

**THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

- Present: Councillor L Morton (Chair)  
Councillors L Birkett, W S Day, J Devine, S Laws, J Lee, A Lumsden, T Murray and A Robson
- County Councillor D Boyes
- Staff: Mrs G M Crute (Parish Clerk)
- EVPC 21/22/217 **Apologies for Absence**  
There were no apologies for absence received.
- RESOLVED:** that information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC 21/22/218 **Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**  
There were no declarations of interest.
- RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC 21/22/219 **Public Participation**  
There were no members of the public registered to speak.
- RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.
- EVPC 21/22/220 **Minutes of the last Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021**
- RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record, to be signed by the Chairman.
- EVPC 21/22/221 **Matters Arising**
- EVPC/21/22/193 **Request to Use Seaton Holme in Book** – The Clerk had advised the organisation of the Parish Council’s decision.
- EVPC/21/22/202 **Precept Request 2022/23** – The request for the precept was due to be submitted to DCC in the coming week.
- EVPC/21/22/203 **Planning Applications** – An objection had been submitted regarding application DM/21/0399/VOC.
- EVPC/21/22/215 **Future Planning Applications Strategy** – The Clerk had met with Councillor Day and an update would be given at the meeting. She had contacted the County Councillors asking for an update on the Planning/Highways meeting. Details of potential training would be given at the meeting
- RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/252

### **Police Matters**

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

Members were concerned that the Police reports showed a lot of crimes that were closed with no suspect identified. The Chairman suggested that an invitation be made to the Police and Crime Commissioner to a meeting of the Parish Council to discuss the Parish Council's concerns regarding policing.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- i) the information given, be NOTED;
- ii) an invitation be extended to the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

EVPC 21/22/253

### **Report of the County Councillor**

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

- Selective Licensing Scheme – to commence in April 2022#
- Loss of electricity due to Storm Arwen and response by Durham County Council and lack of leadership
- Highways Report Interim Findings – Councillor Boyes highlighted the findings following the meeting held in the autumn with Parish Council representatives and other organisations. He advised that he would forward the report to the Clerk once it had been finalised. Members highlighted the following issues that were not detailed in the report; directional signage to the A19 along Hall Walks; road around the top of the Green had not been included. Councillor Boyes advised he would raise these issues. A Member asked about the problem with regards to sat navs picking up the speed limit from the A19 when travelling over the bridge along Stockton Road which was a 30 mph zone. Councillor Boyes advised that this was something that was out of the control of Durham County Council.

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

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

EVPC 21/22/254

### **L G Therapy**

The Clerk advised Members that a fire had taken place in LG Therapy on 30<sup>th</sup> December. The Fire Brigade had attended and no-one was hurt. The Clerk had contacted T J's Heating and Home Improvements who had come out on the evening of the 30<sup>th</sup> to make the building secure. The Clerk had contacted Zurich Municipal Insurers on 31<sup>st</sup> December and was awaiting contact from their appointed Loss Adjusters. The Clerk had contacted the Council's regular tradesmen to inspect the electrics and water on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January to ensure the building was safe for use. At present there are 5 rooms without heating, and the downstairs toilets and 3 rooms without electricity. The Clerk had been in regular contact with the Insurers to ensure that this claim is dealt with as soon as possible.

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

EVPC 21/22/225

**Easington Village Millennium Luncheon Club**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from Easington Village Millennium Luncheon Club regarding the winding up of the Group and the request that the Bingo Machine be left in Seaton Holme for community groups to use.

**RESOLVED:** that the bingo machine be stored in Seaton Holme for the use of community groups.

EVPC 22/22/226

**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 21/22/227

**Parish Council Financial Status – Bank Balances as at 31.12.2021**

The Clerk reported that the bank balances as at 31.12.21 were £1039.67 in the Current Account and £130,667.89 in the Savings Account totalling £131,707.56.

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

EVPC 21/22/228

**Income and Expenditure Report to 31.12.21**

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

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

EVPC 21/22/229

**Bank Transfers**

The Clerk informed Members that the Transfers for December were £11,500 from the Savings Account and £7413.94 from the Current Account.

**RESOLVED:** to ENDORSE the Transfers.

EVPC 21/22/230

**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;

**DECEMBER 2021**

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO/DD/BACS
14.12.21	DCC	HR Advice & Guidance	£63.	BACS
17.12.21	Payroll	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Payments Month 8	£2918.07	BACS
22.12.21	Payroll	Net Payments Month 9	£6168.75	BACS
13.12.21	WAVE	Cemetery Water	£50.48	DD
16.12.21	Barclays Bank	BACS Charges	£6.	DD
15.12.21	Chaser Comm.	Telephone Usage	£81.90	DD
9.12.21	BNP Paribas	Telephone Rental	£39.60	DD
30.12.21	Document Solution	Photocopier Usage	£16.69	DD
31.12.21	ITC	Mailbox	£12.	DD
31.12.21	ITC	Cloud Back Up	8.40	DD

16.12.21	Siemens	Photocopier Rental	£114.02	DD
24.12.21	EE	Mobile phone rent	£62.80	DD
5.1.22	E-On	Gas SH	£1595.36	DD
6.1.22	Octopus	Electric SH	£20.90	DD
28.1.22	Rialtas	VAT Support Fee	£70.80	BACS
14.1.22	Rialtas	Cemetery Software Ann. Supp.Mai	£231.60	BACS
20.12.21	WEL	Defib. Parts	£93.54	BACS
7.1.22	David Scott Tree Surgery	Tree Works – Village Green and Cemetery	£1215	BACS
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£9,364.89</b>	

EVPC 21/22/231 **Income Received**

<b>Customer Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
9	Room Hire	£75
9	Room Hire	£56.25
12	Room Hire	£40.25.
3	Room Hire	£52.50
17	Room Hire	£154.50
2	Room Hire	£215.
		<b>£593.50</b>

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

EVPC 21/22/232 **Discretionary Restart Grant**

The Clerk advised Members that £8,000 discretionary restart grant had been given to the Parish Council. Members agreed that this would help towards the loss of revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic.

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

EVPC 21/22/233 **Planning Applications**

DM/21/04107/TCA – Proposed Removal of 1 No. Sycamore Tree to Front of Property at Great Garth Hall, Easington Village  
DM/21/04144/VOC – Proposed Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) and Condition 5 (operating hours) of Planning Permission  
DM/19/00171/FPA to allow change to the site layout and 24 hour operation at land at Mill Hill North West Industrial Estate, Peterlee for Mr Ollie Fergusson  
DM/21/04127/CEU – Certificate of Lawfulness Existing Use – Erection of Dwelling – House at Rectory Farm, Easington Village for Stobart

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) DM/21/04107/TCA – to comment that the Parish Council did not feel that healthy trees should be removed;
- ii) DM/21/04144/VOC – to object on the grounds of the detrimental environmental impact that variation would have.

EVPC 21/22/234 **Planning Approvals**

DM/21/03098/FPA – Proposed Retention of altered watercourse at 25 Nursery Gardens, Easington Village for Mrs Joanne Munro  
**RESOLVED:** that the information given, be NOTED.

EVPC 21/22/235

**Planning Refusal**

There were no planning refusals

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

EVPC 21/22/236

**Planning Applications (Withdrawn)**

There were no planning applications withdrawn

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

EVPC 21/22/237

**Planning Appeals**

There were no planning appeals.

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

EVPC 21/22/238

**Double Taxation**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC).

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

EVPC 21/22/239

**Referendum Principals and Remote Meetings**

Members gave consideration to correspondence received from the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC).

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

EVPC 21/22/240

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

There had been no attendance at meetings/events.

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

EVPC 21/22/241

**Planning Application Strategy**

Councillor Day updated Members on initial ideas for a planning application strategy and advised that he and the Clerk would continue to work together to provide information for discussion at a future parish council meeting. A copy of Planning Explained by the Campaign to Protect Rural England and NALC was circulated to all members.

**RESOLVED:** that

- i) the information given be NOTED;
- ii) Councillor Day and the Clerk work together to provide a planning application strategy.

EVPC 21/22/242

**Potential Planning Training**

Members gave consideration to information received from the County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) regarding planning training.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk obtain exact details of cost and if the training could be given face-to-face.

EVPC 21/22/243

**Emergency Planning**

Members felt that in light of Storm Arwen, where a number of residents had been without electricity for sometime, that they would like to have a plan to help its residents if an incident like this were to happen again.

The Clerk advised that emergency planning was dealt with by Durham County Council (civil contingencies) as part of their duties and that a major incident had not been called until almost a week after the storm which had resulted in residents in Easington and other areas being without any assistance. After discussion it was felt that the Parish Council contact Durham County Council to ask about the systems they have in place for such emergencies and how the Parish Council would be able to assist its residents as part of this plan

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk contact the appropriate department at Durham County Council to enquire how the Parish Council could help residents in the event of a similar occurrence.

EVPC 21/22/244

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

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

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

Chairman .....

Date .....