

## Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

### MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON

**TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018**

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

Visitors: M. Paul Teesdale Mercury.  
1 residents whose name was recorded

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

The member of the public present did not wish to speak

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies were tendered and approved for Cllr Donovan for this meeting and for April's meeting in advance (personal).

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None declared

#### **3. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2018:**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Maude and seconded by Cllr Prince

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2018:**

The Clerk confirmed his report issued with the agenda.

The monthly crime statistics were noted:

#### Theft

12/02 – Jubilee Terrace. Hens stolen. No witnesses/CCTV.

#### Criminal Damage

11/02 – Manor Road. Brick thrown through window of property. Community resolution. Offender paid for replacement window.

#### Vehicle Crime

06/02 – The Centre. Discarded nails in vehicle tyre. No witness/CCTV.  
06/02 – Gordon Lane. Theft of vehicle. No further lines of enquiry.

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Dated.....

RTC

07/02 – Oaks Bank. Car v telegraph pole.

Road Related

06/02 – Shirley Close. Manner of driving. Observations passed.

10/02 – Chapel Street. Abandoned vehicle. Recovered as causing obstruction.

ASB – Personal

14/02 – Gordon Lane. Neighbour Dispute.

ASB – Nuisance

11/02 – Manor Street. Youth nuisance. Area search no trace.

13/02 – Accrington Terrace. Youth nuisance. Area search no trace.

20/02 – Accrington Terrace. Youth nuisance. Area search no trace.

21/02 – Manor Street. Youth nuisance. Named youth spoken to in area. Details to ASB Unit.

22/02 – Manor Street. Youth nuisance. Youths stopped near to scene. Spoken to and details to ASB Unit.

24/02 – Accrington Terrace. Youth nuisance. Area search no trace.

25/02 – Accrington Terrace. Youth nuisance. Area search no trace.

ASB – Environment

22/02 – Kays Hall Farm. Camp fire which was extinguished.

**RESOLVED:** The March Progress Report as presented be noted.

**5. LOCAL MAINTENANCE:**

5.1 Cllr Sewell referred to flooding at Lands between the old chapel and the cricket pitch. It was across the width of the carriageway and deep. **Action:** The Clerk will report this to DCC

5.2 Cllr Prince referred to the poor state of the grass verge area at Jubilee Terrace. The amount of cars parking on the verge has seen it become in a poor state and mud is being transferred on to the footpath. **Action:** The Clerk will endeavour to discuss this issue with DCC highways in order for a repair or a longer term solution

5.3 Cllr Prince reported the footpath drain outside Brookside was again blocked. **Action:** Issue to be referred to DCC highways

5.4 Cllr Lyons referred to the verge area below the layby by Ramshaw School. Parents have been using the verge to park and to turn around which has resulted in the area becoming very churned up. **Action:** see 5.2

Reference was made to the amount of dog fouling litter around the parish. Members agreed it was unacceptable and anti social but it required residents reporting offenders if they are seen.

5.5 The continued youth nuisance problem was highlighted. Members were concerned it does not appear to reduce and the same groups are causing the same problems. Residents who have called the Police have not seen action and are getting concerned.

It was agreed that the council should look to arrange a public meeting to hear residents' views. Mike Barton, Chief Constable of Durham will be invited to attend. **Action:** The Clerk to contact the Police to progress.

5.6 Cllr Prince and Cllr Townsend gave members a verbal report following a Welfare Ground walk round. Main points:

Play area – picnic bench with a piece missing; ground mesh around the swings in need of

replacing; toddler swings in a poor state and in need of replacing; some older equipment could do with a bit of painting. The basketball hoop was felt to be redundant and consideration should be given to removing it. The trim trail and wooden items installed a few years ago are in good condition.

It was agreed the equipment in need of repair would be sectioned off, so it cannot be used. The Clerk informed members that these works, if agreed would require external funding. The general state of the rest of the grounds was seen as OK. Cllr Nicholson informed members that the boundary around the football pitch will be painted in the spring. The Clerk had arranged with the Reparation Officer in DCC for this to be done. The paint has been purchased out of the Chair's Fund.

**6. CORRESPONDANCE:**

6.1 Ron Hogg, Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner – Police Engagement with Local Councils. Members noted the line '*Town and Parish Councils can expect local officers, when requested, to attend meetings to discuss the issues within the area.*'

6.2 Great North Air Ambulance – Thank you to the parish council for the £100 donation

**7. FINANCE/ACCOUNTS:**

7.1 March Financial Report

The Clerk referred to the invoice from DCC for the costs of the May 2017 Evenwood Ward election. At the February meeting members had requested the figure is questioned as considered high. The Clerk report that it was DCC practice to recharge parish councils for costs of any elections held, both in the year of all out elections and any by-elections.

Following a discussion on the costs:

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr English and seconded by Cllr Townsend to obtain clarification as to when the policy of dividing the costs of elections was relayed to parish councils, and this council believes the venue hire and other polling station costs should not be shared as costs due to be incurred by DCC. **RESOLVED:** The March Financial Report issued with the agenda was proposed as a true record by Cllr Maude and seconded by Cllr Spraggon

**8. PLANNING:**

None

**9. ALLOTMENT RENTS:**

Collection Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 10am to 12 noon Randolph Community Centre

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

Tuesday 10 April 2018, 7.00pm, Randolph Community Centre, Evenwood

Signed.....

Dated.....





















