

**ORDINARY MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT 1800 Hrs ON MONDAY 09<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Present: Cllr J Lee (Vice Chair)  
Cllr J Ramshaw  
Cllr A Lumsden  
Cllr S Gibbins  
Cllr N Fenwick

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

In Attendance: Cllr Louise Penders DCC  
Cllr Howard Brown DCC

EVPC/25/26/258 **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 25/26/259 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr W Day (Chair)  
Cllr A Dent  
Cllr R Godfrey

EVPC 25/26/260 **Declarations of Interest by members on items on the Agenda.**

None

EVPC 25/26/261 **Public Participation**

None

EVPC/25/26/262 **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Easington Village Parish Council held on Monday 12 January 2026**

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

EVPC/25/26/263 **Durham Police Report (Easington PCSO's)**

Easington Village crime statistics and Anti -social behaviour (ASB) incidents from the 13th of January 2026 to 6th February 2026.

Burglary- 0  
Theft and Handling – 0

ASB – 1  
26/01/26 – Seaside Lane - 4 x off road bikes in area full area search carried out by officers no trace.

Vehicle Crime – 1

14/01/26 – A19 near Easington slip road – Theft of motor vehicle from layby. Ongoing enquiries in relation to this.

Criminal Damage – 3

29/1/2026 – Local Farm – damage to crop by unknown vehicle in field.

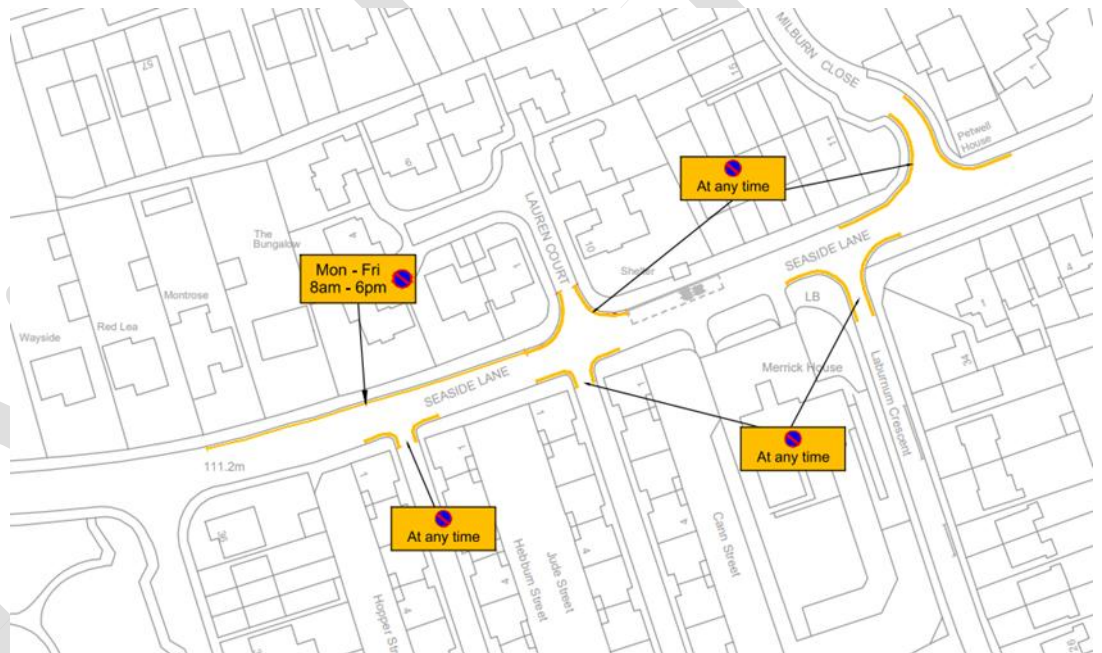
30/01/26 – Lee Terrace – damage to door locks by unknown person.

31/1/26 – Lauren Court – Car windows egged by unknown person potentially over parking issues in the area.

In relation to parking in the vicinity of Merrick House, Traffic Management have given the following information. A visit has also been made to Merrick House in relation to parking issues and advice has been given. This issue has also been raised at a PACT meeting. The below has gone to consultation.

Seaside Lane

- To introduce 'no waiting at any time' (double yellow lines) restrictions on Seaside Lane around its junctions with Lauren Court, Milburn Close, Laburnum Crescent, Jude Street & Hopper Street to reduce congestion and improve visibility for road users.
- To introduce 'restricted waiting, Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm' on Seaside Lane to prevent parking during business days and hours.



The next PACT meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 6pm at The Parish Rooms, Crawlaw Road, Easington SR8 3LP.

The next Drop-in sessions/Cuppa with a Copper will be held on:

Thursday 12th February at Easington Colliery Library between 2 – 3 pm.

Tuesday 03 March at East Durham Garden Centre between 10 and 11am.

Thursday 12 March at Seaton Holme, Easington Village between 2 and 3pm.

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

EVPC/25/26/264

### **Off-Road Bikes on Village Green**

There have been several instances lately of motorcycles, quads and electric scooters riding across the village green and destroying the grass as well as creating a public nuisance. It is important that witnesses to this behaviour report it directly to the police at the time it happens so that action can be taken and the incident logged.

It was noted that part of the problem is the easy accessibility of the footpaths across the village green. These footpaths belong to Durham County Council although the village green itself belongs to the Parish Council. This renders the parish council unable to take any action to place barriers to prevent illegal access to the green.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to DCC Highways requesting assistance to place approved 'chicane type' barriers at the entrances to the village green footpaths.

EVPC/25/26/265

### **Parking – Merrick House**

The problems of parking at Merrick House are well known locally and a recent enquiry has revealed that Merrick House only has 6 parking places and over 70 staff plus visitors. This forces visitors to park on the pavements nearby which in turn creates a hazard for residents and other road users. A DCC plan to introduce additional 'No Waiting at anytime' yellow lines on the road will only make matters worse and further frustrate residents and visitors.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to Merrick House to request that they do all they can to alleviate the problem.

EVPC/25/26/266

### **Petwell Lane – Flooding and Road Closure**

Petwell Lane has flooded on numerous occasions in recent months and cars have been damaged from not being able to see the edge of the tarmac in water. This problem has been exacerbated by the installation of a new inspection cover near the entrance to Sunderland Road allotments associated with the housing development adjacent to it. This links into the drainage on Petwell Lane but this has not been adequately maintained by DCC and appears to be blocked. The nearby construction site on Sunderland Road has exacerbated the problem with excess run-off of water and mud from the site.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to DCC Highways requesting assistance to repair the drainage and road surface at Petwell Lane.

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Ramshaw would liaise with the site manager and arrange a meeting with the Parish Council.

EVPC/25/26/267

### **Report from Durham County Councillors**

Cllr Penders and Brown gave a verbal report on DCC and local issues.

EVPC/25/26/268(a) **Financial Monthly Report – January 2026 (Attached)**

**Bank Balance Report** at 31/01/26

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

**Income and Expenditure Report** to 31/01/26

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

**Bank Transfer Report** to 31/01/26

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

**Invoices for Endorsement of Payment Report** to 31/01/26

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

EVPC/25/26/268(b) **Support to East Durham Action Group**

Cllr Ramshaw suggested a grant to the East Durham Action Group to assist with group running costs in opposing the BESS developments.

**RESOLVED:** that a grant of £200 be approved from S137.

EVPC/25/26/268(c) **Monthly Cash & Bank Reconciliation**

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Lee would make a reconciliation of cash and bank on Thu 12 Feb 26.

EVPC/25/26/269 **Planning Applications**

a. **Planning Applications**

DM/22/02566/VOC – Land to the north of low hills road – variation of conditions 4 and 10 of application ref: 5/PL/2013/0106 (highways access)

DM/23/01304/RM - Land to the north of low hills road – approval of reserved matters for 435 dwellings pursuant to planning permission DM/22/02566/VOC (Amended description Jan 26)

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/25/26/270 **Verbal Report from the Clerk on matters not covered elsewhere.**

EVPC groundsman volunteer GB has decided to retire. The Clerk will draft a letter of thanks from the Chair.

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

EVPC/25/26/271

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

Events Management Committee – Monday 09 March 2026 at 1700 hrs

Ordinary Meeting of Council – Monday 09 March 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/25/26/272

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

Not required

EVPC/25/26/273

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1915 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 02 March 2026.

**CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD**

Chairman .....

Date .....

**Distribution / Publication:**

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