

EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk; Amy Smith 01665 603755

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Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday January 16th 2019 at Eglingham Village Hall.

19/1 Present – Chair D Alston, Cllrs P McIver, A Gray, G Grahamslaw, J Robson, D Biesterfield. County Councillor Wendy Pattison.

19/2 Apologies for absence. Cllr J Lawson.

19/3 In attendance - Amy Smith (clerk).

19/4 Declaration of Interest - The Declaration of Interest was read out by the chair.

19/5 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday December 5th at Eglingham Village hall. The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true record.

19/6 Matters arising;

Bus stop bench; Jonathan Robson had made and installed the bench.

Litter bins; The clerk reported that NCC had explained that a litter bin in the bus stop would need to be provided and installed by the Parish Council but that NCC would collect from it. It advised a general waste bin. Following discussion the PC considered that a litter bin would be best placed on the pavement outside the bus stop but it was agreed to seek feedback from residents. Regarding a litter bin on Tarry Road, NCC had confirmed that the green industrial bin at the top of Tarry could be used by the general public.

Hedges/trees cutting back; Despite repeated attempts to contact NCC's trees officer Barry Wilson regarding hedge and tree maintenance in Eglingham the clerk had received no response. WP suggested contacting Paul Jones, Interim Executive Director at NCC.

Traffic speed sign; County Councillor Wendy Pattison offered to pay to fund a new traffic speed sign in Eglingham Village to the sum of up to £4000, if the PC was not going to pursue a 20mph zone. This will replace the original sign which is no longer functioning and, following investigations, is not fixable. Cllr Pattison confirmed she will be in a position to fund this after April 1. Her proposal was accepted and the chair gave thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.

Shipleigh Sign; The clerk spoke to Mr Fairbairn who confirmed he is in the process of repairing the sign.

Noticeboards; Following a resident's email regarding interest in investigating interactive noticeboards for the villages of Eglingham, South Charlton and North Charlton, Carolyn Brewster had offered to help. The chair will take the matter forward with Carolyn and Julian Tyley of ECA.

19/7 Northumberland Local Plan; Cllr Biesterfield addressed the PC regarding the Northumberland Local Plan – Publication Draft. NCC is inviting written comments between 30 January and 13 March.

Cllr Biesterfield said that Eglington Parish Council had objected to the plan to donate 7 per cent of land for wind turbine developments which was based on the Northumberland and Newcastle Society's representation. This stance had been taken by 26 Parish Councils. However Cllr Biesterfield said NCC has not listened to the views of the Parish Councils and had not taken into account the value of the landscape in the Local Plan, which from Berwick to north of Alnwick is a designated area of high landscape value in the old Alnwick and Berwick plans. Cllr Biesterfield said the N&N Society would like to seek the continuing support of the Parish Councils. He said that although the plan only allows for wind turbines of 40 metres this was still high and the Local Plan will last for many years and could open up the possibility of larger turbines. Cllr Biesterfield proposed that; "As a parish council we should record our disappointment at the fact views so clearly expressed and evidenced in our representation appear to have been wholly overlooked and discarded by Northumberland County Council." This was agreed and a representation will be made to NCC.

-Cllr Biesterfield also raised the question of whether Eglington Parish Council should look again at creating a Neighbourhood Plan and in doing so seek to engage other local Parish Councils. The aim would be to bring to the fore some design guidelines and resist inappropriate development when confronted with it. The chair said he was concerned about resources and interest in producing a Plan. Cllr Biesterfield said he was happy to test the water and see if there was an interest locally and from neighbouring Parish Councils. Cllr Pattison suggested the PC invite David English from NCC to come and speak to the PC regarding the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. The clerk will request a visit.

19/8 Middlemoor Windfarm Community Fund; There were no updates.

19/9 County Council update; Cllr Pattison discussed her report which had previously been circulated. Cllr Pattison had spoken to Neil Snowdon regarding street lighting in South Charlton as a speed limit of 30mph should exist where there is street lighting. He confirmed that speed monitoring strips will be laid in South Charlton.

Cllr Pattison also raised the poor state of the road at South Charlton between the village hall from the farm and over the cattle grid on the Ditchburn road and the road at Eglington Terrace. She has raised the matter but asked if the PC would also write and email Graham Bucknall, the head of highways, to ask that he would come out and view the roads with Parish Councillors and Cllr Pattison.

19/10 Financial; Budget for 2019/20 and Precept;

The PC's financial report and budget for 2019/20 had been circulated prior to the meeting. The chair made one amendment that £1000 of the PC's reserves is held as long term maintenance for the defibrillators at Eglington and South Charlton.

The chair said that the PC had reduced its reserves to a reasonable level to meet the requirements of the auditors. He therefore proposed that the PC set a precept with an 3%

increase taking the amount to £3810 for 2019/20. This was agreed and the clerk will submit to NCC.

Financial Report- Payments to make :- A Smith (Clerk's remuneration) 21 hours @ £9.90 = £207.90, Mileage at HMRC rate 45p per mile; Alnwick to Eglington rtn £7.20, Total to clerk £215.10.

Greenfingers Hedge cutting – Beech Hedge (20/12/18) £40.80, Jonathan J Robson Company Limited £158.40 bus shelter seat. **Total payments £414.30**

Payments made between meetings; Greenfingers (work cutting back trees at Eglington Community Field) £1004.40. **Receipts between meetings;** Interest 10/12/18 £0.24, VAT reclaim of £2632.40 (£2000 to be returned to Community Fund).

Accounts Balance TREASURER'S ACCOUNT £4637.65, BUSINESS ACCOUNT £2708.01 Total **£7345.66.**

19/11 Planning; *Pre-application consultation on South Charlton Planning Development proposed by Northumberland Estates (circulated);* Cllr Biesterfeld asked what the views of parishioners were in South Charlton. There was discussion regarding whether the plans would include affordable homes for young families and it was also felt it would be helpful to see indicative elevations of proposed properties, if they are single storey. Cllr Gray said he would seek the views of residents in South Charlton. It was agreed the clerk would contact Mr Storey at Northumberland Estates to suggest a meeting on site at South Charlton in a few week's time.

Application 18/04263/LBC Listed Building Consent for removal of (former) WC enclosure and re-positioning of horse box partition. (circulated). No objections.

Granted; Application 18/03714/FUL Walkmill, Eglington, rear extension.

19/12 Correspondence; Between meetings the clerk had received an invite for a nomination from the PC for the Royal Garden Party and a leaflet from Barnardos.

19/13 Any other business; It was warned that there had been a burglary of an outhouse in Eglington in the past few weeks.

Defibrillators; The chair asked if anyone in South Charlton would be willing to maintain the defibrillator at South Charlton Village Hall. This would mean checking once a month to see if the battery is working. At present Gordon Plews maintains both, at South Charlton and Eglington. Cllr Gray said he would seek to ask someone. The chair asked that the clerk write to Mr Plews and thank him for having maintained both defibrillators.

19/14 Date of next meeting - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday March 13th at South Charlton Village Hall.

Signed:-

Chairman

Clerk

Date

