

EGLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of Eglingham Parish Council held at 7:00pm on Wednesday 29th November 2023 at South Charlton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Jane Hamilton (Chair), Clair Leishman, Alyson McGarrigle, Judith Scott

In attendance: Sarah Trushell (Clerk), 1 Member of the Public

The meeting opened at 7:00pm.

19. **Apologies for absence:** Joanne Angus, June Lawson
20. **Declaration of interests:** None declared
21. **Public Participation Time:** A member of the public raised several issues relating to matters in the parish. The comments were noted.
22. **Confirmation of minutes of last meeting (18th October 2023)** It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th October be AGREED and accepted as a true record of the meeting.
23. **Cllr Resignation – Confirmation of Casual Vacancy**
Due to the resignation of Paul Davies, a notice of Casual Vacancy has been advertised. The 14-day period began on the 29th of November.
24. **County Councillor Report**
This was distributed to all Cllrs and has been uploaded to the PC website.
25. **Suggestion Boxes:** None were received
26. **Matters arising from minutes of last meeting (unless a separate agenda item)**
 - a) Coronation Tree update
The tree survey has yet to be conducted, the positioning of the tree was discussed with the community field being a likely site. It was discussed that an oak tree would be in keeping. Cllr Scott to chase this.
 - b) Dog Fouling on Community Field update
the signs have been placed on the gate and a notice went to the residents mailing list. Cllr Angus to update further at the next meeting.
 - c) Street Lighting update
Residents have reported that the bulbs seem to be dimmer and are happy with this. It is noted that some of the visibility issues are down to overhanging branches and overgrown hedges. Cllr Hamilton will contact appropriate contacts to resolve this.
27. **Communication Policy.**
The Clerk circulated a 1st draft to the Cllrs before the meeting. Some amendments were NOTED and it was RESOLVED to implement this policy.
It will be uploaded to the website and a link to all PC policies will distributed via the residents mailing list once updated.
28. **Financial Committee Policy**
It was RESOLVED to update 5.5.3 of the PC's Standing Orders to allow pre-approved payments to be

made between meetings. These will include payment of grant applications and regular payments, such as Parish Maintenance. The Clerk will draft these changes for approval at the next meeting.

29. Neighbourhood Plan

The NHP Working group have updated that there is a delay from NCC in completing the Habitats Assessment and the revised Policies Map. There is not yet a date available for when this will be completed.

30. Community Matters

a) Fly Tipping

It was RESOLVED to send a letter to the resident regarding the debris.

b) Speed Sign

A location has been agreed by NCC and by SWARCO. The residents near the location were consulted and are satisfied. It was RESOLVED to go ahead with the installation. Cllr Hamilton to order post and arrange installation.

c) Building Disruption

Cllr Hamilton to request an update from the developers, to see if there is a timeframe for completion.

d) Allotments

The clerk is to confirm the particulars of the arrangement.

e) Trees / Branches

Cllr Scott will contact NCC to ask them to cut back the overhanging trees and branches along Alnwick Road

31. Training

It was RESOLVED that EPC councillors, along with the clerk, undertake any relevant training to ensure the correct and efficient running of the council.

32. 24/25 Budget

Cllrs discussed the first draft of the budget. This will be finalised at the next meeting to allow the precept to be set.

33. Financial Matters:

a) Account balances

i) £2,732.70 (as at 29/11/23)

ii) £22,245.44 (as at 29/11/23)

b) Spent and received since last meeting:

The PC's cashbook was available at the meeting.

c) Payments to approve

i) Clerk Wages **£150.05**

ii) Clerk PAYE (ST) **£37.60**

iii) Clerk Travel & Expenses **£44.63**

iv) Grass Cutting Community Field **£270**

Payments relating to grants received:

v) Christmas Lights (Tanker Arms) **£144**

vi) Christmas Lights (Davidson & Son) **£429.60**

vii) Hobberlaw Plants **£56.50**

ix) LHP Leaflets (Sue Rudge) **£324.26 & £188.52**

It was RESOLVED that the above payments be APPROVED

34. Planning Matters

The following planning matters were NOTED

a) 23/04030/FUL

35. Clerk / Chair Updates

The Chair made the following comment:

“Lorna got the Parish Council through a very difficult period. The Parish Council is very grateful for the work she did on behalf of both the council and the community. We wish her good health and success in all her future endeavours.”

Cllr Hamilton will meet with Cllr Lawson.

Cllr Hamilton will contact re: 1) How best to publicise the RWE Middlemoor Wind Farm community fund within the parish 2) if an application for a training fund for councillors would be eligible for a grant.

36. AOB (for information only) & Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The clerk and PC will continue to update the PC's policies and procedures at the next meeting.

Time, Date and Venue of next meeting

7:00pm 10th January 2024 at Eglingham Village Hall

It was AGREED to keep the meeting on a Wednesday at 7pm. It was RESOLVED to have meetings monthly from now on (excluding August and December)

Future Meeting Dates

21st February 2024 South Charlton Village Hall

20th March 2024 Eglingham Village Hall

17th April 2024 South Charlton Village Hall

15th May 2024 Eglingham Village Hall

19th June 2024 South Charlton Village Hall