

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 9TH OCTOBER 2017**

- Present: Councillors J Andrews (Chair)
Councillors L Barrass, M Burn, W S Day and J Lee
- Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk); Mrs K Hall (Admin Assistant)
- Also in Attendance: County Councillor A Surtees
Mrs E Hopper, Mrs J Mullaney, Mr D Mullaney, Mrs B Robinson,
Mr G Robinson, Mr J W Froud, Mr N L Frain, R Godfrey, A
Burnhope and Mr A Hopper
- EVPC
17/18/153 **Apologies for Absence**
RESOLVED: Apologies RECEIVED and APPROVED for
Councillors L Morton, T Murray and J Smith
- EVPC
17/18/154 **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**
Councillor J Lee declared a personal and prejudicial interest on
item 12 (c) and a personal interest on items 13 (a), 13 (b) and
15(b)
- EVPC
17/18/155 **Public Participation**
Mr D Mullaney made reference to the many positive comments
made in the letter received from Easington Village Parish
Council. He asked the exact number of the public responses to
the new initiative, those for and against, and asked whether
these responses are in the public domain? He also spoke about
removing the fence around the play area because of the
constant vandalism.
Mrs J Mullaney sought clarification on where Councillor Morton
had seen a play area on a Village Green that had fencing?
Mr Frain spoke about the Allotment Association Committee and
offered his views on their running of the allotments. He felt that
the Parish Council should take over the running of the
Allotments.
A Burnhope felt that the proposal by a member of the public to
have the larger play equipment moved to Thorpe Road Playing
Fields was not the correct course of action to take. If there was
an issue with vandalism then it should be dealt with. Thorpe
Road Playing Fields was not a suitable location for the play
equipment.
R Godfrey felt that the problem of anti-social behaviour should
be dealt with. To move the equipment would simply move the
problem. She felt that everyone should work together to
address the vandalism.
Mr J Froud said that the fencing was an ongoing problem and
suggested the larger play equipment should be moved.
Mr G Robinson said that it had been a big mistake with the
swings and that there were problems along Southside with
traffic. He stated that the fencing should be taken down on the
5th November and burnt and that larger pieces of equipment
should be weighed in for scrap.
RESOLVED that the information given be NOTED.

EVPC
17/17/156

Proposal from Member of the Public Regarding the Re-location of the Larger Play Equipment on the Village Green and the Removal of the Fencing

The Clerk read out correspondence received from Mrs E Hopper regarding the background to the initial play area being sited on the Village Green, the consultation process undertaken, the requirement for fencing and the history of the Village Green. The Clerk advised that this correspondence had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting and copies were available for members of the public.

Councillor Andrews asked members to vote on the proposal to have the larger pieces of play equipment re-located.

RESOLVED: that the larger pieces of play equipment remain in place.

Councillors Andrews then asked members to vote on the removal of the fencing to the play area.

RESOLVED: that the fencing remain in place.

The Clerk advised that the fence to the play area was on the agenda as a separate item.

EVPC
17/18/157

Minutes of the last Meeting held 11th September 2017

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

EVPC
17/18/158

Minutes of the Cemetery and Grounds Committee held on 19th September 2017

RESOLVED: that the minutes and recommendations be APPROVED.

EVPC
17/18/159

Matters Arising

EVPC
17/18/121

New Play Equipment and Fencing – Village Green – No action had been taken until a decision had been made on the resident's proposal. The Clerk had circulated draft correspondence to Members and also sent it to local residents.

EVPC
17/18/129

Request for Allotment – the Clerk had advised Next Stage that their details had been forwarded to the Allotment Association.

EVPC
17/18/136

HR Training Sessions – the Clerk had registered for the Performance Management Course.

EVPC
17/18/138

St Mary's Church Floodlights – the works have been authorised.

EVPC
17/18/136

Annual Clock Service Plan Offer – Smiths of Derby had been advised that the Parish Council wished to enter into a 3 year plan.

EVPC
17/18/151

Staffing Update – The Clerk was in the process of compiling documentation relating

to the Cemetery Superintendent and Cemetery Assistant/Groundsman.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/160

Village Green Play Area – Disabled Access

Councillor Morton was not in attendance.

RESOLVED that this item be DEFERRED until the next meeting

EVPC
17/18/161

Village Green Signage

Members considered the images of draft signage that had been circulated.

RESOLVED: that the signage be approved.

Mr and Mrs Robinson left the meeting.

EVPC
17/18/162

Village Green - Fencing Update

The Clerk advised Members that she had been corresponding with the providers of the fencing to seek a solution for the damage to the fence and the lack of gates. She also advised she had been consulting with both Durham Constabulary and Durham County Council Neighbourhood Wardens with regard to the persistent vandalism.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) the Clerk to provide an update on the fencing at the next meeting;

EVPC
17/18/163

Village Green – Correspondence

Members gave consideration to correspondence received regarding the play area and fencing.

RESOLVED that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/164

Police Matters

The Police were unable to attend the meeting. A report had been received but was for the previous month.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk advise the Police that the same report had been sent as the previous month.

*Mr and Mrs Mullaney and Mr Froud left the meeting.
County Councillor Surtees entered the meeting.*

EVPC
17/18/165

Report of the County Councillor

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

- Universal Credit for new claimants would start in this area on 18th October. Help was available through Welfare Rights Champions and various other avenues
- Planning Application for houses near Nursery Gardens would potentially go to the Planning Meeting on 14th November
- Public Right of Way to the rear of Craig Terrace had been cleared of rubbish and debris

- Former Shoulder of Mutton Public House had changed ownership and DCC had undertaken a Land Registry Search to establish ownership and would then contact the new owners to carry out remedial works
- Easington Village CE Primary School – Harvest Festival at 9.30 am on 11th October would be displaying the model of St Mary’s Church that had been made out of glass by a local resident

A Member advised that the heritage sign at Lonnen Burn for Seaton Holme had been removed and needed replacing. Councillor Surtees advised she would investigate the matter.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

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

EVPC
17/18/166

Office 1 – Redecoration

The Clerk advised that the above office was in need of redecoration and provided Members with details of two options. **RESOLVED:** the full redecoration of the room be authorised.

EVPC
17/18/167

Review of Room Hire Fees

The Clerk advised that there had been no increase to the room hire charges in 2017. Members felt that an increase should be made with effect from 1st April 2018 as follows:-

General: The Liddell Room - £15.00 from £14.00; The Burn Room £11.00 from £10.00; The Milburn Room £9.00 from £8.00
 Affiliated: The Liddell Room - £10.00 from £9.00; The Burn Room £8.00 from £7.00; The Milburn Room £6.00 from £5.00

Room Hire on a weekend should be £30.00 weekend charge and a minimum of 3 hours for a single room booking. No other increases to be made.

RESOLVED: that the above increases be effective from 1st April 2018.

EVPC
17/18/168

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
17/18/169

Burial and Cemetery Fees

The Clerk advised that there had been no increase to the burial and cemetery fees in 2017. Members felt that no increase was necessary at this time.

RESOLVED: that the fees remain unchanged for 2018/19.

EVPC
17/18/170

Allotment Rents

The Clerk advised that the Allotment Rents had been increased in 2017. Members felt that no increase be made this year.

RESOLVED: that the fees remain unchanged for 2018/19.

EVPC
17/18/171

Breach of Tenancy – Plot 21b

The Clerk advised Members that issues relating to the above plot had been brought to the attention of the Allotment Association. These related to a breach of tenancy following an inspection by representatives of the Parish Council. There had been no response from the tenant and no improvement to the plot.

RESOLVED: that the tenancy of plot 21b be terminated on the grounds of breach of tenancy.

EVPC
17/18/172

Plot 3a

The Clerk advised Members that issues relating to a breach of tenancy at this plot had been brought to the attention of the Allotment Association. The Allotment Association Secretary had written to the tenant advising of the breach and asked what their intentions were for the plot with a request to reply within 2 weeks. The tenant had then advised the Secretary of the Allotment Association on 7th September that they wished to terminate the tenancy. The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from the tenant and seeking clarification from Members regarding who had authority to exclude someone from the Allotment Site. The tenant also questioned the time period allowed to end the tenancy. The Clerk referred Members to Allotment Rule 30 where 6 months to terminate a tenancy was required, either by the tenant or the Council; unless there was a breach of tenancy. The tenant had relinquished their tenancy at the beginning of September.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Clerk advised the tenant and the allotment association that the tenant's tenancy would cease on 1st April 2017 unless there was a breach of the tenancy agreement;
- ii) that any potential exclusions from the allotment site should be referred to the Parish Council

R Godfrey, A Burnhope left the meeting

EVPC
17/18/173

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.09.17

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.09.17 were £151,038.39 in the Savings Account and in £1292 in the Current Account totalling £152,330.39

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/174

Income and Expenditure Report to 30.09.17

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

RESOLVED: that the report, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/175

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for September were £12,737.51 from the Savings Account and £359 from the Current Account.

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC
17/18/176

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 2017

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD
4.9.17	IOS	Stationery	£18.50	106230
11.9.17	G. M Crute	Petty Cash	£300.00	106231
5.9.17	A1 Trophies & Engraving	Engraving & Badges Scarecrow	£53.00	106232
11.9.17	Cathedral Leasing	Supply Hygiene Services	£187.20	106233
9.10.17	A1 Trophies & Engraving	Shield Engraving	£5.00	106234
9.10.17	DCC	Website Support	£694.03	106235
9.10.17	Cateraid	Detergent	£30.00	106236
9.10.17	T Jones	Servicing Boilers & Fires	£629.95	106237
9.10.17	J Dent	Skip Hire	£258.00	106238
9.10.17	C.D.S. Fire & Security	Alarm Test & Replacement Part	£24.00	106239
9.10.17	Greenham	Toilet Rolls	£50.65	106241
6.10.17	Crystal Cuisine (A Ferri)	Buffet	£110.00	106242
18.9.17	Screwfix Trade UK	Drill Bit Set & 18w Twin Pack	£179.98	DD
16.9.17	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments – Month 5	£2580.98	DD
29.9.17	Scottish Power	Seaton Holme Electricity	£32.66	DD
18.9.17	B.T.	Line Rental	£32.88	DD
9.10.17	Concept	Photocopier Usage	£46.56	DD
18.9.17	NWG	Seaton Holme	£523.61	DD
15.9.17	Unicom	L/line, Bband, Fraud Defender	£59.00	DD
28.9.17	Barclays	Bank Charges	£6.00	DD
29.9.17	Payroll	Nett Pay – Month 6	£6225.65	DD
			£12047.65	

EVPC
17/18/177

INCOME RECEIVED

September 2017

Name	Description	Amount
Luncheon Club	Room Hire	£50.00
Member of Public	Room Hire	£122.00
Church Bingo	Room Hire	£18.00
Yoga	Room Hire	£75.00
Angela Jones	Room Hire	£32.00
Member of Public	Tablecloth Hire	£10.00
Scott's Memorials	Burial Fees	£106.00
Member of Public	Room Hire	£44.00
M Broomfield	Bar Hire	£100.00
Member of Public	Room Hire	£192.00
Member of Public	Book Sales	£10.00
Tithe Barn Cottages	Room Hire	£60.00
Art Club	Room Hire	£62.50
Member of Public	Room Hire	66.00
Church Bingo	Room Hire	18.00
U3A	Room Hire	£12.50
Member of Public	Tablecloth Hire	£10.00
	Grand Total Sept.	£988.00

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/178

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Members gave consideration to a final donation to the 2017 Poppy Appeal under Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1973

RESOLVED: that a donation of £60.00 be GRANTED.

EVPC
17/18/179

Maintenance and Repair – Fleet Services – Service Level Agreement

The Clerk advised Members that she had entered into a Service Level Agreement with Durham County Council for maintenance and repair of fleet services. The Parish Council will be charged only for services as they use them.

RESOLVED that the actions of the Clerk be ENDORSED.

EVPC
17/18/180

Racecourse Fencing

The Clerk advised Members that the replacement and installation of additional racecourse fencing to the Village Green was scheduled to take place at the end of October. The quotation previously approved had not included the reflective discs as this is not a legal requirement. The Clerk advised that it would cost an additional £394.80.

RESOLVED that the reflective discs be purchased.

EVPC
17/18/181

General Data Protection Regulations

The Clerk advised that County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership had organised training on the above which was to be provided through North East Regional Employers Organisation (NEREO) at a cost of £30.00 per delegate. This topic had been discussed at the last meeting and the Clerk recommended attendance at this event.

RESOLVED that the Clerk and Councillor Lee be AUTHORISED to attend.

EVPC
17/18/182

Planning Applications

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

DM/17/02659/VOC – Proposed Condition 2 – Change of house types on 5 plots at Land to the West of Fennel Grove, Easington Village for Persimmon Homes

DM/17/02876/FPA – Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension to Extend Shop at Albion House, Low Row, Easington

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED

EVPC
17/18/183

Planning Approvals

There were no planning approvals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/184

Planning Refusals

There were no planning refusals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/185

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/186

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC
17/18/187

Planning for the Rights Homes in the Right Places

Members gave consideration to the correspondence which had been previously circulated

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be AUTHORISED to respond to this consultation.

EVPC
17/18/188

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
17/18/189

Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th November 2017 at 7.00 pm and a Budget Meeting would be held on Monday 6th November at 7.00 pm.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date