

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 10th January 2023 at 7.00 pm,
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

Present: Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman
Cllr R Bolden
Cllr J Cosslett
Cllr E Pettit
Cllr J Sewell
Cllr R Spraggan
Cllr R Webb

23.01 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

23.02 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllr A Deakin, Cllr A Lyons, Cllr B Maude & Cllr M Prince,

23.03 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest declared.

23.04 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

23.05 To CONSIDER PLAYDALE UNPLANNED INSPECTION AND QUOTE

Following receipt of the report from Playdale advising minor repairs are required on the equipment they installed 18 months ago, the Parish Council resolved to abide by the recent ROSPA inspection and dismiss the quote from Playdale as the Parish Council expected the Playdale warranty to include fittings for equipment they installed in 2021. The Parish Council have adhered to ROSPA inspection actions and will continue with annual ROSPA inspections in future.

23.06 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

The poor state of Evenwood was raised with an increase of dog faeces, rubbish and broken glass throughout the area. It was advised that Ramshaw has the same problems with irresponsible dog walkers. ACTION: Clerk to report.

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

It was advised that a section of path near the cemetery gates on Oaks Bank requires repair; it was advised that this was reported and patched last year. ACTION: Clerk to report.

Speeding traffic continues to be a concern with vehicles disregarding pinch points where cars are parked. ACTION: Clerk to report.

A Jacob Wrights cottages' meeting has recently taken place with nothing untoward to report.

Concerns about the leaves and debris at the cemetery was raised. ACTION: Clerk to report.

Red traffic lights out on the Ramshaw bridge approach to Evenwood. ACTION: Clerk to report.

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

The Clerk welcomed the newly elected Cllr James Cosslett.

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

	Received	Paid
Bank charges		£8.00
Clerk's Qtr Salary		£1,036.80
Printer cartridges x 8		£51.98
Lintons Printers - Emergency Planning Residents letter		£95.00

A resident’s letter informing of a Emergency Plan meeting on Tuesday, 24th January 2023 has been printed. Cllr Bolden and Cllr Pettit, who are leading on the initiative, requested support with delivery to every household.

It was advised that since the last meeting, with intent of resolving Welfare Ground management and governance, the Chair and Clerk met with DCC Community Engagement team representatives for advice. It was suggested at the meeting that Wrigley’s Solicitor, who specialise in CISWO, be approached to provide a letter clarifying the Charity Commission status conditions in laymen’s’ terms. The Clerk has approached the solicitors and been informed that a cost of £1,250 plus VAT would be incurred to produce the requested letter. It was resolved that the Parish Council cannot justify this expense at present and it was agreed to write to the user group to seek resolution on outstanding issues.

It was resolved that following advice taken and having considered the points raised in the recent email, a letter will be sent to the cricketers to outline the following:

Chairwoman’s Signature..... Date.....

- (a) The outstanding utilities invoice of £658.35 was reviewed and remains owing; immediate payment is to be requested. The cricketers are to be advised that no further utilities will be made available until the invoice is paid.
- (b) In order to abide with Charity Commission status conditions, the only option to accommodate the request for siting of permanent cricket nets is for them to be installed in another area of the Welfare Ground which will meet the Charity Commission condition of available to all at all times.
- (c) The Parish Council could approach the Charity Commission with a request for removal of charity status for some Welfare Ground land which, would not result in loss of land but it would remove the specific area from charity status restrictions. This would allow the cricketers to develop the area without the current restrictions of charity status but current market rent would be required.

23.08 CONSIDER ANY LOCAL ISSUES TO REPORT TO DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

There were no local issues raised.

23.09 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no local plans to consider.

**23.10 To RECEIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING to be held
Tuesday, 14 February 2023, 7.00 pm at Randolph Community Centre.**

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