

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON

TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2018

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

Visitors: T. Brookes, Teesdale Mercury.
4 residents whose names were recorded

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A member of the public present spoke about the amount of litter in certain areas of the Village. They had been voluntarily picking up litter when out walk but wanted to check with Council this was OK. They were happy to continue.

It was noted that the litter picker employed by the parish council had recently had to Stop due to ill health.

The residents were informed the issue would be discussed further under agenda item 5

A resident spoke on the planning application for 4B The Centre, Evenwood – Change of use from A1 to A3/5. They were objecting to the proposed change being approved because of the lack of appropriate ventilation/extraction when cooking. As they lived behind the property they are subject to cooking smells affecting their only open space. It was alleged the owner did not have adequate measures in place to reduce this. There were other issues of noise and parking.

The residents were advised the planning application will be discussed under agenda item 9. They were welcome to remain but would not be allowed to speak.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were tendered and approved for Cllr's Webb and Donovan (unwell).
No apologies were received from Cllr English

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr Lyons declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 - DM/17/04086/FPA

3. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2018:

RESOLVED: The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 9TH January 2018 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Spraggon and seconded by Cllr Lyons

4. PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2018:

The Clerk confirmed his report issued with the agenda.

The monthly crime statistics were noted:

Theft

Stones End. Theft of coat. No suspects/witnesses/CCTV.

Stones End. Theft of money. No suspects/witnesses/CCTV.

Criminal Damage

Chapel Street. Windows broken, large stones used. No suspects/witnesses/CCTV.

The Centre. Snowballs thrown in the direction of Central Stores smashing store window.

Burglary – Residential

Newholme Crescent. Shed broken into.

Road Traffic Collision

Gordon Lane. JCB cause damage to bridge, made off.

Newholme Crescent. 2 vehicle RTC.

Shirley Close. 2 vehicle RTC.

Road Related

The Oaks. Sheep loose on road.

Gordon Lane. Neighbour dispute.

Wellgarth. Parking obstruction. Vehicle moved by registered keeper.

Bank Top. Manner of driving. Observations passed.

Copeland Lane. Loose horses.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Newholme Crescent. Off road bike.

Accrington Terrace. X6 youths on bench causing youth nuisance.

Raby Street. Youths throwing snowballs.

The Centre. Youths throwing sticks.

In addition to the above. Home visits have been carried out to parents/guardians of youths known to be causing issues in Evenwood.

RESOLVED: The January Progress Report as presented be noted.

5. LOCAL MAINTENANCE:

Cllr Prince referred to the street lights reported previously had not yet been repaired.

Kayshall Farm site is still not as secure as the council would like. **Action:** Write and advise Mr Linsley (owner)

Bus shelter at Bank Top in need of cleaning. **Action:** DCC to be notified as their responsibility

The Clothes bank that appeared next to the café. Arrangements should be made to contact the 'owners' and ask for its removal. **Action:** Clerk to make contact.

The issue of litter picking following David Place stopping was discussed.

The council are content with people picking up on a voluntary basis

It was agreed to place something on the council website to advertise for a litter picker

Action: Clerk to update website

The Clerk informed members the dry stone wall at the top of Oaks Bank has now been repaired. Members commented on the quality of the repair.

6. CORRESPONDANCE:

None

7. INTERSERVE – RIVER GAUNLESS NWL LEGACY:

This item was deferred from November to allow members to consider small projects the 'legacy' money could be used for.

The Clerk reminded members the amount would be in the region of around £1000

A piece of play equipment in the play area was mentioned but the costs would be in excess

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sewell the money should be used toward the fund to improve the Christmas lights. Seconded by Cllr Spraggon.

8. FINANCE/ACOUNTS:

8.1 February Finance Report

Cllr Nicholson referred to the invoice from DCC for the costs of the May Evenwood Ward election. The figure of £1187.39 was considered high given the County Council elections were the same day. Is the Parish Council paying all the staff costs, premises hire, transport and equipment costs? How have they separated the costs?

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sewell and seconded by Cllr Spraggon the invoice is not paid until the county council explain in more detail the costs the parish council are expected to pay. The remainder of the Financial report was a true record.

8.2 To review the councils Financial Control Risk Assessment

RESOLVRD: It was proposed by Cllr Prince the council's Financial Control Risk Assessment in place was appropriate. Seconded by Cllr Lyons

8.3 To consider donation requests from:

Great North Air Ambulance & The Learning Library

The Clerk informed members that the request to obtain further information from the Learning Library on its support locally had gone unanswered. Members agreed this precluded them from receiving any donation.

Great North Air Ambulance: **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Prince the parish council donate £100 to the service. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Townsend

9. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS:

Before referring to the planning applications the Clerk spoke on the issue of a wall that was erected on the public footpath by the owner of the former Bridge Inn, Ramshaw. This issue was originally referred to planning enforcement but then passed to Highways. In

October 2017 the owners of no's 1 and 2 were advised about applying for retrospective planning permission for the wall(s), with no guarantee it would be approved. It has now been decided the wall can remain, without the need for planning approval, or the chance for residents to object. The owners of no's 1 and 2 will a construct a new tarmac footpath. Concerns were raised that as the structures were on adopted highway and this was allowing people to extend their property onto adopted highway without any redress. Members were concerned that this was being allowed and does it mean other owners of properties can build out onto the adopted highway? Further concerns were raised over the path to be constructed narrowing the carriageway. This location, by the Ramshaw Bridge is seeing an increasing number of accidents/collisions. Cllr Nicholson referred to the owners earlier planning permission. The wall did not form part of this and planning permission was needed. This should apply now and for no.2. It was agreed the parish council refer the matter back to the officer and insist the matter is dealt with under a planning issue. There are a number of genuine concerns over the decision that appears to have been. Action: Clerk to contact DCC planners and highways

DM/18/00115/OUT Mrs J Wallace, West Tees Ltd, Gordon Lane, Ramshaw – Demolition of existing building and residential development (outline) 16 dwellings all matters reserved. Members reserved comment until it receives a full planning application which include the statutory coal/mine survey and details regarding access.

DM/18/00300/FPA Mr D Campbell, 8 Accrington Terrace, Evenwood – Single storey rear extension. Noted.

DM/18/00343/FPA – Construction of MCC Kiosk – Sewage Treatment works, the Mill, Evenwood. Noted.

DM/17/04086/FPA Mr D Crowther – 4B The Centre, Evenwood – Change of use from A1 to A3/5. Members discussed the proposal, as submitted, and while they had sympathy for the residents that spoke under Public Participation they could not see a valid planning reason to object. It was noted the environmental health had visited the establishment as is, and the planning officer had also been at the premises. Members felt it should be for the officers to consider any objection the residents submit, against what is legally required for this establishment.

10. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING & AGENDA ITEMS:

Tuesday 13 March 7.00pm, Parish Hall, Evenwood

DCC – Durham County Council

Signed.....

Dated.....

