

# Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.00 pm,  
Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland DL14 9RE

**Present:** Cllr B Nicholson, Chairwoman  
Cllr R Bolden  
Cllr P Coulson  
Cllr A Deakin  
Cllr B Maude  
Cllr E Pettit  
Cllr M Prince, Vice Chairwoman  
Cllr J Sewell  
Cllr R Spraggan  
Cllr A Webb

## 21.36 To INVITE COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present. Trevor Brookes, Teesdale Mercury Reporter was in attendance.

## 21.37 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr R Webb.

## 21.38 DECLARATION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Bolden, Cllr Coulson, and Cllr Maude expressed an interest in an item being raised on the agenda as they live in close proximity of The Centre, Evenwood.\*

## 21.39 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

## 21.40 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

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

	Received	Paid
HMRC – PAYE		£259.20
Bauer Consumer Med (reimbursed in error)	£35.00	
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£184.80
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£667.20
s106	£1,900.00	
MAZARS - External Audit		£408.00
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£643.20
CE & CM Walker - grasscutting		£184.80
LJ Media – website		£102.94
CDALC Councillors Guides		£39.99
Randolph Community Centre- defib pads		£52.80
Randolph Community Centre- defib battery		£23.71

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It was advised that HSBC bank will be charging £8 per month with effect from November 2021 and highlighted that in addition to the Parish Council, the Welfare Ground charity also has an account and would be charged £5. It was resolved that the accounts are to be merged to avoid the additional £5 charge; bank reconciliation and audit will show Parish and Welfare Grounds funds as separate.

#### **21.41 LOCAL MAINTENANCE - ANY LOCAL ISSUES REQUIRING ATTENTION**

- It was reported that the Community Centre has been paying for defibrillator parts and resolved that the Parish Council will reimburse the cost of the battery and pad purchased. It was confirmed that there is a defibrillator maintenance contract in place and the device is regularly checked. As it is often used by the Care Home, it was suggested that the Care Home would benefit from having their own device.

It was reported that the 30 mph sign on Copeland Road approach towards Evenwood is dirty and not visible due to overgrown hedges. ACTION: Clerk to report to DCC.

A request was made for DCC to complete hedge cutting and clearing at Ramshaw. ACTION: Clerk to request.

\* The Centre, Evenwood - A new resident has raised concerns about the poor state and pot holes on the unadopted road approaching her home. It was agreed that the Parish Council have no authority with this and Durham County Council have no obligation to maintain unadopted roads. It was suggested that the resident approach local County Councillors who may have some influence and access to any available funding. It was suggested that road plainings may help in the interim but they are a short term solution. The resident has also complained about speeding traffic and has been signposted to the police.

It was reported that the dog warden has been monitoring the area since June 2021 and advises that there have been no incidents of dog owners allowing their pets to foul without cleaning it up. This was agreed to be incorrect by those present due to the amount of dog faeces evident in public places.

The Parish Council requests 4 wreaths for Remembrance Sunday and it was advised that the shrubs at the Devonshire Place Memorial need to be pruned. ACTION: Clerk to order wreaths and request that Brian Mundell cuts the shrubs. Cllr Nicholson kindly agreed to be the contact to advise him on what is required.

It was reported that the sculpture made by Dr Said is being powder coated and an update on an agreed location will be provided at the next meeting.

#### **21.42 TO RECEIVE ALLOTMENTS UPDATE**

It was confirmed a horse, being stabled at the allotments, has now been removed as instructed by the Parish Council because the allotment holding owner did not have permission to keep it there..

#### **21.43 TO RECEIVE WELFARE GROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE**

It was confirmed that the 2021 Welfare Ground hire fees have not yet been received from the footballers. ACTION: Clerk to request immediate payment to be delivered to the Randolph Centre. (Reply received advising that the footballers' account is temporarily frozen).

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

It was highlighted that the Welfare Ground is in an improved state and hire fees are kept to a minimum to encourage community use and participation in the various activities the facility offers.

**i. To receive update on upgrading play area equipment**

It was confirmed that three new items of equipment have been ordered for the play area and Play Dale were due to commence interim works Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021; Play Dale advised that as cradle swings are not yet available there is a delay in completion.

**21.44 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES**

It was reported that the owner of the Ramshaw glamping development has commenced works despite the fact that the Planning application has not been approved. The Parish Council have submitted interim comments and have a tight deadline for further formal comments.

It was resolved that the Planning Department will be asked to include concerns about the loss of Rights of Way and reduction of woodland in the area. The Parish Council strongly object as Ramshaw is again singled out for an increase of traffic and already swamped with commercial development. As there is little or no information regarding drainage and the safety aspects of the development, which is in close proximity to the Gaunless river, further detail needs to be understood. As the plans include hot tubs it was highlighted that screening would be required for participants privacy and more importantly for the protection of children on the play area opposite. There are concerns about light pollution with the development.

It was agreed that Copeland Barns application would create an influx of traffic on an already dangerous road with a blind bend known for speeding traffic. The application for agricultural distribution was considered vague and wide open to various activity.

**21.45 To receive any items for meeting to be held Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 7.00 pm at Randolph Community Centre.**

Quarter End & Budget Setting.  
No new other items requested for inclusion in next agenda.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....