

Eglingham Parish Council

Clerk: Andy Gray. 32 South Charlton, Alnwick, NE66 2NA
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Minutes of the 2023 AGM

Of the AGM held on the 17 May 2023 held at South Charlton Village Hall

Present: Lorna Turner (LT), Judith Scott (JS), Alyson McGarrigle (AM), Jane Hamilton (JH), June Lawson (JLaw), Joanne Angus (JA), Paul Davies (PD)

In Attendance: Clerk - Andy Gray. Members of the Public, Julian Tyley & Rev. Tracey Malthouse

Minutes of Previous AGM: (2021 due to the the PC being inquorate in 2022) - Noted as accepted

Matters Arising: - None

Chair's Report: - LT delivered her report.

Chair's Report 2022-2023

We held the first proper council meeting at the end of August. Thankfully we were well supported by our County Councillor, Wendy Pattison, who brought with her Jan, clerk of another Parish. Jan agreed to help us out for a few months. It was a huge commitment of goodwill, and we are indebted to her. Andy Gray agreed to cover after she left, as a trial, before committing to permanent employment. The jury is still out! Andy's IT skill and his extensive knowledge of the Parish is invaluable.

For a small rural council, with a precept of about £5000, we inherited some expensive community projects which, in my view, we must complete before we can actively move on. The projects which were carried over from last year, and others which we have delivered are as follows:

Finance managed for:

A history project across the three villages, with an exhibition in St. Maurice's Church: The Biodiversity Study: The installation of a tennis pavilion on the community field

Provision of:

Defibrillator machine for North Charlton: Cardiac first aid training in Eglingham village hall: Finance for a flashing Traffic warning sign (agreed in 2021) has been obtained and installation is expected soon: Grit Bins on South Charlton moor: Planters and plants at North Charlton: Glass Recycling in Eglingham: Potholes filled, a few anyway...: Footpaths repaired: Coming soon.... The installation of dog waste bins in Eglingham

We have contacted the following offices, to discuss collaboration when delivering services:

NCC Highways: NCC IT/ Broadband: NCC Services: Community Action
Northumberland: AgeUK: RWE windfarm

We are working with the Steering Group, under the leadership of David Biesterfield, to deliver the Eglingham Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The original consultation, some three years ago, showed that what was most important to local people was: the protection of our fabulous landscapes; the provision of settlement boundaries (in Eglingham and South Charlton) and a

design code to constrain 'sprawl' and bad design; and the protection of 'local greenspace'. There are other policies but these are the most important. If this is important to you, please let the Parish Council know by writing or emailing the Clerk. Failure to respond, at this consultation stage, could result in inappropriate development in the future. We are thankful to the Steering Group, for their work.

The Parish Council seeks to enable the neighbourhood to function as a community. We are an inexperienced team on a steep learning curve, and other rural council models are useful when shaping our objectives.

The following declaration (a combination of two other parishes) could serve us well:-

The purpose of this Parish Council is to work within its statutory powers to maintain and enhance the public amenities within the Parish and to help residents of the Parish improve their quality of life by working in partnership with Northumberland County Council.

We will concentrate on the following items, as we endeavour to build stronger working relationships:-

- *dog and litter bins*
- *seats/benches*
- *working with the Community Association in the management of the community field*
- *footpaths bridleways and viewpoint seating*
- *consultation on planning applications*
- *collaboration with neighbouring Parish Councils on common issues such as road safety*
- *delivering the Neighbourhood Plan*

Any Other Matters raised by Parishioners:

Parishioner Julian Tyley brought forward his concern regarding dog waste in the Parish, specifically bags being left hanging on hedges and excessive dog mess on the Community Field. The PC was aware of issues, adding that it was suspected that a proportion of the mess on the field was from Foxes. It was suggested that poo-bag dispensers could be investigated for the Community Field.

Meeting Close:

AGM Closed at 7:49pm