

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 14th December 2021 at 7.00 pm,
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

Present: Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman
Cllr R Bolden
Cllr A Deakin
Cllr A Lyons
Cllr M Prince, Vice Chairwoman
Cllr R Spraggan
Cllr R Webb

In attendance:
Cllr James Cosslett, DCC
Inspector Peter Lonsdale, Durham Police
PCSO Josh Holmes, Durham Police
Martin Paul, Teasdale Mercury

21.56 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Inspector Lonsdale introduced himself and advised that PCSO Holmes will be replaced in March. Lack of attendance at the PACT meetings was discussed and it was suggested that visiting the groups during the day on a Monday and Friday at the Randolph Centre would encourage engagement.

Quad and off-road scramble bikes were reported as being a problem throughout the village. It was advised that this problem is not localised and the Inspector would appreciate any available intelligence. Concerns were raised that riders do not wear safety helmets or appear to have regard for the safety of others.

A speed watch initiative was suggested by the Parish Council to tackle the problem of traffic speeding through the village. Inspector Lonsdale advised that volunteers would be required to man the equipment and PCSO Josh was instructed to commence the process.

Recent low-level burglaries were reported by the police as a current issue within the village. It was advised that nuisance youths trying gates had recently be approached and reprimanded by a Parish Councillor.

It was reported that there have been 49 various incidents reported in the last 30 days which is advised to be normal activity.

It was suggested that a police presence in the area after school into early evening would be welcome; it was agreed a PCSO would commence with that in due course.

Chairwoman's Signature..... Date.....

21.57 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Coulson, Cllr Maude & Cllr Pettit.

21.58 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Prince declared an interest in the defibrillator, agenda item 6.

21.59 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed accordingly.

21.60 CLERK’S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed for invoices as follows:

	Received	Paid
Footballers Annual Hire Charges	£175.00	
DECP Trophies - plaque		£76.80
Welfare Ground Water Rates (to be reimbursed)		£23.30

To consider adoption of CDALC recommended Code of Conduct

It was resolved that the updated Code of Conduct will be adopted.

21.61 LOCAL MAINTENANCE - ANY LOCAL ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION

TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR A RAMSHAW DEFIBRILLATOR

It was advised that funding is available to purchase a defibrillator and an option of adopting a phone box to site the device could be feasible. Cllr Prince advised that a decision has been taken by at another committee at their meeting not to pursue the Ramshaw proposal due to long term maintenance costs.

It was suggested that Lands could possibly be considered for a defibrillator as there is already one in Evenwood.

An additional defibrillator was agreed to be a good idea but it was resolved that a suitable location needs to be identified and ongoing maintenance funds identified before the proposal can be pursued further.

21.62 To RECEIVE ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

Further to Allotment Agreements being sent out for signature, two requests have been made by allotment holders to transfer allotments to a relative. It was resolved that one allotment holder’s plot could be formally transferred to his grandfather.

Chairwoman’s Signature..... Date.....

Another allotment holder, who has had an allotment for the past 30 years, had notified the Parish Council that he is about to move to West Auckland. It was advised that his allotments are suitable for horse grazing only and not suitable for cultivation. There was some debate about the management of long-term tenants and it was advised that he has been a reliable and good tenant who has supported by preserving and tending some run-down allotments during the recent difficult land transfer period. Following discussion, no formal agreement was reached about the management of existing long-term allotment holders; this will be need to be considered for clarification and resolved at a future meeting.

21.63 To RECEIVE WELFARE GROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

There were no recreation grounds issues raised and it was resolved that the draft letter for current groups will be agreed at the end of the meeting. Group representatives will then be invited to attend a meeting with Parish Councillors in early January 2022 to discuss future management.

It was advised that a meeting has taken place with Evenwood in Bloom volunteers who are planting bulbs and planters within the village. The location of one planter at Bank Top on the village green has caused concerns. It was advised that the group have their own insurance to cover them during their projects. It was highlighted that there has been poor communication between the volunteers and the Parish Council and they were advised to liaise with the Parish Council prior to commencing any new program of work. ACTION: Clerk to encourage effective two-way communication.

21.64 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no planning issues raised.

21.65 To receive any items for meeting to be held Tuesday, 11th January 2022, 7.00 pm at Randolph Community Centre.

To review and update of Allotment Holder's Ground Rules.

Chairwoman's Signature..... Date.....