

Evenwood & Barony

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: B. Nicholson	B. Maude
R. Webb	R. Spraggon
P. Townsend	A. Lyons
J. Sewell	M. Prince
M. English	M. Clark (Clerk)

Visitors: T. Brookes (Teesdale Mercury), PC Simon Morley and Sgt Adam Howell
1 resident whose name was recorded

1. CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL TO PRESIDE:

Cllr Nicholson took the chair and opened the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were tendered for Cllr Donovan (holiday).

3. EVENWOOD & BARONY PARISH CO CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Cllr Nicholson read out her report to the meeting.

This last year is the first that I can remember where the parish council has not undertaken any major projects, and so it seems to have been a quiet time for us.

We are very much a proactive council, who needs to be seen to be doing. Whether it is creating something new, making improvements, renovating demolishing, Especially demolishing. Watch out Bank Top bus shelter. Over the years some of our projects have had scorn poured over them, but we have established tow lasting memorials, one at Bank Top recognising our mining heritage, and of course the war memorial at Devonshire Place. Both of which we all should be very proud. This is what we do and we do it well.

We have said to goodbye to two long standing councillors – Les Brabbam, who retired and Tony Elliott, who decided not to stand at this month's elections. Our best wishes to both. In January we sadly lost Raymond who served this council since 1983.

The recent elections saw four councillors returned and two new councillors elected. We offer our congratulations.

Issues within the village are the same as usual; dog fouling, potholes, poor bus service, litter and anti-social behaviour. Reading some election pamphlets from 1986 and 1995, anti-social behaviour was very much an issue as it is now, so we haven't moved on.

The Police and our Police Commissioner promised so much. The Police seem to cosset those who are causing the problems. The Police say that the kids have no where to go, nothing to do, so build them a youth shelter. Give them a youth club.

We gave the younger kids a new play area, this was vandalised. We hoped the Pump Track would get the bikes off the street and down to the Welfare ground. But they would rather construct their own using the village green or private property.

Most of our maintenance budget this year has been spent on repairs and replacements occurred by vandalism.

There are positives. With the help of our County Councillor's, Christmas came to the village, by way of a lovely tree, fully lit. Our grateful thanks to Andy and Heather.

This month will see our village 'spruced up' as part of the civic pride initiative. Areas have already been signalled out for improvement. More information will be available to you. Have your say on any areas you feel may benefit.

As always we have carried out our priorities, we do the very best we can. We pay the bills, we collect the rents, we attend our meetings, we make our decisions. We do it well.

Many thanks to our litter pickers who keep our streets clean, they have not had an easy time with much more debris on our streets, so special thanks goes to them.

Every council deserves an efficient Clerk, when we find one we will hire them. So until the special thanks to Martin, for his continuing commitment to our council. For the minutes, agendas, meetings, keeping our finances in order, administering our audit and keeping us abreast of all the legislation we don't take a blind bit of notice of. We do appreciate your work. I do appreciate your work.

And finally to all members who have worked so hard over the last year. For your time and commitment. Not always easy, often controversial, but never dull. No one can say Evenwood & Barony Parish Council is dull.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:

No report was submitted by the County councillors

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Chair invited the Police present to report to the council and open for questions. Sgt Howell did not present annual crime figures to the meeting but took questions from members. Summary:

Over the last 2/3 years' groups of youths have been causing issues, often late at night – nothing appears to be done about it.

Broken glass/litter left behind from the night before

The residents of Bank Top/Accrington Terrace have suffered enough

Police –

Bank Top has been identified as an area requiring attention

Can't purge the streets of young people

If anti-social behaviour (ASB) is occurring we will take action

Signed

Dated.....

Nigel Hogg from the Youth Service is going to work with them to try and engage with the youths

Youth workers have been on the streets in an attempt to engage with the young people
A meeting has been arranged with Natalie Davies, ASB Unit of DCC to look at actions/strategies

There have always been groups of young people that are 'un-clubable'. As one group moves forward, another replaces them

The council has given opportunities to groups of young people but we can't give them everything they want

The play area revamp and the Pump track were things asked for and we delivered

A youth shelter might be the answer, but where do you sight it

People don't mind the young people meeting up, it's the damage and intimidation carried out that is unacceptable

We encourage residents to report things but the catch is they don't see anything coming from it and no improvements from what appears to be a softly softly approach

What are the parents doing and what support do they give when children as young as 11 are out late at night

The Clerk read out to the meeting the April crime figures:

Drugs

06/04 – Maude Terrace. Small cannabis grow for personal use. Suspect arrested. Received caution.

Violence Against the Person

09/04 – Shirley Close. Incident between x2 adult males. Resolved via Restorative Approach.

22/04 – Shirley Close. Incident between x2 adults. Injured party not supportive of police action.

Theft

13/04 – Newholme Crescent. Garden ornament stolen from garden. Ongoing Investigation.

16/04 – Gordon Lane. Bike stolen from garden 2 month prior to reporting incident. No lines of enquiry.

20/04 – Stones End. Phone stolen. Ongoing investigation.

25/04 – Stones End. Theft of medication. No further lines of enquiry.

Criminal Damage

16/04 – Shirley Close. Youths throwing stones causing window to break in residential property. No witnesses, no CCTV. No further lines of enquiry.

Road Traffic Collision

24/04 – Gordon Lane. X2 vehicle hit and run. No VRM for vehicle, no CCTV.. No further lines of enquiry.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Road Related

X2 - Manner of Driving
X12 – loose horses

ASB

01/04 – Manor Street. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
10/04 – Jubilee Terrace. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
15/04 – Shirley Close. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
19/04 – Jubilee Terrace. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
20/04 – Jubilee Terrace. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
26/04 – Brookside. Youth nuisance. Known youths spoken to near to scene and details forwarded to ASB Unit, Chilton.
28/04 – Brookside. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.
30/04 – Saddler Lane. Youth nuisance. No descriptions or names youths involved.

Police

If offences are being committed we will deal with them
Will carry on dealing with the issues reported

Cllr Nicholson thanked the Police for their attendance.

6. MEETING CLOSED

Signed.....

Dated.....

