

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 15th December 2020 at 7.00 pm,
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

Present : Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman
Cllr Alison Deakin
Cllr Mary Prince
Cllr Janet Sewell
Cllr Rachael Spraggan
Cllr Rachel Webb

20.01 INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A local resident attended the meeting to raise concerns about the amount of dog fouling around the village. ACTION: Clerk to report to Durham County Council (DCC).

It was advised that the Neighbourhood Wardens have been patrolling the village in response to reports of stray dogs.

An overgrown hedge near Jubilee House footpath, Evenwood was reported. It was proposed that DCC be asked to liaise with the owner to request that it be cut back. ACTION: Clerk to report to DCC.

20.02 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Ann Lyons, Cllr Barbara Maude and Cllr Paul Townsend.

20.03 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Deakin expressed an interest in the Parish Precept Agenda item 6.2, Minute reference 20.07 ii

20.04 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the 14th July 2020 and 10th October 2020 meetings were approved and signed accordingly.

20.05 LOCAL MAINTENANCE – ANY LOCAL ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION

- i. It was reported that there have been numerous complaints about owners allowing their dogs to foul on footpaths and green areas. It was agreed that this is a significant problem and it was resolved that the Neighbourhood Warden be invited to a meeting with representatives of the Parish Council for a walk around the village. It was suggested that involving the schools in an education initiative may help reduce this problem. ACTION: Clerk to report to DCC and invite Neighbourhood Warden in first the instance.
- ii. The poor state of the cemetery was discussed and it was advised that the Green Team were expected to be cleaning the cemetery in readiness for the November Remembrance Service; it was reported that the clean-up didn't happen. ACTION: Clerk to follow up on request for Green Team to clean up the cemetery.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

- iii. Cllr Deakin advised that a bench at High Lands is rotting, a dog waste bin is required for Low Lands and the road guttering at rear 44 Cross Row, High Lands is damaged. ACTION: Clerk to raise DCC requests.
- iv. It was reported that a local garage mechanic is parking numerous vehicles on the grass verge outside and adjacent to the business on church corner. It was proposed that someone have a quiet word about the concerns raised. It was resolved that a letter be sent and Ian Osborne PCSO be copied in. ACTION: Clerk to write to Appleby's Garage owner.
- v. A request be made for overhanging hedges to be trimmed from Ramshaw towards Bowes bank. ACTION: Clerk to request that DCC arrange to trim the hedges at the appropriate time of year.

20.06 TO RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

It was highlighted that there is an increase of traffic through Ramshaw and up into Evenwood village. Delivery driver and heavy haulage wagons are believed to be increasing and contributing to problems, along with some heavy vehicles speeding through the area. Concerns were expressed about the bridge and it was advised that the Evenwood/ Ramshaw bridge is listed and should be protected. It was resolved that the Highways Department, DCC be made aware of the problems and their advice sought on any potential improvements. ACTION: Clerk to contact DCC.

20.07 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

- Information received from County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) about Durham Constabulary's plan to build an additional 37 custody rooms at a Spennymoor site.
 - i. .Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed for invoices as follows:

101857	Zurich Insurance - Annual		£803.17
101858	Broadband contribution - Randolph		£10.00
101859	Litter picking - T Webb		£90.00

ii. To agree 2021/2022 Parish Council Precept.

The previous year's spending was reviewed and it was resolved that there would be no increase to the precept for the coming year.

Further to a request for a grass cutter to be purchased and gifted to Lands village hall, it was resolved that a maximum of £2,000 would be allocated for the purchase of the grass cutter and highlighted that the Lands village hall committee will be responsible for maintenance of the grass cutter.

- It was reported that thank you letters had been received from Macmillan and the Poppy Appeal for recent donations.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

20.08 ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

i. To receive update on the purchase of the Copeland Road Allotments

It was confirmed that the Parish Council are now owners of the Copeland Road allotments and once documentation is received the Transfer of Land will be advertised via the Teesdale Mercury.

20.09 TO CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

It was advised that a Planning Application DM/20/03566/FPA, change of use for the Bay Horse public house to be used as convenience store selling hot take-away food has been submitted. It was resolved that the Parish Council would express their concerns about the long hours and amount of litter and traffic the change will provide. Opening at 6.00 am and closing at 11.30 pm is not considered as acceptable for premises adjacent to an already congested road near the village green in a residential area. The area cannot sustain a further take away food outlet. ACTION: Clerk to send response (email sent 20/12/21).

20.10 TO RECEIVE WELFARE GROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

i. To receive update on Welfare Ground play area equipment.

Further to a recent meeting with Jonathan Dunn, Playdale, it was advised that the play equipment requires some cleaning and repainting. Two small swings and one older swing need to be replaced. It was advised that a large exposed stone near a swing needs to be removed and the ground levelled with soil. It was resolved that the minor maintenance above for the play area will be dealt with locally to avoid unnecessary expense and Playdale quote is expected to be received by mid-January 2021. Various options to improve recreation facilities for older children are also being considered. A second company will be meeting representatives of the Parish Council in the near future to consider their proposals and to obtain their quote. It was resolved that funding be secured from 106 Funds and any grants available. ACTION: Clerk to pursue 106 Funds when details are made available and liaise with Cllr Prince to complete the Awards for All application.

ii. Application for funding via the Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP) Board to repair and /or replace drainage at cricket ground.

It was advised that a draft application form has been submitted and further documentation and evidence is required to support the application. It was resolved that this application will be withdrawn in the absence of the required evidence and rationale for instigating the funding request. ACTION: Clerk to confirm withdrawal with TAP Board.

20.11 To receive an update on proposed Broadband Installation at Welfare Ground following recent meeting with Voneos staff.

Following discussion about the proposed installation of the Voneos broadband facility, it was resolved that the Parish Council require further information and full consideration of the benefits to the local community prior to approval of the proposal.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

20.12 To receive items for next meeting to be held Tuesday, 12th January 2021, 7.00 pm at Randolph Community Centre.

- To review and approve December 2020 quarter end bank reconciliation.
- To receive an update on progress with dog fouling problems.
- To receive an update on upgrading Welfare Ground play area equipment.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....