

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 Thursday 22nd February 2024 at South Charlton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Jane Hamilton (Chair), Clair Leishman, June Lawson, Alyson McGarrigle

In attendance: Sarah Trushell (Clerk), County Councillor Wendy Pattison

The meeting opened at 7:02pm.

17/24 Apologies for absence: Judith Scott

18/24 Declaration of interests: none declared.

19/24 Public Participation Time: No members of the public attended the meeting.

20/24 Confirmation of minutes of last meeting (10th January 2024) It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January be AGREED and accepted as a true record of the meeting.

21/24 County Councillor Report

This was distributed to all Cllrs and has been uploaded to the PC website.
A bus into Alnwick was discussed and the PC will gauge public interest.

22/24 Neighbourhood Plan Update

NCC's notice of Regulation 15 has been displayed in Eglingham, South Charlton & North Charlton and is on the website

23/24 Suggestion Boxes:

It was suggested that Eglingham Village Hall requires a handrail, Cllr Scott has made enquiries into getting this actioned and will update.

24/24 Communications Received

a) Community Field – An email was received regarding changes to the field. It was noted that in previous minutes the Clerk should have added which allotments they referred to as this may have caused some confusion. No changes to the community field have been discussed and any potential changes will not occur without public consultation.

25/24 Parish Council Administration Matters

a) Draft Policies for Approval.

The Clerk brought a list from the SLCC of suggested policies for the website. It was agreed that the Clerk would work through all appropriate items as their hours allow to ensure the PC is fully compliant.

b) Website Administration

The PC noted that the website is a wonderful resource, and we must make sure to utilise it fully. It was also noted that an audit trail should be kept of any amendments made. The Clerk is to

check how many users have access to the back end of the website.

26/24 Assets of Community Value

NCC advised that the applications are much more rigorous than previously. The Clerk is to request assistance from the NHP for any information that can strengthen the cases.

27/24 Website

The website is used by many community groups in the Parish, but the PC bears the full cost. It was RESOLVED that the PC would continue to do so as the PC are aware of the significant community benefit. This will be reviewed annually on the website's billing schedule. Some concerns were raised over the website's security and the Clerk will look into this.

28/24 Eglingham Village Hall

The current rental is a peppercorn rent at £1 a year. The PC have been contacted with a proposed raise of the rent to £250 a year.

It was noted that the village hall is maintained by the community and had many thousands of pounds of grant money spent on it.

The Clerk will reply to the proposal.

29/24 Eglingham Public Footpath – Proposed Diversion

The PC had no comments to make on this proposal.

30/24 Community Matters

a) Coronation Tree – Cllr Scott confirmed that ECA have a meeting towards the end of February and will be discussing the coronation tree (English Oak proposed). Cllr Scott will report back at the next PC meeting.

b) Dog Fouling on the Community Field – as there is nothing further the PC can action on this it was agreed to remove it from future agendas, but the PC will continue to monitor the situation.

c) Trees / Branches

Cllr Scott has reported the relevant trees on Fix My Street. It was confirmed that there are no trees / branches obscuring street lighting.

d) North Charlton Footpath

This has been reported to fixmystreet.

e) Bus Stop

[Clerk note – this agenda item has been separated from the item above]

This item is ongoing due to confirmation of ownership of the bus stop / the retaining wall.

The PC supports the improvement of the bus stop and is working with all parties involved.

31/24 Grants

a) Appointment of PC Representative – Cllr McGarrigle was appointed

b) VAT process - the Clerk has confirmed with GrantScape how the PC will return reclaimed VAT on grant funds.

c) Proposed Grants / Current Grant Updates

* A grant of £900 was awarded to the PC for the ongoing training of Cllrs. It is to cover a period of 3 years.

* The Clerk will liaise with residents of South Charlton regarding a grant for new noticeboards.

32/24 Financial Matters:

a) non-online Cllr Information

It was RESOLVED that the agenda would be finalised no later than a week before the meeting to

allow for paper copies of all information to be posted.

b) Account balances as at 22/2/24

i) £15,910.86

ii) £2,741.66

c) Spent and received since last meeting:

The PC's cashbook was available at the meeting.

d) Payments relating to grants:

i) Ludman Planning £3025

e) Payments to approve

i) Clerk Wages £161.90

ii) Clerk PAYE £40.60

iii) Clerk WFH Allowance £26

It was RESOLVED that these would now be paid by Standing Order

iv) Clerk Travel & Expenses £7.83

v) Mazars (External Auditor) £252

It was RESOLVED that the above payments be APPROVED.

33/24 Clerk / Chair Updates

Cllr Hamilton confirms that the speed sign is due to be installed early March.

Joanne Angus has resigned from the council. The Notice of Casual Vacancy has been displayed. Eglington Parish Council would like to thank Mrs Angus for all her hard work for the PC and are very sorry to see her go.

The Parish Council has spaces for new Councillors and would urge anyone interested to contact the Clerk.

34/24 AOB (for information only) & Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

* Neighbourhood plan full update

* Broken Bin Lid in South Charlton

35/24 Time, Date and Venue of next meeting

7:00pm 20th March 2024 Eglington Village Hall

Future Meeting Dates

17th April 2024 South Charlton Village Hall

15th May 2024 Eglington Village Hall

19th June 2024 South Charlton Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8:39pm

DRAFT