

# Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.00 pm,  
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

**Present:** Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman  
Cllr R Bolden  
Cllr P Coulson  
Cllr A Deakin  
Cllr A Lyons  
Cllr E Pettit  
Cllr M Prince, Vice Chairwoman  
Cllr J Sewell  
Cllr R Spraggan  
Cllr R Webb

## 22.11 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Two residents from the Village in Bloom volunteers attended the meeting to express their concern about the wording of December Minute 21.63 and requested that it should state 'mis-communication' instead of 'poor communication'. It was advised that once approved Minutes cannot be amended. However, the residents' comments are noted and it was highlighted that the phrase 'poor communication' was in no way a reflection on the Village In Bloom volunteers as communication is a two-way process and their efforts are greatly appreciated. It was advised there was no intention to cause upset as the Parish Council are keen to work with this and other groups towards their mutual goals for improving the area.
- A Ramshaw resident attended the meeting to request support with installation of a defibrillator in their area as their closest device is situated in Evenwood. The resident proposed two suitable sites for a new defibrillator. It was advised that North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) are currently offering funding providing CCTV is situated in the vicinity. The resident advised she is trained and offered to provide the required maintenance checks.

It was advised that the existing device was purchased via the British Heart Foundation and it was advised that ongoing maintenance costs can create problems. It was advised that the Parish Council is the first port of call for support and, providing funding, a suitable location and a trained volunteer to carry out the required checks can be arranged, a defibrillator was agreed to be a beneficial assets to the Ramshaw area. It was suggested that the Bridge Inn landlord could be asked to facilitate a device on his premises.

## 22.12 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received from Cllr Maude for her absence.

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

### 22.13 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest declared.

### 22.14 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

### 22.15 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

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

Received      Paid

	Received	Paid
Zurich Insurance		£818.43
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£595.20
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£184.80
SE Landscaping - tree decoration and removal		£216.00

Concerns were raised by Parish Councillors about the ongoing problem of correspondence going to a previous email address. It was resolved that the current Clerk would request that the previous Clerk delete the address to avoid further disruption to the running of the Parish Council. ACTION: Clerk to send registered post letter.

### 22.16 LOCAL MAINTENANCE - ANY LOCAL ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION

- It was requested that DCC be asked to put the Ramshaw play area fence back up.
- It was reported that a tree is leaning towards the road near the traffic lights from Evenwood towards Ramshaw.
- It was highlighted that there are tree branches hanging from the cemetery which require pruning.

### 22.17 To RECEIVE ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

It was confirmed that the allotment holders need to complete their new Allotment Holder's Agreements. ACTION: Clerk to write to those outstanding.

### 22.18 To RECEIVE WELFARE GROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

- It was reported that the Welfare Ground security hut roof was blown off in the recent storm. A claim has been submitted to Zurich insurance company and their response is awaited.
- Further to a request from the Cricket Club to apply for funding to replace the damaged fencing, it was resolved that the Parish Council are responsible for the maintenance of the Welfare Ground perimeter fence. The Parish Council

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

will therefore arrange for the damaged fencing to be taken down and obtain two quotes for replacement fencing at the earliest convenience.

- It was advised that a new sign is required for the play area to provide contact details and that no dogs are allowed. ACTION: Clerk to arrange with DECO to obtain a sign to be sited on the entrance gate.
- Grass cutting quotes were obtained for options of 1-year and 3-year contracts with the existing contractor, CE Walker. It was resolved that the 3-year contract offer be accepted. ACTION: Clerk to arrange and set up direct debit payments.
- It was suggested a section near the play area be reviewed and tidied up as a one-off project.
- It was reported that the grass verge through Ramshaw has previously been cut by the Parish Council and it was resolved that as this is the responsibility of DCC they should be cutting it. It was resolved that DCC should be asked to maintain the area in the long-term and the Ramshaw cutting is to be removed from the 3-year contract.
- It was resolved the litter bin recently purchased can be utilised at Lands and DCC would need to be notified to ensure it is emptied.
- To commemorate the Queen's Jubilee it was suggested that a new seat be purchased and plaques added to the existing seats. This item will be considered fully at the next meeting.

#### **22.19 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES**

There were no planning issues raised.

#### **22.20 To receive any items for meeting to be held Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 7.00 pm at Randolph Community Centre.**

- To consider purchase of an additional seat to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee.
- To receive update on progress with the Emergency Support initiative.

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