

EMBSAY WITH EASTBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th November 2023, 7:30pm at the Methodist Chapel.

PRESENT: Chair: Cllr Judith Benjamin, Cllrs Vince Smith, Stella Kirkbride, Brian Shuttleworth. Paul Peppiate, David Hill

Also, in Attendance: The Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 4

Welcome: Chair welcomed everyone for their attendance - opened the meeting.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Andrew Ayrton, Ann Briggs, and County Cllr Noland
- 2. DECLARATION OF ANY PERSONAL OR FINANCIAL INTERESTS:** Cllr Kirkbride, Cllr Peppiate
- 3. APPLICATION FOR ANY DISPENSATIONS:** None.
- 4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING**

The last Ordinary Parish Council Meeting was held on the 11th October 2023

The minutes of this meeting had been circulated previously.

Approved and signed.

4.1 Affordable Housing Response – JLB Reported that the Parish Council's response had been sent to Andrew Carruthers and acknowledged as received. Awaiting answers to the questions raised.

4.2 Recreation Ground Table – The Clerk is awaiting a quote.

4.3 Christmas Lights – BS has not tested the lights yet due to severe weather but will endeavour to have them ready for December 1st switch on.

Trevor Kent had approached SK to ask if he could gain access to the junction box for the music at the Christmas Carol event again this year.

Agreed

- 5. GUEST:** The Chair welcomed Inspector Julie Earnshaw from the Neighbourhood Policing Team who began by informing members that she had been part of the Craven area team for over a year. Previously she had been attached to CID for 25years and is a resident of Carlton in Craven.

Part of her duties is to attend Parish Council meetings and report statistical data regarding criminal activities within Craven. Embsay with Eastby is the lowest and therefore the safest place to live. She reported 17 incidents and 15 crimes reported between the 16th August and the 7th November 2023. She agreed that whilst 15 crimes are still too many these can be made up of a combination of domestic crime, street altercations and road traffic violations.

In answer to questions raised regarding PCSO, there will be no more PCSO recruitment. There are at present 7 out of a possible 11 PCSO's operating in Craven. Hopefully, by April 2024 they could be 10 places filled. There are 5 Police Officers assigned to the Craven area with a possible increase to 7 with 1 detailed to the Parish. It's all about supply and demand and as Embsay with Eastby is a low-risk area the demand is elsewhere. Any local events where a Police presence is requested would be covered by the 3 Public Safety Officers who work alongside the Police.

BS Asked if there was any record of police action regarding the crimes committed?

Insp. Earnshaw did not have the (Positive Disposal) data to hand but could produce it on request. This information can also be accessed on the North Yorkshire Police website.

www.police.uk/pu/your-area/north-yorkshire-police/craven

PP Asked if PCSOs were still active with Meet & Greet role and drop-in sessions.

Insp. Earnshaw replied this was on Ward Allocation and sessions can be found on the website under Skipton East. The dwindling numbers of PCSOs are due to movement, role changes and sickness. The number was fewer than people would like.

DH Asked if the Police were still actively engaging with schools and playgroups?

Insp. Earnshaw replied that the Safeway team were still attending schools' engagement sessions, along with Parents Reviews and Parish Council meetings. These engagements are now part of Professional Development.

VS Asked what the North Yorkshire Police stance was on the 20mph speed limit, and would they support villages like EwE in enforcing them should they be approved by Highways.

Insp. Earnshaw replied that as the Law stands the Police/ Traffic enforcement can only enforce penalties on drivers exceeding 30mph. Her personal view as a resident of a small rural village would be to support areas around schools being a 20mph zone. There is no active voice of National support from the police.

The Chair expressed thanks to Inspector Earnshaw for attending.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Mr Broughton asked where this 20mph limit would be? He asked why residents hadn't been consulted?

The Clerk replied that the Parish Council had been campaigning for the speed limit to be reduced for a number of years on behalf of the residents. Meetings had taken place to gage the parishioners' feelings on this matter.

Mr Broughton stated that he had not been asked, did not agree with it and asked where it had been advertised?

The Clerk responded that all action and discussions by the Parish Council are recorded in the minutes and can be found on the PC's own website. Articles and notices have been posted in the Emsay with Eastby Post and on 'Emsay Update' on Facebook. Mr Haspell supported the Clerk's response.

Cllr Hill explained that the Speed Watch team have sufficient data to indicate that there are as many parishioners in favour of a 20mph limit as those against it. The village has a speeding issue and the Parish Council is attempting to influence North Yorkshire Council to include 20mph on certain roads.

Cllr Smith explained that the Parish Council had authorised and paid for a speed survey by Area 5 Highways and that data will be made available and published for parishioners to consider once received.

2. Mrs Roodhouse thanked the Parish Council for all the work they do on behalf of the residents. She commented that the Eastby Entrance sign needed attention as it was beginning to show signs of wear. She had not inspected the Emsay Entrance sign due to the close proximity to the roadside but commented that the area is looking a little unkempt.

The Chair explained that the Emsay Entrance makeover was in hand. However, due to recent severe weather, volunteer holidays and sickness, there have been delays in getting thing started. An inspection of the Eastby Entrance will take place. **JLB to Action**

3. Mr Haspell asked if there had been any further response from his previous question to County Councillor Noland regarding Woolers' commitment to the football pitch?

The Clerk replied that a response was in County Councillor Noland's Report.

7. REPORT COUNTY COUNCILLOR NOLAND: reported on the following points (via the Clerk)

1. Planting on the green triangle on the end of Shires Lane. NYC Highways are happy with the planting of wildflowers on this island in principle (details to be agreed at the right time) but because of the limited space and visibility concerns, they do not feel that trees would be acceptable on this island.

The Clerk explained this was not a request by the Parish Council but by the Environmental Action Group, Therefore, any agreement reached with Highways must include a maintenance contract between the two parties.

2. Bus services- the response from NYC to adding services is that they have to be self-funding! Cllr Nolan will be having further discussions with Andrew Clarke (Public & Community Transport Manager at NYC) this week. On the issue of services often being full in the morning NYC quoted: "We have flagged the potential overloading issue to (the operator) and asked that they use the largest vehicle available," but they only use minibuses. NYC is waiting to see if any funding becomes available next year due to HS2 being abandoned. Mr Clark also confirmed he had sought feedback from all parishes ahead of the re-tendering exercise for existing supported services and will do similar for new funding."
3. Temporary bus stop removal - Andrew Clarke is 'waiting feedback from his colleagues.' (The Chair reported that this had been removed)
4. The football pitch on the Wooler development, one of the most pertinent sentences seems to be **"The original consultation response stated that the public open space contribution will be brought forward "by way of a planning gain contribution or for the developer to bring the land for the junior football pitch into full Football Association match standards". The developer has chosen the latter and is in the process of developing the pitches to such a standard by virtue of planning permission 2020/21348/FUL."** Woolers are using this site as a compound, so the pitch is likely to be the last thing that is developed. There is some dispute over this condition. What is certain is that the pitch will not be adult full size and that the club will only lease the pitch(es?) from Woolers. No ancillary buildings were ever agreed so no clubhouse/showers etc.
5. Cllr Keane Duncan has been invited to visit EWE- awaiting reply.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

8.1 Planning Updates – Circulated

8.2 Recommendations: - (Pending since last meeting.

- C/26/649B LOW SAWLEY BRACKENLEY LANE SINGLE STOREY GARAGE/UTILITY/GYM (No Obj)
- ZA23/25396/VAR LAND WEST OF CRICKET CLUB VARIATION OF CONDITION NO 2 (No Obj)
- C/26/816 22/10/2023 (late) 30 BRACKENLEY DRIVE DOUBLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION (Obj)
- C/26/151A 6 ROCKVILLE DRIVE SINGLE STOREY SIDE EXTENSION (Under review)

9. REPORTS FROM LEAD MEMBERS, COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES & OUTSIDE BODIES

9.1 Village Maintenance – JLB reported:

- Following on from complaints regarding the overgrown verges encroaching onto Pasture Road another letter with photographs was sent to Area 5 to action.
- Photos of self-seeding saplings on Kirk Lane have been sent and reported on Highways parish portal.
- Discussion with Grass Cutting Contactor regarding strimming of if the grass verge from Emsay entrance to the Railway bridge still to be arranged. **JLB to Action**
- A reminder to all residents regarding overhanging branches notices to appear in EwE Post. EwE PC Website and Emsay Update. **JLB/VS/PP to Action**
- Meeting for volunteers: date deferred to Spring.
- Cllr Kirkbride has requested gutter cleaning will report location to Clerk. **SK to Action**
- Surface condition of footpath to Eastby breaking up this is a public footpath NYC to be notified. **Clerk to Action**
- East Lane Loose paving flags. **Reported by PP**

9.2 Road Safety/ Speed-watch – VS/DH – No Speedwatch Report

- VS reported that the Area 5 report is still to arrive – any costs of agreed signage will be borne by the Parish Council. Clerk asked to contact asking why delayed response.
- **Clerk to action**
- Road signs have now been installed on Skipton Road showing the slip road and exit by the tree alongside 3 hazard signs indicating the crossing in 250yds and 150yds, and 6 signs indicating the speed limit.

9.3 Nature Reserve – Nothing to Report

9.4 Recreation Ground – JLB reported:

- Members from the Environmental Action Group have completed all the following in the Recreation Ground. Canopy of trees raised, Dead hedge for wildlife made from branches and log pile for wildlife made from bigger branches. Brambles and saplings removed. Perennials and bulbs planted. Benches refurbished. One bird box sited (hoping for some more).
- The 2 plastic compost bins in the corner not in use, have been offered a new home. These were acquired by Mark Walters for use by a community group: Chair asked if the PC was agreeable to asking Mrs Kipling to relocate them – but ask that they are retained by another group, if possible, e.g., allotments / environment group / memorial garden.

JLB to Action

- Mark Walters has indicated that due to ongoing other commitments he is intending to try and recruit more trustees to the Friends of the Recreation Ground. If this is not successful then the Group may have to 'fold' - but this could affect future fundraising. **Contact with PP**

9.5 Memorial Garden – BS reported that Mrs Whitham had undertaken the necessary clean up in preparation for the Remembrance Service. Wreaths for the PC, School and St Marys have been purchased.

9.6 Village Institute/FairTrade -SK reported.

- The Village Institute Clock is now working.
- There is an additional Fair Trade award certificate to be displayed in the Eastby noticeboard.
- SK attended the service held by the Bishop of Leeds at St Marys to celebrate the church along with winning a Gold Eco Church Award out of 360 other churches in the diocese.
- Litter pick attended by 14 adults and 2 children.

9.7 Car Park – Nothing to report.

9.8 Communication – PP – Explained the mapping and website newsletter costs. Agreed that a quarterly newsletter would be produced. **JLB/PP/CLERK to Action**

10. PC ADMINISTRATION.

10.1 Parish online - mapping webpage/newsletter **Proposed PP Seconded VS All Agreed Resolved**

10.2 Deferred Vote Environmental Action Group – **Deferred to February Proposed DH Seconded PP All Agreed**

10.3 Draft Budget 2024/25 Approval. **£31099 Proposed SK Second PP All Agreed Resolved**

VS raised 2 questions on the proposed budget.

(1) Why has the Grass Cutting Budget been reduced?

Clerk Responded – The annual budget is set always set in November of the previous year, in November 2022 the contractor in place at the time quoted us £9000 p.a. less VAT so that was what we had to set. Between November 2022 and April 2023, the PC engaged another contract with a reduced quote. Unfortunately, the contractor ended the contact 6mths later and a third contractor was engaged who has now given his reduced quote for the coming year.

(2) Given the number of trees in need of attention within the parish, why has the Clerk suggested a lower amount for tree maintenance?

Clerk responded – the budget set for 2023 was £3000 of which there was an underspend of £2000 therefore the £1500 should be sufficient to cover this year's allocation.

The Chair acknowledged and thanked the Clerk and Cllr Smith for all their hard work on preparing the budget.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS (Detailed Invoices approved for payment circulated)

11.1 Monthly Expenditure & Bank Reconciliation November **£3303.26**

11.2 Grant Applications. Allocations Made: EwE Good Neighbours £250, Holme Grown Eastby £150 and Environmental Action Group £100. **All Agreed**

12. REPORT OF THE PARISH CLERK (Clerk Admin report circulated) No Questions raised.

Internal Auditor quote received. Total costing £475. Obtaining second quote.

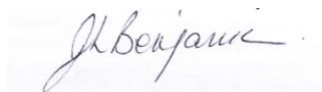
13. POLICIES & PROCEDURES REVIEWS – No reviews.

Item for discussion – Discussion took place on a request from the Village Institute Committee that the Building be recorded on its CIO asset register. The PC members will take legal advice and return in February with its answer.

Additional Item: Cllr Shuttleworth raised the issue of pedestrian safety on Shire Lane with gaps in the streetlighting, uneven road surface and poor definition of verges. It was agreed that BS would send a letter to the relevant agencies.

Meeting closed at: - 9:30pm

Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on the 14th February 2024 at 7:30 Venue: Village Institute Emsay. Contact Parish Clerk: Gillian Alcock Tel:07414850766 or Email: Alcockg@hotmail.co.uk



Chair Signature

Date 08/11/2023