

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 13th June 2023 at 7.00 pm,
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

Present: Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman
Cllr J Cosslett
Cllr A Deakin
Cllr A Lyons
Cllr B Maude
Cllr B Medhurst
Cllr E Pettit
Cllr R Spraggon

23.50 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

23.51 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllr R Bolden and Cllr R Webb. It was with regret that the Clerk advised that Mary Prince has resigned with immediate effect; Mary's commitment over the years has been an asset to the area.

23.52 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

23.53 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

23.54 To CONSIDER COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- It was advised that Ramshaw have identified a suitable defibrillator and request that the Parish Council purchase the device and DCC reimburse the payment when funding is processed as agreed at Cllr Cosslett's request. The maintenance and location of the defibrillator will be provided by Ramshaw residents. The Parish Council support this initiative.
- It was reported that there is new road signage from the Cockfield approach has been sited by DCC to encourage traffic speed reduction.
- The Parish Council was asked for support with obtaining flashing speed matrix; the Parish Council would welcome any assistance with reducing speeding traffic through Evenwood.
- The current Burnlea Farm planning application was considered and the Parish Council support DCC councillors in objecting to the proposals.

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

- It was advised that DCC led initiative for an Emergency Plan ran a practice scenario at Lands and volunteers will be asked to participate in a table top training exercise to test scenarios in Evenwood. It was advised that funding will become available and needs to be applied for in due course to support this initiative.
- It was reported that a resident has again asked the Parish Council to consider her removing trees and allowing some floral planting. The resident has been advised that nothing can be done until after nesting season at the end of August. It was resolved that the Clerk will respond to her by letter.
- It was reported that volunteers have made various improvements to the groundworks in the cemetery and their efforts were commended.
- It was advised that a letter has been received from the Randolph Institute to request permission to gather on the village green to commemorate their building being open for 125 years. The event on 13th July 2023 is supported by the Parish Council.
- It was advised that a new Delaware allotment holder is keeping bees and another allotment holder has raised concerns. Due to the increase from 1 hive to 4 hives the allotments subgroup will investigate concerns.

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

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

	Received	Paid
Pavilion cleaning materials		£40.00
CE & CM Walker Ltd - grass cutting		£204.00
CE & CM Walker Ltd - grass cutting		£595.20
LJ Digital Annual Website hosting		£113.99
B Mundell - Bank Top damaged groundwork repair		£330.00
Christmas Lights, Andrew Kaye, Cornerstone		£2,000.00

- It was reported that Wayne Brown, DCC has advised there may be funding available for sports facilities and it was resolved that Wayne be invited to the next meeting to explain the initiative to Parish Councillors prior to their consideration of approval.

23.56 TO CONSIDER LOCAL ISSUES TO REPORT TO DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

- A request was made for DCC to provide a replacement Bus Stop sign at Bank Top.
- It was highlighted that DCC have still provided no answer to the request to site a seat at Lands; in view of the 2 years wait and numerous follow-up emails and requests, the Parish Council resolved to purchase a replacement bench seat.
- It was reported that the pavement between 7 – 22 High Lands is in poor repair and will be reported by the Clerk.

Chairwoman’s Signature..... Date.....

- Two dog bins were requested; one Low Lands and one at High Lands.

23.57 To CONSIDER SUPPORT WITH DONATION TOWARDS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Following consideration, it was resolved that the Parish Council will contribute £2,000 towards village Cornerstone Christmas lights initiative, providing the donation is specifically for purchase of lights and not for repairs or infrastructure. Clerk to contact Andrew Kaye and arrange payment.

23.58 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no local plans to consider.

23.59 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD 11th July 2023

There were no specific agenda items received.

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