

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 11th July 2023 at 7.00 pm,
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

Present: Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman
Cllr R Bolden, vice-Chairman
Cllr J Cosslett
Cllr A Lyons
Cllr B Maude
Cllr E Pettit
Cllr R Spraggon
Cllr R Webb

23.60 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Wayne Brown attended the meeting to provide an overview of the available application for Football Foundation Play Zones, size 30m x 20 m, which are multi-use facilities for all age groups. The Play Zones were described as a hybrid of a multi-use games area with the new ones having 3m high fences, being floodlit and having padlocked gates. A central booking system costing the Parish Council approximately £1,500 per year would be required to manage timed allocation of use and any proceeds from bookings would then be given to the Parish Council. Charity requirements of being open to all were queried and it was advised by Wayne there is an element of allocated times being freely open to all. There is maximum funding of up to £150,000 available; 25% match funding from s106 and other available funds to the area would be required. The Parish Council resolved to proceed with enquiries and were, in principle, in favour of the project.
- Members of the public attended to raise their concerns about changes to access arrangements on Plans for a housing development at Kay's Hall Farm. At present refuse trucks struggle to access the existing narrow streets and roads and the added traffic was considered a burden on already poor road infrastructure. Plot 35 and 36 on the Plans will overlook the garden of 1 Alpine Close. The resident of the bungalow at 8 The Green raised concern about the lack of privacy as the bungalow will be dwarfed by overlooking houses. It was resolved that the Parish Council will request a meeting with a representative from the DCC Planning Department via Cllr Cosslett.

23.61 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies from Cllr A Deakin and Cllr B Medhurst.

23.62 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

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

23.63 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

23.64 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no local plans to consider.

23.65 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

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

	Received	Paid
Bank charges		£9.00
Smith Roddam Solicitors - 1 hour advice and phone calls		£720.00
Anglian Water		£184.68
Welfare Ground General Repairs - G Dunn		£250.00
Clerk's salary		£1,036.80
CE & CM Walker Ltd - grass cutting		£204.00
CE & CM Walker Ltd - grass cutting		£595.20
Glasdon - Lands Seat		£730.92
Water rates from Cricketers	£184.68	

The June quarter end accounts were approved as a true record.

23.66 To CONSIDER COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- It was highlighted that the bins at the McColls shop are not big enough to facilitate the amount of rubbish generated. It was advised that the shop needs to arrange a contract for a commercial bin.
- The damage to the bus shelter on Oaks Banks was highlighted. A cost for a canter-lever bus shelter was investigated and considered out of reach of available funds. It was resolved that the damaged bus shelter should be removed. Clerk to arrange with groundsmen and make enquiries asking the bus company or DCC if they can provide a replacement.
- The tree at Bank Top, near the car repair Body Shop needs pruning. Clerk to request local groundsmen.
- It was advised that a Jacob Wright owned house is now available and is being advertised as vacant.
- An update was provided about the allotments. It was reported that the bee hives are not causing a problem. A significant amount of fly tipping was highlighted and photographs containing addresses will be submitted to DCC.

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

- It was reported that the owner of a field adjacent to Delaware Allotments has installed a large gate. The Clerk has written to the land owner as requested and forwarded his replies to the Parish Council.
- Concerns were raised about fires being lit during the day by some residents at Ramshaw. It was confirmed on DCC website that domestic fires are not permitted.

23.67 TO CONSIDER LOCAL ISSUES TO REPORT TO DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

It was advised that the footpath sign at St Paul's at Bank Top and the one towards Southview have not yet been replaced. Clerk to follow-up previous requests.

23.68 TO CONSIDER SUPPORT WITH DONATION TOWARDS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

An update on Christmas lights progress was requested ahead of the September meeting so the Parish Council can then decide whether to also provide Christmas lighting. Clerk to request the update.

23.69 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD 12th September 2023

There were no specific agenda items received.

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