.57	DD
17.8.17	N Power	Gas Seaton Holme	£634.29	DD
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£16972.56</b>	

Petty Cash Cheque - £300.00 – 106226  
 IOS Reissue of chq no. 106202 £56.82 106225 Replacement

EVPC  
 17/18/134

**INCOME RECEIVED**

**July 2017**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Wm Scott Memorials	Burial Fees	£106.00
Family Group Conf Serv	Room Hire	£24.00
Durham County Council	Room Hire / Elections	£500.00
Ukeleles	Room Hire	£60.00
Church Bingo	Room Hire	£18.00
Yoga	Room Hire	£45.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£48.00
U3A	Room Hire	£12.50
Easington WI	Room Hire	£22.50
	<b>Grand Total July</b>	<b>£836.00</b>

**August 2017**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Luncheon Club	Room Hire	£150.00
Neil Molloy Art	Room Hire	£64.00
Art Group	Room Hire	£50.00
Member of Public	Room Hire	£50.00
Church Bingo	Room Hire	£18.00
Yoga	Room Hire	£45.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£48.00
U3A	Room Hire	£12.50
Easington WI	Room Hire	£22.50
Member of Public	Room Hire	£88.00
Hepworths	Burial Fees	£142.00
Member of Public	Room Hire	£74.00
M Broomfield	Bar Hire	£25.00
Art Group	Room Hire July	£37.50
Member of Public	Book Sales	£17.00
	<b>Grand Total Aug.</b>	<b>£843.50</b>

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

EVPC  
 17/18/135

**Audit for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Members gave consideration to the external auditor's report, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, a copy of which had been previously circulated.

**RESOLVED:** that the external auditor's report be APPROVED.

EVPC  
17/18/136

### **HR Training Sessions**

Members gave consideration to the training session offered by Durham County Council at a cost of £30 per delegate. The Parish Clerk had previously attended courses on Employing People and Sickness Absence.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk be AUTHORISED to attend the Performance Management Course.

EVPC  
17/18/137

### **Free Standards Training Session**

Members gave consideration to attendance at the above free event to be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.00 pm at County Hall, Durham. If any Member wanted to attend then they should advise the Clerk accordingly.

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

EVPC  
17/18/138

### **St Mary's Church Floodlights**

Members gave consideration to the request of St Mary's Church PCC for repair work to the floodlights.

The Clerk advised that she had received a quotation for the works to be carried out at cost of £153.00

**RESOLVED** that the works be carried out to the floodlights.

EVPC  
17/18/139

### **Annual Clock Service Plan Offer**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Smith of Derby regarding annual clock service plan.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council enter into a 3 year plan with Smiths of Derby a cost of £516.

EVPC  
17/18/140

### **Medium Term Financial Planning and 2018/19 Budget Setting**

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

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

EVPC  
17/18/141

### **Planning Applications**

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

DM/17/01963/FPA – Proposed Erection of 129 No. Two Storey 2, 3 and 4 Bedroom Semi and Detached Dwellings and Associated Works at Land to the South of Nursery Gardens, Thorpe Road, Easington for Mr Chris Dodds – *Councillors consulted and response submitted to Durham County Council*

DRC/17/00282 – Proposed Discharge of Conditions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 on Planning Permission DM/16/01`765/FPA at Moor House Farm, Durham Lane for Mr Norman Stokoe

DM/17/02513/TCA – Proposed Various Tree Works at Briarthorpe, Southside, Easington for Mrs Julie Daniel

DRC/17/00336 – Proposed Discharge of Planning Conditions 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 at Land to the West of Fennel Grove, Easington Village for Mr Adam McVickers, Persimmon

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) the information given, be NOTED
- ii) the letter of objection regarding planning application DM/17/01963/FPA be ENDORSED.

EVPC  
17/18/142

### **Planning Approvals**

DRC/17/00194 – Proposed Discharge of Condition 3 (Materials) pursuant to Planning approval DM/16/03000/FPA at Thorncliffe, Durham Lane, Easington

DM/17/00982/FPA – Proposed Dwelling at Land to the South of West View, Stockton Road for Mr D Delanoy

DM/17/02066/TPO – Proposed Crown Reduction and Crown Thin 1 No. Sycamore Tree at 4 Dairy Houses, Little Thorpe for Mr Keith Munro

DM/17/02023/FPA – Proposed Single Storey Rear Extensions with Enclosed External Terrace at Montrose, Seaside Lane, Easington

DRC/17/00292 – Proposed Discharge of Conditions 3, 4 and 5 to

DM/17/00398/FPA – Raise Roof Height to Create First Floor Extension incorporating Dormer Window to Front, Render to all Elevations and Alterations to Openings at Fairview, Clappersgate

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

EVPC  
17/18/143

### **Planning Refusals**

There were no planning refusals.

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

EVPC  
17/18/144

### **Planning Applications (Withdrawn)**

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

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

EVPC  
17/18/145

### **Planning Appeals**

There were no planning appeals.

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

EVPC  
17/18/146

### **Easington, Easington Colliery and South Hetton (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading/Unloading) (Amendment No. 1) Order 2017**

Members gave consideration to the above Order.

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

EVPC  
17/18/147

### **2017 CDALC AGM – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from County Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils.

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

EVPC  
17/18/148

### **General Data Protection Regulation**

The Clerk advised that the General Data Protection Regulation needed to be considered by each Councillor.

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

EVPC  
17/18/149

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

There had been no attendance at meetings due to Council recess.

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



EVPC  
17/18/150

**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  
17/18/151

**Staffing Update**

The Clerk advised Members that the Cemetery Superintendent had return to work on a phased basis. He would start his new contract with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017. The Parish Clerk requested that the position of Groundsman be advertised and that the temporary Groundsman's contract be extended until the position of Cemetery Assistant/Groundsman was filled.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- i) the position of Cemetery Assistant/Groundsman be advertised;
- ii) the temporary Groundsman's contract be extended until the above position had been filled.
- iii) an interview panel comprise of the Clerk, Cemetery Superintendent and Chairman.

EVPC  
17/18/152

**Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7.00 pm.

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

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman .....

Date .....