

EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday June 12th 2019 at Eglington Village Hall.**

**19/56 Present** – Chair D Alston, Cllrs J Lawson, P McIver, G Grahamslaw, A Gray and J Robson. Four members of the public.

**19/57 Apologies for absence.** Cllrs D Biesterfeld.

**19/58 In attendance** - Amy Smith (clerk).

**19/59 Declaration of Interest** - The Declaration of Interest was read out by the chair.

**19/60 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 at South Charlton Village hall.** The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true record.

**19/61 Matters arising;**

Traffic Management Plan; The clerk and Cllr Pattison had been in contact with Neil Snowdon of Highways Programmes, NCC, who had agreed to meet councillors in Eglington for a site visit. The clerk is liaising with councillors and Mr Snowdon to confirm a date in June/July.

South Charlton speed strips (report circulated) – The results of traffic speeds from the speed strips laid in South Charlton had been provided to the PC by NCC. It showed that the speeds did not meet the criteria required by the Northumbria Safer Roads Initiative for consideration of additional enforcement measures.

Northumberland Estates/Development of land East of St James Church- Barry Spall had responded to the letter from EPC following up the site meeting last month. Mr Spall said the PC's observations would be reviewed in due course.

Hedges/trees cutting back- The clerk had again contacted April Potts regarding the overgrowth onto Eglington footpath outside Eglington Village Hall but was still waiting for a response. The clerk had again contacted Barry Wilson and Nigel Brannen at NCC regarding the overhanging branches on Beanley Road but was still awaiting a response. Cllr Pattison suggested contacting Paul Jones, Director of Local Services and Housing Delivery, again.

Litter bin – The litter bin at Eglington bus stop had been installed by NCC and was in use.

**19/62 Eglington Community Association presentation on Eglington Community Field proposals.** Malcolm Angus and Penny Garrod attended the meeting. Mr Angus reported

that he had completed the monitoring form for the tennis court and had submitted it to the Community Foundation. He thanked EPC for its donation to Festival on the Field. He reported that the tennis club was going from strength to strength with coaching sessions for children full. He said it was in response to requests from people using the tennis court for adult gym equipment that the ECA had developed proposals for gym and play equipment on the field. Penny Garrod gave a presentation of the proposals and detailing the equipment and costs and health benefits to the parish. There would be four pieces of outdoor gym equipment; a rower, slalom, arm and pedal cycles and a double walker, costing in total £6000 including VAT. The extensive play equipment system proposed by Creative Play, including a low level climbing frame and swings, would cost around £36,000 including VAT. A total of £41,000 for both sets of equipment. Ms Garrod explained that the ECA felt the play equipment would need to be of a size to make sure people came to play.

Cllr Robson said she was surprised by the scale of the proposal. She said she accepted children should have somewhere to play but she felt it was more about having a safe open green space and she felt that for adults wanting to keep fit there were plenty of footpaths in the village and Parish. Cllr Alston raised that the insurance, inspection and maintenance costs to the PC which would come out of the Precept would be around £500-600 annually. He also felt there is a lack of children in the Parish and all residents adjacent to the field had strongly objected. Ms Garrod argued that people would need to see concrete proposals before they could make up their minds. Cllr McIver felt that the proposals were not in keeping with the intention for the field set out by the Parish Trust as an area of tranquillity and he felt there was a lack of children to warrant the play equipment. Other issues raised included, had alternative locations been considered, why had no consultation been undertaken before developing firm proposals and value for money.

Following the presentation the PC resolved that the plans proposed by the ECA needed to go out to consultation to let people see the full scale of the proposals. It was thought that the details of the proposals and the plans should be featured in Hearabouts along with the results of the residents initial consultation.

**19/63 Eglington Community Field Consultation (report circulated).** The results of the consultation had been circulated. A total of 36 individuals responses were received with (20) 56% against a children's play area and (12) 33% in favour and (19) 53% against an adult raining circuit and (11) 30% in favour. Please see full report published on the parish website and attached to these minutes.

**19/64 Eglington Parish-Designated Neighbourhood Plan area.** EPC had submitted its intention to produce a Neighbourhood Plan to NCC and has now become a designated Neighbourhood Plan area. The PC has been assigned a link officer Sarah Brannigan at NCC to work with and it is planned that she will attend the meeting in July. The chair reported that

Cllr Biesterfield is leading the project and had been in touch with the officer to request further information to aid him in getting started.

**19/ 65 Middlemoor Windfarm Community Fund;** There were no updates.

**19/66 County Council update;** Cllr Pattison's report had been circulated. She added that regarding the speed survey results in South Charlton the clerk should write to Richard Mackenzie at NCC pointing out that South Charlton does have more than 20 houses and street lights which would make it fit the criteria for 20mph. She also highlighted the opportunity the proposed traffic management plan presented for Eglingham which would come in the next financial year and that it was also time that Eglingham had new signage.

**19/67 Financial; Payments:-** A Smith (Clerk's remuneration) 18 hours @ £9.90 = £178.20, Mileage at HMRC rate 45p per mile; Alnwick to Eglingham rtn £7.20, **Total to clerk £185.40** Greenfingers grounds maintenance 2/5/19 and 16/5/19 and 31/5/19 £162.00 **Total payments £347.40 Receipts between meetings;** Interest 9/5/19 £0.11. **Accounts Balance** Treasurer's £4720.89, Business; £2708.56, Total **£7429.45.**

*Annual donations for 2019/20 were discussed and agreed for payment. Cllr McIver also confirmed that both village hall committees had agreed to wave rental costs for the PC's use of the hall for its meetings.* Eglingham W.I. £100, Alnwick Hospice £100, Eglingham Village Hall £125, South Charlton Village Hall £125, St Maurice's Church £80, St James Church £80, Alnwick Hospice £100, C.A.N. donation £25, Alnwick Playhouse £25, Great North Air Ambulance £25.

**19/68 Correspondence;** The clerk had received a letter from Rob Murfin, head of planning at NCC, keeping Parish Councils up to date on the Northumberland Local Plan. He also said he would be willing to come out and talk to parish councils on planning issues. Cllr Alston said this was a good idea but proposed that the PC looked to invite Mr Murfin later in the year when more was known about the outcome of the Northumberland Local Plan.

**19/69 Planning matters;** North Northumberland Local Area Council-Planning Application Site Visit: Monday 17 June; Change of use of part of farm yard to agriculture/woodchip production (retrospective) etc. The clerk had been sent notification of this site visit. The Parish Council had previously objected to this application on the grounds of noise and increased heavy traffic from the site which comes through South Charlton. Cllr Pattison suggested that regarding the heavy traffic it would be wise if the clerk write to Rock Estates and highlight the problem and ask if traffic can be rerouted away from South Charlton.

**19/70 Any other business;** There was no other business.

**19/71 Date of next meeting;** - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup> at South Charlton Village Hall.

Signed:-

Chairman

Clerk

Date

