**EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk to the Council Amy Smith**

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**Minutes of the meeting held on Friday March 11 2016 at Eglingham Village Hall.**

**16/15**  **Present –**  Chair D Alston, Cllrs W. Purvis , I Grant, J Robson, E Stafford, A Sutcliffe, S Wright.

**16/16 Apologies** – County Cllr Cairns

**16/17** **In attendance -** Amy Smith (clerk) . 2 members of the public.

**16/18 Declaration of Interest**  was read out by the chair.

**16/19** **Minutes of the meeting held on Friday January 11th 2015 at South Charlton hall.** The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true record.

**16/20 Matters arising from the minutes;**

**Eglingham Community Field;** Malcolm Angus reported on behalf of the ECA that they were in the process of securing two quotes for work to repair the equipment on the Community Field. Between meetings Henry Prytherch had carried out some initial repairs to the shed and toilet but further high winds had caused extensive damage. The PC asked that liability and building qualifications be sought from those providing quotes. It was agreed that if a suitable quote was obtained between meetings work could get underway.

**-Highways matters**; Cllr Grant reported that the ditches had been drained and rodded at the Eglingham side of the bridge on Tarry Road and at the top of Cockhall Bank.

- Cllrs agreed the clerk should write to David Francis, chair of the NALC, on his retirement thanking him for his years of service. A private contribution will be made from some members of the Parish Council.

-The clerk reported she had attended a training session on the Transparency Fund.

- Eglingham Community Field, Eglingham School staffroom sale; Cllr Robson reported that the sale documentation was with the client.

16/21 Parish Trust survey results; Paul McIver attended and provided an overview of the results of the Parish Trust survey and the way forward. It had been agreed from the results of the survey that there is not a need for the Parish Trust to form a legal entity. It has been proposed to have a task and finish group with Cllr Wright and Paul working to divide up topics raised in the survey and to decide where responsibility lies; with the Parish Council, the Trust or another body. Paul also pledged to look further at the issue of Community Transport as while parishioners would like to see more only a minimal number of the community is without personal transport.

16/22 Northumbria Police Sgt Graeme Vickers attended the meeting to touch base and address any concerns. He gave an overview of the low levels of crime in the parish and of speeding prevention and early interventions.

16/23 Street Lighting; An article requesting comments had gone into Hearabouts regarding future funding from NCC for the replacement of street lights and an opportunity for parishioners to have a say in how they should be replaced e.g. with dimmer switches, although there could be a cost.The issue of a lack of streetlighting between Eglingham terrace and the village was raised.

**16/23 Middlemoor Windfarm Community Fund;** *Parish Website*- the clerk had received training from Andy Gray and the website ownership will be transferred to the Parish Council. *Village Hall Celebrations*- funding from the Community Foundation had been authorised and the clerk was awaiting payment into the PC’s account.

**16/24 County Councillor update**; Cllr Cairns provided an email detailing that a large amount of potholes are to be filled on the road from Eglingham to West Ditchburn and then West Ditchburn to Shipley. Although it is recognised the road needs resurfacing and Cllr Cairns has ensured it is added to the list for works she though it unlikely to make the list in the foreseeable future due to budget cuts. Cllr Cairns also reported on NCC’s need due to budget cuts to raise council tax by 4% per year over the next four years.

Cllr Cairns also reported on plans by NCC to take a ‘cautious approach’ to refusal decisions in planning applications to avoid challenge at appeal. Free Central Heating is to be provided by Warm Up North to households with a gross income of less than £26,000.

**16/25 Financial; Deposits -** HMRC VAT returns; £113.74 (South Charlton trees), £729.20 (South Charlton doors). Payments/Invoices :- Repayment of grant to Community Fund £20,125.

A Smith (Clerk’s renumeration) with travel *£211.05;* Invoice Andrew S Gray design £950, Invoice Aon Insurance £14.53.

**16/26 Planning applications;** *Approved: Conversion of farm buildings, Eglingham Hill.* Application 16/00508/FUL for extension at 28 South Charlton- *no objections.*

**16/27 Correspondence;** A letter was received from Baillifgate Museum in Alnwick introducing the new chair and seeking donations.

**16/28 Any other business;** Cllr Grant raised the issue that emerged during the survey of the perceived dissatisfaction of North Charlton residents. There had been a suggestion of a travelling parish council meeting to include people of North Charlton. The clerk will write to the residents of North Charlton asking them if they would like to hold a meeting in their village and also to remind them they are always welcome at meetings held in South Charlton and Eglingham.

-The resignation of Cllr Fiona Robson was formally recorded opening up the option to co-opt a councillor. A notice of Casual Vacancy will be displayed on noticeboards.

**16/29 Date of next** **meeting** – **The annual meeting of Eglingham Parish Council will be held on Friday April 29 at South Charlton Village Hall followed by the Annual Parish Meeting.**  There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.45pm.

Signed:-

Chairman Clerk Date