EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday August 30th 2017 at South Charlton Village Hall.**

**17/82**  **Present –**  Chair D Alston, Cllrs J Lawson, P McIver, H McIver, D Biesterfield, A Gray, County Councillor Wendy Patterson.

**17/83 Apologies for absence**. Cllr J Robson, H McIver.

**17/84** **In attendance -** Amy Smith (clerk), PCs Paul Sykes and Phil Gibson. 2 members of public.

**17/85** **Declaration of Interest -**  The Declaration of Interest was read out by the chair.

**17/86** **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday June 21st at South Charlton Village hall.** The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true record.

**17/87** The chair welcomed PCs Paul Sykes and Phil Gibson based at Rothbury station. PC Sykes confirmed that an individual driver had been spoken to with regard to a complaint of speeding but he urged parishioners to contact him with any further concerns of speeding. Both PCs gave an informative talk on dealing with rural crime. They said that although rural crime had increased in the region, in north Northumberland there was minimal crime. However they also warned that the best way to prevent crime was to lock things up and to report any concerns either by ringing 999 for emergencies or 101 when there are any concerns about suspicious activity and trusting instincts when things not looking quite right. They said it was important to report any concerns regarding poaching as the culprits were often linked to other rural crime. PC Sykes also provided the clerk with details of Northumbria Police’s new community message service which encourages members of the public to sign up and receive alerts by text/email/voice. The service can be accessed via a web page www.yncm.co.uk.

**17/88 Middlemoor Windfarm Community Fund**; Ali Wrangham and Nicky Dickinson attended the meeting to request that the parish council would consider applying for windfarm funding to resurface the tennis court on Eglingham Community field. They said that they represented a group of people who would like to play tennis there but that currently the surface did not allow them to do so. It was agreed by the parish council that this was a good idea in principle if an estimated usage could be presented as a part of the application. Mrs Wrangham agreed that they would liaise with Eglingham Community Association to prepare an application for the next round of funding in October but first bring it back to the parish council for approval.

**17/89 Representatives of external organisations,Eglingham Community Association and Village Hall Committee;** The chair said that he would be standing down from the village hall committee after seven years and therefore asked if anyone else would be willing to act as a parish council representative/link with the village hall committee. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting. It was queried whether there needed to be representative from the parish council on the ECA but it was felt that their annual report and communication was probably enough currently.

**17/90 Matters arising; Phone box removal-**BT had confirmed that operatives were in the area removing phone boxes and that those at Eglingham and South Charlton would be taken away by the end of the year.

Lime trees- The clerk had received no update from Mr Wilson at Northumberland County Council regarding the Lime Trees in Eglingham Church Lane but she had received an email from a former resident expressing concern at the removal of any trees and asking for more information.

North Charlton bus stop-A local electrician Rick Forrester had agreed to install a solar powered light at North Charlton bus stop and was first to provide the Parish Council with an estimated cost.

Website training- Cllr McIver had received website training from Cllr Gray and the clerk will now provide details of a W.I. representative who requires training.

**17/91 Parish warden, task and finish group to progress bid;** The chair suggested that there was a need to create a group with a representative from Eglingham and both North and South Charlton to progress a bid to provide a parish warden. The chair said John Rutherford was keen to be involved from South Charlton, Cllr McIver would represent Eglingham and a representative would be sought from North Charlton.

**17/92 County Council update;** See attached report.

**17/93 Financial**; Payments - **A Smith (Clerk’s renumeration**) 10 hrs @ £9.90 = £99, Mileage at HMRC rate 45p per mile; Alnwick to Eglingham rtn £7.20, Website hosting fees Squarespace; July £ 23.63 and August 1 £24.09, Black Printer cartridge £13, **Total to clerk £166.92**

**Audit;** The clerk reported that the annual audit for 2016/17 had been approved and returned by BDO with a Standard Audit fee of £240 to pay.

**Payments made since last meeting**; 8/8/2017 Greenfingers £108

**Receipts;** 25/08/2017 HMRC (VAT reclaim for Eglingham Village Hall works) £4278.34

**Account balances;** Treasurer’s £10780.72 , business; £7702.90.

**17/94 Planning;** Charlton Hall 17/01784/COU change of use application withdrawn.

**17/95 Correspondence;** Northumberland County Council had asked for the parish council’s local transport priorities for 2018/19. The clerk will request a footpath along Eglingham bridge and chicanes at the western and eastern end of the village both to narrow road to limit traffic speed and also reduce speed signs at South Charlton.

**17/96 Any other business**;

-Cllr McIver said he would be attending a meeting of C.A.N at Wooler focusing on car sharing schemes and would report back at the next meeting.

-Cllr Gray raised a concern about wagons using the Shipley Road and Cllr Lawson raised concerns about the overhanging bushes/trees at the Mill Burn. The clerk will contact Bob Hodgson at the county council regarding both matters.

-Cllr McIver had been contacted by a resident who would like to see a Spring head on Eglingham Terrace registered as an historic monument. The parish council agreed that it would have no objection to the resident seeking to do this.

-Cllr McIver outlined plans for work to remove soil around a 6ft perimeter at the back of Eglingham Village Hall to prevent existing damp in the kitchen and allow the walls to breathe and drain. Councillors were in general approval and this would be considered in more detail at the next meeting of the parish council. It was also agreed that the parish council should look into registering the village hall as a community asset.

**17/97 Date of next** **meeting** - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday November 1 at Eglingham Village Hall from 7.30pm.

Signed:-

Chairman Clerk Date