

EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday November 27th 2019 at South Charlton Village Hall.**

**19/103 Present** – Chair D Alston, Cllr Biesterfield, G Leishman, G Grahamslaw, A Gray, J Lawson, J Robson and P McIver. County Cllr W Pattison.

**19/104 Apologies for absence.** Nil.

**19/105 In attendance** - Amy Smith (clerk). Six members of the public.

**19/106 Declaration of Interest** - The Declaration of Interest was read out by the chair.

**19/107 Receipt of paperwork for newly appointed councillor.** The chair welcomed Cllr Gordon Leishman to his first meeting.

**19/108 Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> (extraordinary meeting) at Eglingham Village Hall.** The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true record.

**19/109 Matters arising;**

Eglingham Traffic Management – A concern had been raised by a resident regarding the proposed installation of a footway and traffic calming measures at Eglingham bridge as part of a wider traffic management plan for the village developed by the County Council in conjunction with the Parish Council. It was agreed the clerk will request that the County Council hold a public consultation on the proposed traffic management scheme.

Cllr Biesterfield's meeting with Mr Murfin, NCC director of planning, and logging routes- Cllr Biesterfield reported that following discussions with Ruth Bendle, Infrastructure Manager at NCC, he was hopeful that there was an opportunity for some consultation about designated logging routes through villages, particularly South Charlton, and he was waiting to hear further from her.

Request for extra bus stop at West Links, North Charlton-Residents at West Links had requested an extra bus stop at West Links so they don't have to walk to the bus stop at North Charlton particularly in the dark. County Cllr Pattison had said NCC rural bus officer Neil Easton would be willing to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter. It was agreed to invite him to a future meeting. The potential costs of another bus stop to the Parish Council were queried and Cllr Robson wondered whether a bus stop could be affected by the dualling of the A1 or completed as part of that.

Eglingham bus stop bin collections-The clerk had contacted Highways regarding the full bin. It was confirmed there had been an oversight and the new bin had now been added to the list of collections.

Result of 30mph speed consultation, South Charlton- The result of the 30mph speed consultation for South Charlton by NCC had been 100 per cent in favour. County Cllr Pattison reported that signs would be put up early into the New Year.

**19/110 Eglingham Neighbourhood Plan update**; Cllr Biesterfield reported that the initial consultation had been completed with over 100 residents from the Parish responding and one or two from outside. On assessing the results there is unanimous support for the general proposals put forward in the background information document. The next stage was to have two pots of funding confirmed from the locality and technical funds meaning fieldwork could then start next year. Cllr Biesterfield suggested a meeting of the steering group in the coming weeks. He also said he would be busy with the Parish Council's representation at the Public Meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup> for the Northumberland Local Plan Examination Hearings.

**19/111 Middlemoor Community Windfarm**; any ongoing/future applications.

Cllr Alston confirmed the Parish Council's application for this year's £240 audit cost had been approved. He also said that a significant application had been made to the fund for a children's play area at Chatton.

**19/112 Eglingham Community Field invited speakers**; one member of the parish to speak in favour of the proposed play park, Doctor Penny Garrod and one to speak against, Cllr Leishman, both limited to three minutes. Ms Garrod said that when she first put forward the proposal of a children's play area on Eglingham Community Field it had never been the ECA's intention to cause the division which has since occurred among residents with and without the Parish. She said there is a misapprehension there are no children to use the playpark as there at least 14 in the Parish and currently no facilities for them. As a doctor she sees the need for safe places for children to play, she said there was no proposed vehicular access to the site and did not see that it would present a problem with antisocial behaviour. She felt the proposed equipment represented good value for money with a 20 year guarantee and would work alongside the tennis court.

Cllr Leishman, who declared an interest as his property borders the site, said all residents adjacent to the site were opposed. He questioned its value for money and with no children living in the village of the age to use it he queried whether it was the right location for a play area. He said a play area would affect the privacy of immediate residents and that the proposed size was too much and he would rather see the field maintained as a green space.

**19/113 Eglingham Community Field Proposals**. To discuss the results of the consultation. The chair read out a report summarising the results of the consultation and the role of the PC. He explained the consultation had ultimately been in three phases; firstly residents were asked for their views on a children's play area and adult fitness equipment, secondly the consultation in Hearabouts on a play area with costings, and thirdly the independent petition

for a play area. In the initial two phases the majority of residents had been against the proposals for a play area while the petition was 100% in favour of a play area in principle. The chair highlighted his concern that the Parish Council would be responsible for the maintenance, insurance and inspection costs of a play area on the field. He also felt the proposal was too big for the field and objected to the “piecemeal” development. He dismissed the mistaken suggestion by some that the field could be sold off for development stating that the Parish Council had taken ownership of the field for community use. He suggested the future of the field needs to be looked at in its entirety. The chair proposed that an application be made to the Community Foundation for funding to seek professional advice to develop a strategy for the development of the field, consulting with the Parish and stakeholders. He added that the outcome of this proposed strategic development plan may end up including a play area in a smaller form. This was unanimously agreed by councillors.

**19/114 County Councillor update;** (report circulated). Cllr Pattison added that she had raised concerns with NCC about the state of sections of the pavement in Eglingham which have broken down. The clerk will also report.

**19/115 Financial;** Financial report (circulated) and invoices approved. Midyear budget and precept planning; The clerk had circulated an update which showed that the Parish Council has purposefully reduced its reserves over the last couple of years as previously it was higher than advised by auditors. The PC will consider the amount to request for Precept particularly in light of any cost to PC for the proposed traffic plans in Eglingham and discuss at the January meeting.

**19/116 Planning matters;**

a)Pre application consultation update; Site east of St James Church, South Charlton (Northumberland Estates); The council had no objections in principle but it was agreed the clerk will ask for a hard copy of the proposals which Cllr Gray and Lawson can circulate in South Charlton. The clerk will also request that Northumberland Estates receive comments from the Parish Council early in the New Year.

b)Pre application consultation Proposed Smart Meter Telecommunications Installation at Eglingham Moor. There was some discussion regarding the position of the Smart Meter. It was agreed the clerk will ask the landowner if they are in favour of the proposals.

c)Reserved matters application for proposed access re 18/01718/OUT Land South of Yarrow Cottage, Ditchburn Road, South Charlton, Northumberland; Granted.

d)Application 19/04221/FUL Proposed formation of new gated vehicular access, Field to North of Allotment Gardens, South Charlton Village - circulated and no objections.

**19/117 Highways Matters;** Tarry Road- The clerk had contacted Highways manager Graham Bucknall to request the drains are cleared on Tarry Road as the resultant flooding is damaging

the new road surface, The chair had offered to meet Mr Bucknall on site to point out problem areas including at the entrance to Tarry.

South Charlton Pavement -the clerk had reported the state of the pavements to highways officer Mitch Young.

Any other highways matters-Cllr McIver raised the issue of the kerbside in Eglingham. Cllr Gray highlighted flooding on Ditchburn road and in particular on the Eglingham road at Shipley Farm which the clerk will report.

**19/118Correspondence;** Wildlife and Countryside Act Definitive Map Modification Orders had been received for Eglingham Parish following previous consultation.

**19/119 Any other business;** There was no other business.

**19/120 Date of next meeting;** - The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday January 15th at Eglingham Village Hall.

Signed:-

Chairman

Clerk

Date