

**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 14TH JUNE 2021**

Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)
Councillors W Day, A Lumsden, J Lee, T Murray and A Robson

Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk); Mrs K Hall (Admin Assistant)

Mrs L Birkett and Mr J Devine

EVPC 21/22/043

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/044

Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda

Councillor J Lee declared a personal interest in item 11b as she is an allotment holder.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/045

Public Participation

There were no members of the public registered to speak.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/046

Annual Assembly of Electors held on 17th May 2021

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

EVPC 21/22/047

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th May 2021

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

EVPC 21/22/048

Minutes of the last Meeting held on 17th May 2021

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

EVPC 21/22/049

Matters Arising

EVPC/20/21/278

Allotment Management – A request had been received from an allotment holder regarding the inclusion in the tenancy agreement of allotment holders closing the gates. The tenant had been invited to attend the Parish Council meeting.

EVPC/20/21/284

Report of the Internal Auditor – the Clerk was still in the process of setting up a new bank account.

EVPC/21/22/023

Memorial Inspections – The Clerk would be contacting the registered grave owners in the near future.

- EVPC/21/22/024 **Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2021** – the accounts had been submitted to the external auditor and advertised on the Parish Council’s website.
- EVPC/21/22/032 **Request for Financial Assistance** – A £100 donation had been made to Café Together

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/050

Police Matters

Members gave consideration to the report of the Police, which had been previously circulated.

Members requested an update on:-

- North Crescent/Southside cars parking
- Break in at the Allotments

Also the following issues be highlighted for action:-

- Sale of alcohol to underage people
- Motorcycles around the village

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the Police regarding the above issues raised.

EVPC 21/22/051

Report of the County Councillor

There was no County Councillor present at the meeting. Members requested that the following issues be raised with the County Councillors:-

- Grasscutting around the Village is to a poor standard
- Request for the road sweeper along Sunderland Road
- Update on the Petwell Lane Flooding

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact both County Councillors regarding the above issues.

EVPC 21/22/052

NEPS Northern England Paranormal Society

Members gave consideration to correspondence received regarding a proposed documentary and overnight investigation from Northern England Paranormal Society.

RESOLVED: that

- i) the Clerk arrange for Councillors Day, Morton and Robson to meet with NEPS to discuss what the documentary would involve
- ii) the Clerk advise NEPS of the room hire charges.

EVPC 22/22/053

Report of the Cemetery Superintendent

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

RESOLVED that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/054

Allotment Tenancy Agreements

The Clerk advised that only one response had been received from allotment tenants regarding the inclusion in the allotment tenancy agreement of allotment holders closing the gates. The tenant had requested to speak at the Parish Council meeting. A letter had been hand delivered to the tenant. However, they were not in attendance tonight.

Members felt that the locking of the gates was necessary. Allotment holders had access to water for hand washing and had also been advised about hand sanitisation during the Covid-19 pandemic.

RESOLVED that the inclusion in the allotment tenancy agreement of allotment holders closing the gates

EVPC 21/22/055

Tractor

The Clerk advised Members that the small ride-on Kubota that was purchased second hand five years ago would require major works to get it brought back to full working standard. The Cemetery Superintendent had requested that consideration be given to a replacement and recommended that a tractor similar to Iseki would be of longer term benefit to the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that there had been money in earmarked reserves of £2,500 and that there was £3000 to be added from the 2020/21 budget, which had been delayed due to the reimbursement of the S106 funding. There was also money in this year's budget of £3,000. The clerk requested delegated authority to purchase a new tractor up to a maximum of £13,000.

RESOLVED that Councillors Morton and Robson together with the Clerk look at the options available and order a suitable tractor up to £13,000.

EVPC 21/22/056

Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 31.05.2021

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31.5.21 were £1000 in the Savings Account and £214,431.09 in the Current Account totalling £215,431.09

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED

EVPC 21/22/057

Income and Expenditure Report to 31.05.21

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

RESOLVED that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/058

Bank Transfers

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for May were £10,669.37 from the Savings Account and £31,735.00 from the Current Account

RESOLVED: to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC 21/22/059

Invoices for Endorsement for Payment

RESOLVED:

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

MAY 2021

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD/BACS
19.5.21	Toolstation	Petrol Rotavator	£274.48	BACS
3.6.21	Scott Memorials	Memorial Inspection	£648.	BACS
4.6.21	Heras	Post Caps (40)	£102.	BACS
13.5.21	Carrs Billington	Spark Plugs & Maint.	£40.58	BACS
18.5.21	Payroll	3 rd Party Payments Month 1	£2828.26	BACS
28.5.21	Payroll	Net Payments Month 2	£6448.82	BACS
1.6.21	EDF	Church F-L Electric	£71.	DD
7.6.21	Octopus	Cemetery	£26.20	DD
19.5.21	Barclays Bank	BACS Charges	£6.	DD
28.5.21	Document Solution	Photocopier Usage	£9.23	DD
25.5.21	Siemens	Photocopier Lease & Service Fee	£186.02	DD
31.5.21	ITC	Cloud Mailbox	£6.	DD
31.5.21	ITC	Cloud Back Up	£8.40	DD
9.6.21	P Robson	Hanging Baskets 38	£400	BACS
31.5.21	Rapid Response	Drain Unblock	£150	BACS
8.6.21	BNP Parabis	Telephone Rental	£39.60	DD
		TOTAL	£11244.59	

Cheque No. 106565 – Petty Cash - £250.00

EVPC 21/22/060

Income Received

Customer Number	Description	Amount
6	2 Plots Dbl. Fees	£424
6	1 Single Fee Plot	£106
6	3 Dbl Fee Plots	£636
Total Income		£1166

RESOLVED: that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/061

Planning Applications

There were no planning applications received.

RESOLVED: that that information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/062

Planning Approvals

DM/21/01032/TP) – Proposed Crown lift by 3 metres and crown thin by 15% to 1 no. Beech Tree (T1), 1 No. Lime Tree (T2) and 3 No. Sycamore Trees (T3, T4,T5) and reduce encroachment back to the edge of driveway to (T1)at Ladywood, Durham Lane, Easington Village for Mr D Holmes

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/063

Planning Refusal

There were no planning refusals

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/064

Planning Applications (Withdrawn)

DM/21/00238/FPA – Proposed Erection of 1 No. Detached Two Storey Dwelling at Land West of Delgarth, Durham Lane, Easington for Mr and Mrs Coulbeck

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/065

Planning Appeals

There were no planning appeals.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/066

Members reports of their Attendance at Meetings and Events on Behalf of the Parish Council

Councillor Lee had attended a Speedwatch event with the Neighbourhood Policing Team..

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/067

The Form Seat (Green Seat)

The Clerk advised Members that she had contacted Durham County Council and had confirmation that no objections would be made from the Highways Department for the removal of the side panels. The Planning Department had also advised that planning permission was not required.

Discussion ensued regarding access to the roof of the shelter and that other options to prevent access should be considered at a further meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk obtain further quotations for the work and then apply for Section 106 Funding.

EVPC 21/22/068

Sea View House

The Clerk updated Members on information received from Planning Enforcement and she requested whether Members felt that legal advice be sought regarding the removal of the fencing from the Village Green and any potential damage that may occur to the Green.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Clerk seek legal advice to determine the the Parish Council's rights;
- ii) the Clerk continue to liaise with Planning Enforcement at Durham County Council (DCC) and also inform the conservation team at DCC.

EVPC 21/22/069

Hanging Basket and Floral Container Competition 2021

Members felt that the hanging basket competition should be held this year and it was agreed that Councillors A Lumsden and J Lee take part in the judging on a date to be arranged with the Clerk.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk make the necessary arrangements for the advertising of the Competition and enquire whether sponsorship can be obtained.

EVPC 21/22/070

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 items of business on the grounds that they involve information prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

EVPC 21/22/071

Co-option of Parish Councillors

The Clerk advised that there were three Parish Councillor vacancies and confirmation had been received today that all three vacancies could be filled by co-option. There had been two expressions of interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and both candidates met the qualification criteria and were in attendance at the meeting tonight.

Members interviewed both candidates individually.

RESOLVED that Mrs L Birkett and Mr J Devine be co-opted as Parish Councillors for Easington Village Parish Council

EVPC 21/22/071

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 12th July 2021 at 6.00 pm.

RESOLVED: that the information given, be NOTED.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date