

**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021**

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

County Councillor A Surtees

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

EVPC 21/22/072 **Apologies for Absence**  
There were no apologies for absence.

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

EVPC 21/22/073 **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**  
Councillors J Lee and J Devine declared a personal interest in item 9b as they are allotment holders.

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

EVPC 21/22/074 **Public Participation**  
There were no members of the public registered to speak.

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

EVPC 21/22/075 **Minutes of the last Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021**  
**RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record, to be signed by the Chairman.

EVPC 21/22/076 **Matters Arising**

EVPC/21/22/050 **Police Report** – The Clerk had raised the issues requested to the Police and a reply had been received, which had been circulated to members.

EVPC/21/22/051 **Report of County Councillor** – the Clerk had forwarded the issues raised to both County Councillors.

EVPC/21/22/052 **NEPS Northern England Paranormal Society** – The Clerk had arranged for a meeting with NEPS who had cancelled and she was still waiting for a new date. She had also advised of room charges.

EVPC/21/22/054 **Allotment Tenancy Agreements** – the Clerk would be amending the agreements and writing to all tenants to advise them of the inclusion of the closing of the gates in the tenancy agreement.

EVPC/21/22/055 **Tractor**– Quotations had been received and Councillor Robson and the Clerk were due to look at tractors this week.

EVPC/21/22/067 **The Form Seat (Green Seat)** – The Clerk was in the process of obtaining additional quotes for the repair work.

- EVPC/21/22/068 **Sea View House** – The Clerk would provide an update at the meeting.
- EVPC/21/22/069 **Hanging Basket and Floral Container Competition 2021** – The Clerk had secured sponsorship from Delanoy Funeral Services and the Admin Assistant had organised the advertising of the Competition.
- EVPC/21/22/071 **Co-Option of Parish Councillors** – Councillors Birkett and Devine had met with the Clerk and had been provided with Register of Interest Forms and other Parish Council information.

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

EVPC 21/22/077

**Police Matters**

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

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

EVPC 21/22/078

**Report of the County Councillor**

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

- Grasscutting throughout the Parish had been reported to the relevant Durham County Council Officer
- Road sweeper had been requested for the areas highlighted. Members reported that the sweeper had been out and thanked Councillor Surtees
- Petwell Lane Flooding – a request had been made to have the gullies repaired. Councillor Surtees suggested that photographs of the flooding at intervals to detail how the flooding decreased would be helpful. Councillor Robson said that he would monitor and take photographs
- Osborne Terrace Steps had been repaired
- Whitehouse Court – the lamppost in the middle of the footpath had been reported and discussion was ongoing about its position
- Churchyard access to roof of Form Seat – following a meeting with Rev Lucy and the Parish Clerk a planting scheme had been identified to help prevent access to the Form Seat roof
- Seaside Lane – the flash flood that had occurred last week had resulted in the combined drain lifting up the road. Northumbrian Water were to undertake repair work which would take place this week subject to weather. A diversion route had been put in place and Councillor Surtees would keep the Parish Council updated
- Rosemary Lane Nursery – Parking Scheme to commence 26<sup>th</sup> July

A Member asked whether it would be possible to have the proposed meeting with Durham County Council Officers to look at a strategic traffic management Plan for Easington Village. County Councillor Surtees said that she would contact the relevant departments to arrange a meeting. Another Member suggested the meeting should be held when the schools were back in September. Councillor Surtees agreed to arrange a meeting as soon as possible when the schools returned in September.

A Member enquired when the housing development at Parsley Close would be completed as there appeared to be no building on the site and the compound was being used for storage. Councillor Surtees advised that she would make the necessary enquiries and report back.

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

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

EVPC 21/22/079

**Seaton Holme – Potential Lifting of Coronavirus Restrictions**

The Clerk requested Members give consideration to the lifting of the coronavirus restrictions and the opening up of Seaton Holme to the general public. The Clerk advised that it may be prudent to take a cautious approach and to start by opening the building to those groups who had been our regular users. Under the current restrictions training events, yoga and physiotherapy were all taking place in Seaton Holme on a regular basis. The Clerk felt that as we have a limited staff and the holidays were approaching that it may be best to ease back into opening the building up fully. If a member of staff had to isolate because of the coronavirus it would be very difficult to cover extra hours when other staff maybe on annual leave.

**RESOLVED:** that Seaton Holme open up to regular users and then review the room hire usage at the September meeting.

EVPC 22/22/080

**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 21/22/081

**Request to have Cockerels on Allotment Plot**

Members gave consideration to a request from an allotment holder at Sunderland Road (Petwell Lonen) allotment site to have cockerels on their plot for 6/8 weeks.

**RESOLVED** that as a trial the tenant be allowed to have a cockerel on his plot for 3 weeks. The Clerk would contact the tenant and advise him that this was a trial and that they would need to keep the Parish Council informed of the dates when the cockerel was on site.

EVPC 21/22/082

**Summer Bedding 2021**

The Clerk advised Members that there had been a delay to the summer bedding plants due to the effects of Brexit at the start of the year which had a knock on effect on the growth of the plants. The plants had been delivered on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July and the planting should be completed within a week.

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

EVPC 21/22/083

**New Planters**

The Clerk advised that previously the Cemetery and Grounds Committee had recommended the purchase of new planters (troughs) to be purchased for Littlethorpe from Section 106 funding. Members agreed that the new trough planters would be fitting at this location and others through the village and it was agreed that the Clerk apply for funding for new planters to be located throughout the Parish.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk apply for Section 106 Funding for new planters through the Parish.

EVPC 21/22/084

**Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 30.06.2021**

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 30.06.21 were £1000 in the Savings Account and £205,288.59 in the Current Account totalling £206,288.59.

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

EVPC 21/22/085

**Income and Expenditure Report to 30.06.21**

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

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

EVPC 21/22/086

**Bank Transfers**

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for June were £10,701.15 from the Savings Account and £1554.24 from the Current Account

**RESOLVED:** to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC 21/22/087

**Invoices for Endorsement for Payment**

**RESOLVED:**

- i) to AUTHORISE the Clerk to make payment of invoices/petty cash/payroll over the recess period.
- ii) to ENDORSE the following invoices for payment, together with payments of donations/petty cash/payroll as previously agreed;

**JULY 2021**

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD/BACS
15.6.21	D.C.C.	Payroll SLA Fees	£724.09	BACS
21.6.21	Greenham	Cleaning Products	£80.61	BACS
20.7.21	Rialtas	Allotment Software Ann. Sub	£148.80	BACS
18.6.21	Payroll	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Payments Month 2	£3046.17	BACS
30.6.21	Payroll	Net Payments Month 3	£6122.11	BACS
1.7.21	EDF	Church F-L Electric	£71.	DD
1.7.21	Eon	Gas SH	£1241.73	DD
5.7.21	Octopus	Cemetery	£12.51	DD
17.6.21	Barclays Bank	BACS Charges	£6.	DD
1.7.21	EDF	Refund Electric Church F-L	-£209.20	CREDIT
13.6.21	Carrs Billington	Maintenance Kit	£19.98	BACS
9.6.21	Wave	Water SH	£373.83	DD
13.6.21	Wave	Water SH	£30.73	DD
30.6.21	ITC	Cloud Mailbox	£6.	DD
30.6.21	ITC	Cloud Back Up	£8.40	DD
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£11682.76</b>	

Chq.106565 £250 Petty Cash  
EVPC 21/22/088 **Income Received**

<b>Customer Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
6	2 Plots Double Fees	£424
6	1 Plot Single Fees	£106
6	3 Plots Double Fees	£636
11	1 Plot Single Fees & Inter	£254
6	Room Hire	£100
3	Room Hire	£21
22	Rent	£600
6	Memorial Bench	£517.62
6	Memorial Bench	£517.62
	Income Total	£3176.24

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

EVPC 21/22/089

**Review of Funding of Electricity Supply for Church Floodlighting**

The Clerk advised Members that last year Members agreed to continue funding the electricity supply for the church floodlighting and review it this year. She also advised that Mr and Mrs Smithson had not attended the meeting due to the covid 19 restrictions and had submitted a letter, which the Clerk read out for Members.

Members were informed that the new LED floodlights had been installed but due to the pandemic had not been in operation for a full year. However, there had been a reduction in the amount of energy used and it was estimated that the annual cost of electricity would be in the region of £700.00 per annum it was hoped that this may be less. The Parish Council gave careful consideration to continuing to pay wholly for the supply of the electricity for the floodlights. Members felt that the lighting of the church was an asset to the Village and would like to see this continue. However, as part of the review it was agreed that the Parish Council would no longer pay for the supply of the electricity from the date of the renewal of the electricity supply (26.08.21) and would instead make a financial contribution towards the lighting. A financial contribution of £500.00 would be made once confirmation had been received that the supply had been changed over to the Church. The contribution towards the electricity supply for the floodlights would be reviewed annually in July of each year.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk inform the representatives from St Mary's Church of the Parish Council's decision and offer assistance in the transfer of the electricity supply.

EVPC 21/22/090

**Planning Applications**

DM/21/0109/FPA – Proposed Retention of a Welfare Facility to Provide Agricultural Staff with Adequate Toilet Facilities, Kitchen, Eating Area and Clothes Drying Facilities at Mount Pleasant Farm, Loaning Burn, Easington Village for Mrs Beverley Frain

DM/21/02060/FPA – Proposed Change of Use of Vacant Unregistered Land, Historically Agricultural Providing Access to the Field to the North of Lauren Court, to Residential Garden Space at Land East of 8-10 Lauren Court, Easington Village for Ms Rebecca Marshall (Believe Housing)  
DM/21/02147/CPO – Proposed Confirmation that there would be no Change of use of Apartment Block from C3a Residential Dwelling to C3b which allow for up to six people to live together as a single household and receive care at Shoulder of Mutton, Low Row for Mr Tom Wilson

Members discussed the above applications and although concerns were raised about the potential use of the properties in application DM/21/02147/CPO there were no material planning concerns.

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

EVPC 21/22/091

**Planning Approvals**

There were no planning approvals.

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

EVPC 21/22/092

**Planning Refusal**

There were no planning refusals

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

EVPC 21/22/093

**Planning Applications (Withdrawn)**

There were no planning applications withdrawn.

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

EVPC 21/22/094

**Planning Appeals**

There were no planning appeals.

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

EVPC 21/22/095

**DM/20/02896/RM – 428 Dwellings at Land to the North of Lowhills Road and West of Thorpe Road, Little Thorpe**

The Clerk advised Members that the information was in regard to the amendments to the Reserved Matters and not about the planning application for the development which had been previously approved. The Parish Council had previously commented on the Reserved matters application regarding the access/egress onto the development from Essington Way.

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

EVPC 21/22/096

**Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received regarding participation in the beacon lighting event.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council did not participate on this occasion.

EVPC 21/22/097

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

Councillor Robson had visited the local stockists of tractors with the Clerk to look at the tractors where a quotation had been supplied to the Parish Council.

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

EVPC 21/22/098

**The Form Seat (Green Seat)**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received regarding The Form Seat. The Clerk updated Members on a site meeting she had recently with County Councillor Surtees and representatives of St Mary's Church to look at ways of preventing access to the roof from the Churchyard. It was agreed at that meeting that a planting scheme at the churchyard would be implemented to impede access. It was also noted that if the sides of the seat were removed then it would make it easier for people to climb onto the roof. It was felt that once the work had been carried out to the seat then a planting scheme be implemented at the side of the seat where access to the roof was currently being gained. The Clerk advised that she was awaiting a further quotation for work to the Form Seat.

**RESOLVED:** that as part of the funding application a planting scheme be included.

EVPC 21/22/099

**Sea View House**

The Clerk updated Members on information received from Planning Enforcement.

She also updated Members on some legal advice that had been received.

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

EVPC 21/22/100

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 6.00 pm.

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

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman .....

Date .....