

**ORDINARY MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT 1800 Hrs ON MONDAY 08<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Present: Cllr W Day (Chair)  
Cllr J Lee (Vice Chair)  
Cllr J Ramshaw  
Cllr A Lumsden  
Cllr S Gibbins

Staff: Mr P Moore (Clerk to Council)  
Mrs H Hall (Deputy Clerk)

In Attendance: Michelle Harland – Creative Youth Opportunities.

Council received a presentation by Michelle Harland of Creative Youth Opportunities left before the item was discussed formally.

**EVPC/25/26/225 Exclusion of Press and Public**

The Council **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public may be excluded from the meeting for any item of business to be transacted by reason of the confidential nature.

**EVPC 25/26/226 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr A Dent  
Cllr R Godfrey  
Cllr N Fenwick  
Cllr L Penders DCC

**RESOLVED:** that the information given be noted.

**EVPC 25/26/227 Declarations of Interest by members on items on the Agenda.**

Cllr Gibbins – regarding St Mary's Primary School.

**EVPC 25/26/228 Public Participation**

None

**EVPC 25/26/229 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Easington Village Parish Council held on Tuesday 11 November 2025**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be confirmed as an approved and correct record, and as such were signed by the Chair of that meeting.

**EVPC/25/26/230 Durham Police Report (Easington PCSO's)**

Local crime statistics and anti -social behaviour (ASB) incidents from the 11 November to 08 December 2025.

*WLD*

Burglary- 0

Theft and Handling – 0

ASB – 2

Easington Academy – 14/11/2025 – Issue with elderly male shouting abuse at students, advice given to school and students, male identified and subsequently arrested.

North Hill Close – 4/12/2025 – Off road bikes reported in cul de sac area of North Hill Close. Intelligence submitted, NPT to monitor.

Vehicle Crime – 1

Damage to bus window whilst travelling near Low Row area, 2 X suspects.

Criminal Damage – 1

The Grange, Southside – Damaged window, CCTV circulated, ongoing investigation.

Suspicious Activity

We have received a couple of reports from local farms in the area, regarding poaching on their land. Local police will continue to monitor the situation.

The next PACT meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 6pm in The Parish Rooms, Crawlaw Road, Easington SR8 3LP.

The next PCSO drop-in session will be held at Seaton Holme on 15th January 2026 between 2pm and 3pm.

**RESOLVED:** That the information received is noted and accepted.

EVPC/25/26/231

### **Report from Durham County Councillor**

Cllr Penders was unable to attend the meeting in person but sent the following report by email:

I have been trying to tackle ASB in the colliery. A group of youths have been causing havoc for years but recently it has escalated in a more serious way including cases of criminal damage, intimidation, and threatening behaviour towards residents. There are several police investigations on going, but, if anyone has encountered issues with this group from the Colliery while they have been down there (there is always 10-20 of them) please let me know as we are trying to gather as much evidence as possible.

I have handed a letter into Easington C of E Primary School opposing their plans to open an early years setting. In my opinion it will increase traffic/congestion in the area, exacerbate parking issues around school runs and it could potentially lead to Rosemary Lane having to close. When the Colliery primary opened their nursery, Seaside Lane nursery

lost funding from the Government meaning it had to close. I have attached my objection letter. I was only made aware of this proposal on Friday by Rosemary Lane Nursery, I'm not sure if you have been notified but the consultation ends tomorrow.

I'd like to offer my apologies to Cllr Jason Ramshaw for not being able to make any of the traffic management meetings as of yet. The police have said that anyone, as long as they are vetted, can use their speeding equipment. In the new year I plan on asking for some training on the equipment. If anyone wishes to join me on the training please let me know and I will arrange a date suitable for all.

If anyone has any questions or concerns that need to be addressed please do not hesitate to contact me.

Louise Penders  
County Councillor for Easington and Shotton  
Email: louise.penders@durham.gov.uk  
Telephone: 07469358396

**RESOLVED:** That the information received be noted and accepted.

Cllr Penders objection generated discussion regarding the proposed early years provision at St Mary's CE Primary School. (Cllr Gibbins declared an interest and did not take part in this discussion)

**RESOLVED:** That EVPC object to the proposed early years provision due to the concern over road safety and traffic issues and potential impact on Seaside Lane nursery.

EVPC/25/26/232

**Member Reports – Attendance at Meetings and Events on Behalf of The Parish Council**

Cllr Fenwick and the Clerk attended the CDALC Smaller Councils Forum on Thursday 20 November.

**RESOLVED:** That the information received be noted and accepted.

EVPC/25/26/233(a) **Financial Matters - Monthly Report – November 2025 (Attached)**

**Bank Balance Report at 30/11/25**

**RESOLVED:** that the Bank Balance Report be APPROVED

**Income and Expenditure Report to 30/11/25**

**RESOLVED:** that the Income and Expenditure report be APPROVED

**Bank Transfer Report to 30/11/25**

**RESOLVED:** that the Bank Transfer Report be APPROVED

*WAD*

**Invoices for Endorsement of Payment Report to 30/11/25**

**RESOLVED:** that the Invoices for Endorsement of Payment Report be APPROVED

**Income Received Report to 30/11/25**

**RESOLVED:** that the Income Received Report be APPROVED

EVPC/25/26/233(b) **Bank and Cash reconciliation** - The Clerk requested that a Councillor volunteer to complete a physical check of cash and bank reconciliations for the month of November before Thursday 18 December 2025.

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Lumsden would complete the necessary checks.

EVPC/25/26/233(c) **Mid-Year Audit Report** - The Clerk presented the report of the mid-year audit of accounts which took place on Thursday 13 November 2025 which gives a Full Assurance grading.

**RESOLVED:** that the information received be noted and accepted.

EVPC/25/26/233(d) **DCC Town & Parish Precepts & Tax Base and Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS)**

The potential removal of the LCTRS does not affect this Council although other factors affecting the budget do, therefore the Budget and Precept Committee met on Wednesday 03 December to discuss those issues prior to setting a budget for 2026/27. The Clerk will produce options for the budget and precept for the Budget & Precept Committee who will meet next at 1400 hrs on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. A proposal will be brought to Council on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

**RESOLVED:** that the information received be noted and accepted.

EVPC/25/26/233(e) **Income Streams Pricing FY 2026-27**

It was noted at the Budget meeting that some income streams were due for revision and determined that increases in price will take place from 01 April 2026 except for Allotment fees which will take effect on 01 September 2026. Cemetery and burial fees were not included in the revision as these were revised in April 2025.

A table of the current and future rates is attached to these minutes.

**RESOLVED:** that the information received be noted and accepted and that allotment and hires fees increase according to the scales produced.

EVPC/25/26/233(e) **NE Brass Band Championships 2026 (Request for donation)**

**RESOLVED:** To donate the sum of £150 to the NE Brass band Championships 2026.

EVPC/25/26/234

**Planning Applications**

- a. **Planning Applications**  
DM/24/00993/FPA – no objection  
DM/25/02509/FPA – no objection
- b. **Planning Refusals** - None to consider
- c. **Planning Applications Withdrawn** – None to consider
- d. **Planning Appeals / Objections** – None to consider
- e. **Other Planning Matters** – None to consider

**RESOLVED:** That this information be received and noted.

EVPC/25/26/235

**EVPC Freedom of Information Publication Scheme (Revision of)**

The EVPC Freedom of Information Publication had been periodically revised as a statutory document.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the EVPC Freedom of Information Publication Scheme as presented.

EVPC/25/26/236

**Creative Youth Opportunities – Easington Village Events & Projects Proposal 2026**

**RESOLVED:** That the Creative Youth Opportunities proposal for 2026 be accepted and that the sum of £1000 be allocated to the project.

EVPC/25/26/237

**Verbal Report from the Clerk on matters not covered elsewhere.**

None

It was **RESOLVED:** that the information as received be NOTED.

EVPC/25/26/238

**Date and Time of Next Meeting (s)**

Ordinary Meeting of Council – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 1800 hrs

All Council meetings will take place in the Milburn Room, Seaton Holme unless otherwise stated.

**RESOLVED:** that the information given be NOTED.

EVPC/25/26/239

**Exclusion of the Press and Public** – In accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Not required

*WJD*

EVPC/25/26/240

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1930 Hrs.

Councillors are respectfully reminded that items for inclusion on the agenda for the next ordinary meeting must be received by the Clerk in writing no later than 1800 hrs on Monday 05 January 2026.

**CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD**

Chairman ..... *WSD* .....

Date ..... *12/1/26* .....

Distribution / Publication:

All Easington Village Parish Councillors  
EVPC Website  
Councillor L Penders DCC  
Councillor H Brown DCC  
Councillor L Taylor DCC

**EVPC PRICING INCOME STREAMS 2026-27 (Effective from 01 April 2026)**

<b>Annual Affiliation Fee</b>	Current £50 / Year	Future £60 / Year
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<b>Seaton Holme Room Hire (Per hour)</b>	Affiliated rate Current	Non-Affiliated rate Current	Affiliated rate Future	Non-Affiliated rate Future
Liddell Room	£20	£25	£25	£30
Burn Room	£17	£20	£20	£25
Milburn Room	£13	£15	£15	£20
Whole Ground Floor	£50	£60	£60	£70
Weekend Staff Costs (Event cover)	£60 (Fixed rate)	£60 (Fixed rate)	£15 / Hr	£15 / Hr

<b>Paranormal Groups (Max 2 per month)</b>	Current £420	Future £500
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**Note:** Allotment fees to take effect from 01 September 2026.

<b>Allotments</b>	<b>Lee Terrace Current</b>	<b>Sunderland Road Current</b>	<b>Lee Terrace Future</b>	<b>Sunderland Road Future</b>
	£15	£50 Full plot £25 Half plot	£20	£60 Full plot £35 Half plot

**Cemetery Fees**

No increase / change to cemetery fees as these were revised in April 2025.

*WJ*