

Minutes of the Eggington Parish Council
Meeting No.242– held on Wednesday 4th December 2024

PRESENT: Chair Craig Ramsay Vice Chair Simon King, Councillors Martine Tournay, Kerry Gorton, David Parkinson Paul Hyams
Ward Councillor, David Bligh

1.Apologies

Ward Councillors Mark Versallion Nigel Carnell, Kevin Pugh,

2.Public

None in attendance

3. Ward Councillors

Ward Councillor David Bligh reported that CBC had a meeting on social care and health, and basically, they gave 5 options that are not viable. Previously there had been a request that the town have another surgery and health facilities. They have now offered short term funding to update the Bassett Road surgery, and the dilemma is should that be accepted on the basis that funding will not be there for years. There is no indication that the new government will be funding primary care. The campaign will continue for the facilities and a meeting with MP Alex Mayer took place on the 4/12/24.

Ward Councillor David Bligh stated that there will be dramatic cuts by CBC and there will be a 5% increase in council tax, as the statutory obligations of education, social care and housing need to be met especially for SEN children and their transport as these have increased considerably. Ward Councillor David Bligh pointed out that for 2 years council tax was not increased with inflation which affected the revenue.

Chair Craig Ramsay asked if as a Parish Council could we help in any way, Ward Councillor David Bligh replied “Yes” write to MP Alex Mayer.

Chair Craig Ramsay to formally ask MP Alex Mayer for a meeting on the health care situation. And to include Ward Councillor David Bligh.

Ward Councillor David Bligh stated that the funding for the buses will be up for review in March or April next year.

Councillor David Parkinson pointed out that the timings of the buses for the school and train times are not conducive with getting to the train station and schools and they would get better usage if they reviewed their timetables. Councillor Paul Hyams remarked that the carpark at the station is often full because of the lack of buses.

Chair Craig Ramsay asked if one of the councillors from the Clipstone estate could email Arriva stating this problem.

Councillor David Parkinson referred to the matter of the naming of the street and that we had received an email regarding 3 possible names. As a Parish Council Chair Craig Ramsay pointed out we had proposed countryside theme names when asked our opinion, and we were ignored.

4. Planning

CB/ 24/24/03252 Curry House Change of function room and 1st floor loft to guest room.

Chair Craig Ramsay has spoken to the tenant of the restaurant and who has a 12-year lease with the Owner Mr Choudrey and he has been told that they are looking to extend. As this does not appear to affect the neighbours, Parish Council have no objection,

Councillor David Parkinson brought up the matter of Langley house tree preservation order on an Ash Tree. The owner Mr Ashley Waller has not asked for any permission for the lopping of a tree, Councillor David Parkinson has found out that the application has come from the Agents of Pecks Farm stating Mr Ashley Wallers address.

Councillor David Parkinson has notified the planning that this application has nothing to do with Langley House.

Mr Ashley Waller has been advised to talk to the owner of Pecks Farm and Chair Craig Ramsay to ask Steve Peck about this matter.

CBC/101292 Closure for Pathway Leighton Rd, Stanbridge Feb-April 2025.

Vice Chair Simon King has welcomed this as it has been an ongoing battle for a safe path for the last 3 years.

5. Clipstone

Vice Chair Simon King has passed on concerns of residents in Clipstone regarding street lighting not working to the consortium with no response and has threatened to escalate the complaint, a timeline for when these problems will be sorted has been requested.

Councillor David Parkinson remarked that the Parish council's suggestion of a countryside theme like 'Brook' for naming of Eastern Way had been ignored. CBC have come up with neutral names like 'Endeavour' and 'Endurance' though Ward Councillor David Bligh pointed out that nothing has been agreed yet.

6. Allotments

Vice Chair Simon King reported no response from the consortium regarding the hand over of the land and hopefully next meeting there will be more to report though it has been noted that there are diggers on site.

7. Requests for Funding

No funding requests.

8. Speed Data

To be added to the website

9. Village Update

Councillor Martine Tournay brought up the matter of the village Hall regarding taking on the Lease as a Parish Council and has contacted the lease holder who is no longer living in the village, and she felt it was not a very productive conversation.

Chair Craig Ramsay stated that any interaction with the lease holder must not be carried out by Councillor Martine Tournay as there is a conflict of interest with the councillor being on the committee of the Village Hall .

Councillor David Parkinson is awaiting an email from Rachel Pearse on the Village lease matter. Chair Craig Ramsay said it would be prudent of the Parish council to pursue taking on the village as this is integral part of the village life.

Chair Craig Ramsay has asked Councillor Martine Tournay to arrange with local contractor to make a hole for the Christmas tree in time for the lighting on the 7th December depending on the weather.

Councillor Kerry Gorton reported that the bedding works for the sign have begun. Funds have been paid for the plants in the flower bed and at the moment there is no definite date for delivery of the village sign.

Councillor Kerry Gorton has been asked by a resident if the parish council could intervene with a tree problem at the care home, it is over hanging and very dangerous. Chair Craig Ramsay replied that we could ask nicely the care home to maintain their tree as it is their responsibility, and we have had concerns from residents. Chair Craig Ramsay pointed out that they could request funding from the solar farm as the Church did for their trees. Ward Councillor David Bligh pointed out that the highways could put an enforcement notice on the care home if they felt it was a danger to the public.

Councillor David Parkinson has received quotes for new playground equipment for the village park to replace the see saw will range from £1000-£3000 and the resurfacing will cost around £5000 + VAT.

Councillor Martin Tournay has asked the local contractor for quote on refurbishing the equipment already there.

Councillor David Parkinson estimates that the price for the playground with the refurbishing to be approximately £10,000 that will be funded from the savings account. Chair Craig Ramsay stated that we could apply for funding from the Solar Farm as it is a community area. Ward Councillor David Bligh suggested contacting LTC Alex Shore with their suppliers of playground equipment for an alternative quote which the Solar Farm funding would need. Councillor David Parkinson to propose a middle cost device to compare with another quote.

10. Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations:

Councillor Martine Tournay declared that she was on the committee for the Village Hall.

11 Standing Orders

None were made.

12. To confirm Minutes of Meeting 241

Proposer Councillor David Parkinson
Seconder Councillor Kerry Gorton

13. Any other Business

Zurich inspection on the playground was the same as last year.
Councillor Martine Tournay was asked for the invoice for the rental of the hall.

Christmas tree light turn on at 5pm 7th Dec, a mince pie and the 1st drink of mulled wine or equivalent free at the village pub. All agreed. A notification to be put on whatsapp and face book.

Current Financial Situation

Current Account Lloyds	£8931.91
Current Account Barclays	£636.00
Savings Account Barclays	£33197.77
Solar farm Funds Balance	£29176.25

Invoices passed for payment; Pecks £320
CAB £500

Vice Chair Simon King to transfer the Barclays saving account to the new Lloyds savings account just leaving a small in the current account and will eventually be closed.

Chair Craig Ramsay pointed out that the savings are now being spent with a better way of planning and to keep a reasonable amount in reserves.

Chair Craig Ramsay proposed a Solar Farm Fund Meeting for Feb 2025 in regard to funds for the village playground.

Chair Craig Ramsay proposes that the precept to be set the same as 2024. Parish Clerk to do a forecast budget with inflation of 5% and to be shared with the Parish council for approval before the next meeting as the precept needs to be completed by the 20th January 2025. Ward Councillor David Bligh warned the Parish Council that CBC may propose that some expenses that were within CBC's domain may have to be found by the local Parish and to take this into account.

Close of Parish Council Meeting: Next Meeting 8th January 2025

This is true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed:

(chairman)

Date: 10th December 2024