



ESTABLISHED 1894

Evenwood & Barony Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Randolph Community Centre, Stones End, Evenwood, Bishop Auckland, DL14 9RE, on Tuesday 9th September 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors R. Bolden (in the Chair); C. Hodgson; B. Medhurst; E. Pettit; R. Potts; R. Spraggon.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no members of the public present. The Chairman asked attendees to turn off their mobile telephones.

Minute No.	Agenda item
025/315	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: RESOLVED: That apologies and reasons for non-attendance shall be accepted from Cllrs. J. Cosslett (holiday); A. Marshall (holiday); A. Deakin (holiday); and A. Breeze (no reason given).
025/316	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.
025/317	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: On the motion of Cllr. Spraggon, it was RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise the signing of the minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 8th July 2025.
025/318	MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.
025/319	VACANCIES: There were no expressions of interest in filling five vacancies for the following parish council wards by co-option: Evenwood (2); Lands (2); Witton (1).
025/320	CLERK'S REPORT: RESOLVED: To invite the applicant for a memorial bench in the village of Evenwood to the next parish council meeting to discuss the options available.
025/320.1	The Clerk offered to circulate County Durham Association of Local Councils' (CDALC's) training for the autumn period and newer councillors were encouraged to participate.
025/321	FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED: To receive the schedule of monthly income and expenditure and approve payment of those invoices which were presented to the meeting. Cllr. Medhurst verified the bank reconciliation, and signed and dated the schedule of income and expenditure, invoices, and bank statement, as evidence of this.
025/321.1	On the motion of Cllr. Pettit, it was RESOLVED: To ask for further information about the an application for a donation on behalf of a Projects Group for this year's events.
025/322	FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE GREEN: Members considered a quotation for the cost of 42 tanalised 6-7 inch replacement timber bollards [£1,650.00 + VAT, plus £200.00 + VAT removal]. RESOLVED: To ask the contractor to supply and install up to eight timber bollards and remove the old bollards nearest to the road at the Chairman's discretion.
025/322.1	RESOLVED: To forward to the Church Commissioners the quotations for the cost of carrying out necessary tree surgery and to ask for their proposal regarding payment.

Chairman's Signature:

Date: 14th October 2025

- 025/323 DEFIBRILLATOR:** On the motion of Cllr. Potts, seconded by Cllr. Spraggon, it was unanimously **RESOLVED:** To order a defibrillator and solar powered cabinet at the price quoted by Severnside and any cost above £3,470.00 shall be paid by the Parish Council.
- 025/323.1 RESOLVED:** To install the defibrillator and solar powered defibrillator cabinet on a post and concrete base/plinth next to the memorial seat at Ramshaw, and not in a bus shelter.
- 025/324 REPORTS:** Cllr. Spraggon gave a report on the Allotments Working Group. **RESOLVED:** To issue a general warning to tenants regarding the condition of their plots and to issue a written warning to individual named tenants who had previously received a warning.
- 025/324.1 RESOLVED:** That the Chair of the Working Group shall ask a qualified plotholder to draft a tender specification for work to enable water extraction at Delaware Avenue allotments.
- 025/324.2** Cllr. Pettit gave a report on the Emergency Plan Working Group and proposed a meeting of the Group to discuss upgrading the emergency plan; organising training; equipment.
- 025/324.3** Cllr. Breeze was not present to give a report on the Communications Working Group. The Parish Clerk gave an update on the new website and official email addresses.
- 025/325 DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL:** Cllr. R. Potts gave a report on issues relating to DCC, including Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and new Article 4 Direction rules requiring planning permission for all new HMO conversions in County Durham.
- 025/326 PLANNING:** The following application for Prior Notification had been received: DM/25/02207/PND - demolition of garage block containing 8 garages.
- 025/327 ACTION LOG: RESOLVED:** To update the action log recording agreed tasks and to remove all completed tasks.
- 025/328 ITEMS REQUESTED BY MEMBERS: FLAGPOLE:** On the motion of Cllr. Pettit, seconded by Cllr. Spraggon, it was **RESOLVED:** To seek permission from the landowner [DCC] to install a flagpole on a parcel of land at Newholme Crescent.
- 025/329 DEFIBRILLATOR (EVENWOOD GATE): RESOLVED:** That there is currently no suitable location for the installation of a defibrillator in Evenwood Gate.
- 025/330 STANDING ORDERS:** There was no resolution at 9:00 p.m. to suspend Standing Order 3x [a meeting shall not exceed a period of two hours] for as long as the following matters were under discussion.
- 025/331 NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** To confirm the date of the next meeting: Tuesday 14th October 2025. [Apologies for absence from Cllr. Hodgson (overseas)].
- 025/332 ITEMS REQUESTED BY MEMBERS:** There were no items requested by members for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting. Cllrs. Spraggon and Medhurst raised matters which did not relate to the Parish Council's roles and responsibilities and they were pointed in the right direction for information/advice from the relevant organisations.
- 025/333 CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.

These draft minutes are not the official record until formally approved at the next meeting.