

Minutes of the Eggington Parish Council
Meeting No.247– held on Wednesday 7th May 2025

PRESENT: Eggington Parish Council – Chair Craig Ramsay, Councillors David Parkinson & Kerry Gorton, Martine Tournay, Vice Chair Simon King

Ward Councillors – Nigel Carnell

1.Apologies

Ward Councillors – Kevin Pugh, David Bligh, Mark Versallion

2.Public

Resident Carol Jefferis enquired about the government devolution plans for local authorities. Ward Councillor Carnell replied that government have asked authorities to come forward for phase 1, but Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, Bedford, and Northamptonshire couldn't agree their preferred approach before the deadline so are not in phase 1. The authorities that are in Phase one of the devolution like Essex are finding it confusing with the time scale of 2 years and sorting out assets, job roles etc.

Chair Craig Ramsay concluded that the white paper can be read by the public but it doesn't affect town/parish councils at this time. We acknowledge that devolution is taking place, and our local district is not part of phase 1, when phase 2 comes along we will check with the ward councillors for updates.

Ward Councillor Nigel Carnell stated that the CBC governance review which is held every 10-15 years is generally Parish boundaries and nothing linked with devolution.

Chair Craig Ramsay stated that as a parish we are quite happy and do not have any plans to merge with another Parish. Ward Councillor Nigel Carnell stated that LLTC are taking the same position and also do not plan on proposing any boundary changes.

Carol Jefferies brought the matter of the litter in the village playground and if it could be possible for the Parish Council to provide a litter bin. Chair Craig Ramsay said there had been children from a party in the village hall that took drinks etc over to the park so could very well have been them who left the litter. The Parish Council agreed to take installation of a bin into consideration and explore the cost of using the grass cutting contractor to empty the bin.

3. Ward Councillors

Ward Councillor reported that it is the end of the financial year, and the budget has been agreed. There is a drive to have closer relationships with the Parishes and with the aim to meet with them on a more regular basis, possibly quarterly.

Councillor Simon King attended the presentation of the CBC budget, and the Parish will look to ensure there is an attendee at any presentation in the future.

Chair Craig Ramsay brought the subject of the consultation for the school buses and asked if the motivation is cutting the cost of transport. Councillor Nigel Carnell remarked that it had been a huge cost to the council, and they are out of kilter with other authorities, and looking to move towards the more common model nationally. It will not affect the children that are already using transport, their qualification will not be revoked. Residents can submit their comments; the Parish Council has advertised the consultation to them.

Chair Craig concluded that based on the Ward Councillors explanation, CBC have been more generous than the majority approach nationally for the school transport, and that as a Parish Council we don't have comments to make.

Councillor Martine Tournay mentioned that under the current policy SEN children are means tested for the transport once they reach 16 years.

Vice Chair Simon King reported that the new tidy tip online booking scheme was causing challenges with residents booking for a slot and asked if there are to be any improvements. Ward Councillor Nigel Carnell explained that it will be reviewed in 6 months, but this process does prevent people outside of the area using the tidy tip and that certain items incur higher costs in disposal, for example tyres and paint. Councillor Kerry Gorton pointed out that people do just turn up still, but it is at the discretion of the tidy tip workers if they let you in.

Councillor David Parkinson asked if the online booking has caused more fly tipping. Ward Councillor Nigel Carnell answered this is always being monitored, the current problem may be that black bins are fuller, and the contents go onto land fill, which have rising costs. It was pointed out that 10% of the population are isolated and have no smart phones or access to a computer to book a slot.

Vice Chair Simon King suggested that a dedicated weekly time slot that doesn't require upfront booking, such as a Wednesday morning, could be made available for elderly residents who are more likely to struggle with online booking systems. Ward Councillor advised that people who have feedback should share it with CBC.

4. Planning

CB/25/101089 St Micheals, High St Eggington, the Parish have no objection

CB/25/00212/RM, reserved matters, Councillor David Parkinson has responded and enquired about the planting as the last lot of planting of trees died and asked who will look after the proposed orchard. The pathways also end abruptly and don't seem to be joined up to the neighbouring parts of the village.

82 Wallis Drive, single Story extension, the Parish has no objection. CB/25/01330/LDCO applying for a lawful development certificate.

5. Clipstone

Vice Chair Simon King and Councillor David Parkinson have spoken to the technical directors of the developers for updates on the problems occurring at Clipstone. It has now been agreed that there is a working document that will be updated every month on the issues of the estate and the directors will respond with their comments. If it is a health and safety issue the Parish Council is able to email the Consortium directly with the developer directors copied.

Below are the key updates.

1. Allotments Ramsay Drive;

Parish Council to get a handover timeline by 9th May 2025.

2. Road Safety Audit;

Parish Council has been given access to these.

3. Fraserfield landslip and flooding;

GRM geotechnical specialists have been engaged to inspect, they have come up with 3 options for the land slip and are looking to remedy by the summer. Flooding occurred during extreme weather. A review has been undertaken. Instructions for additional land drainage at the tow of the embankment to increase capacity of existing land drainage in order to catch surface water run-off from the embankment before hitting the highway.

4. Faulty Street Lighting;

A survey from ECL has been requested.

5. Planting;

Replacement planting is targeted for November 2025

Vice Chair Simon King will add the issue of the water pressure to the working document as many residents on the Clipstone estate have complained of intermittent problems with the pressure. They have been advised to report this to the water company. Councillor David Parkinson fed back that since the water outage across Leighton Linlade the previous week and repairs the water pressure seems to have risen back to a normal level at peak times

A draft letter has been used by the residents and sent to the local MP who has now contacted some one senior at the water co.

Councillor David Parkinson explained that an S104 agreement determines who is responsible for parts of the estate until it is handed over to bodies such as CBC. Parish Council to investigate S104 and see if developer technical directors can confirm who is currently responsible for water pipes. The residents have also complained that drains are blocking in some parts of the estate.

Councillor David Parkinson reported that works seems to have started on improved drainage in the area around the playground by Clipstone Brook. This needs to be completed before the consortium will install the upgraded playground equipment.

Vice Chair Simon King reported the Perspex on one of the notice boards needs replacing, Councillor David Parkinson will be going to fix it with a budget holder to order the Perspex.

Vice Chair Simon King reported that a road sweeper for the construction is parking overnight in the residential area of the estate. The consortium has been contacted to request the construction team find somewhere in their site for it to be parked.

6. Allotments

As above, Parish Council is waiting on handover timeline from consortium.

7. Requests for Funding

No requests but Councillor David Parkinson advises we advertise more widely that monies are available to residents for community and organisation causes that support the Village.

8. Speed Data

All data will be updated to the Website.

		Apr-25			
	SID	Max Speed	Average Speed	40mph %	Number Cars
6146	Eggington North	57	27	99.9	9300
6548	Eggington South	47	24	99.9	9100
6352	Fraserfields North	88	30	97.5	89500
6338	Fraserfields South	93	32	96.5	105000
6145	Briggington North	81	28	99.5	78600
6491	Briggington South	NO STATS			

Vice Chair Simon King pointed out that all data will be passed to CBC when the roads are adopted as they will then have responsibility to take any action they deem appropriate.

9. Village Update

Councillor Kerry Gorton to get official quotes for benches, table and waste bin for the village park. Location to be decided and measured by Chair Craig Ramsay and Councillor Kerry Gorton.

Councillor Martine Tournay proposed signs that say bin your litter and in the playground area and no dogs allowed. It was also mentioned that there is graffiti on the new seesaw and Chair Craig Ramsay has asked that the local contractor could give us a quote for cleaning this and installing benches and table.

Councillor Kerry Gorton has been approached the people who organise the plant sale and if it is possible to have some signs that then can be reused for other events. Councillor David Parkinson advised that the funding form, which is very accessible on the website, must always be used for parish transparency of requests and funding.

Councillor Kerry Gorton reported that the clothing bank needs to be emptied, and she has been in contact with the owner of the bank.

An electrician has been asked to quote for a light above the defib but as the village hall is not yet under lease by the Parish Council any work will need to wait.

10. Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations:

Councillor Martine Tournay is on the committee for the Village Hall and excused herself for any vote on related matters.

11 Standing Orders

None were made.

12. To confirm Minutes 246

Proposed Councillor David Parkinson
Seconded Councillor Martine Tournay

Unanimous

13. Any other Business

Chair Craig Ramsay to publish the achievements of the Parish Council for the year 2024-2025

Village Hall

The Parish Council have now received the draft lease. Chair Craig Ramsay reported that there is approximately £9000 in the village hall bank account which will be relinquished to the Parish Council if we

take on the lease. The cost of the repairs to the chimney are £1500. Vice Chair Simon King feels it would be advisable to go back to the survey which also gave some quotes for necessary works to be done on the village hall and pointed out we do have funds available from the Solar farm Fund for remedial repairs and improvements.

Councillor David Parkinson proposed that WIFI could be installed with a cost of approximately £1500 to support wider hall usage. He also advised that the site survey report gave a cost to bring the hall up to minimum safety standards would cost approximately £11,000 + vat.

Vice Chair Simon King to contact the solicitors Austin Carnley to review the lease.

Chair Craig Ramsay will contact Linda Sear to update her on the proceedings. It was noted that she is technically no longer the lease holder as it has lapsed but it was the right thing to do given their years of service and commitment. He also proposed an extraordinary meeting with the residents 30 minutes before the next meeting regarding the decision of the council to become lease holders of the village hall and allowing the residents to have an input.

Chair Craig Ramsay proposes that we continue to ask CBC to fund some of the works and Vice Chair Simon King is in discussions with them on this.

It was agreed unanimously to proceed with consideration of the lease on the village hall and to acquire quotes for works to be done based on the survey.

Charity Hog Roast

£1000 funding was agreed unanimously.

Playground Health and Safety

Councillor Kerry Gorton confirmed that all safe and correct.

Current Financial Situation

Current Account Lloyds	£26,189.95
Current Account Barclays	£636.00
Savings (Reserves) Account	£33,283.34
S106 Solar Farm Funds Balance	£36,691.25
Savings Barclays	£41.00

Vice Chair Simon King will be moving money over from Barclays accounts and eventually close the account.

The quote by "No Sooner Said Than Done" of £1774.00 for maintenance of the park was unanimously agreed.

Invoices to Pay:

MW AGRI	£324.48
Proludic	£5,548.54
Helping Hand	£186.00
Grant for Hog roast	£1,000.00

Proposed Councillor Kerry Gorton
Seconded Vice Chair Simon King
Vote Unanimous

Annual Governance audit report presented at the meeting, it was approved unanimously and will be published on the Parish website from the 3/06/2025.

Close of Parish Council Meeting: Next Meeting 4th June 2025

This is true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: 9th May 2025