

**Mr Paul Moore MSc
Clerk to the Council**

Easington Village Parish Council
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VAT Registration Number 605 3222 83

03 June 2026

To: All Easington Village Parish Councillors,

You are summoned to attend an ordinary meeting of Easington Village Parish Council to be held on **Monday 08TH June 2026 in the Milburn Room at Seaton Holme** commencing at 1800 Hrs.

Paul Moore

Clerk to Council

AGENDA

- 1 **Exclusion of Press and Public:** The Council is requested to RESOLVE that in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business (Agenda item 20) by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.
- 2 **Apologies for Absence** - to consider for approval.
- 3 **Declarations of Interest** - to note any declarations of interest of items on the agenda by Members in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct.
- 4 **Public Participation** – to receive any representations or questions from members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 3 (e-g). (Members of the public are invited to address the Parish Council on matters relating to the Agenda for up to 3 minutes per person during the public participation period which is not to exceed 15 minutes in total)
- 5 **Minutes of the Annual Assembly of Electors Meeting held on 11 May 2026** – to consider for approval.
- 6 **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 11 May 2026** – to consider for approval.
- 7 **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 May 2026** – to consider for approval.
- 8 **Minutes of the Cemetery & Grounds Committee Meeting held on 18 May 2026** – to consider for approval.
- 9 **Durham Police Report (Easington PCSO's)** – to receive the report of May / June 2026.
- 10 **Report from Durham County Councillors** – to receive any report.

- 11 **Member Reports** - Attendance at Meetings and Events on behalf of the Parish Council – to receive any reports.

CDALC Smaller Councils Forum 21 May 26 – Cllr Fenwick & Clerk

- 12 **EVPC Monthly Financial Report - May 2026** - to consider for approval.

- i. Bank Balance Report at 31/05/2026
- ii. Bank Transfer Report to 31/05/2026
- iii. Expenditure Report to 31/05/2026
- iv. Income Report to 31/05/2026

- 13 **Monthly Cash & Bank Reconciliation.** A Councillor is requested to complete a cash and bank reconciliation during the week of 15-19 June 2026.

14 **Planning Applications**

- a. **Planning Applications** – Planning Weekly Lists May-June 26
 - List 21 May 26 – DM/26/00593/FPA
 - List 28 May 26 – DM/26/01030/FPA
- b. **Planning Decisions – Delegated Authority List – 29 May 26**
 - DM/26/00397/VOC – Land west of Aireville, Loaning Burn (Approved)
 - DM/26/00986/FPA – 8 Shakespeare Terrace (Approved)
- c. **Planning Refusals** – None to report.
- d. **Planning Applications Withdrawn** – None to report
- e. **Planning Appeals / Objections** – None to report
- f. **Other Planning Matters:**

HM Land Registry correspondence 17 May 26

- 15 **EVPC Allotment Management Policy 2026-29** – to consider for approval
(Previously reviewed and ratified by Cemetery & Grounds committee 18 May 26)

- 16 **EVPC Cemetery Rules of Management (Amended June 2026)** – to consider for approval

- 17 **Durham Fire Service Peterlee Station Reduction of Crews** – to consider an EVPC response (Cllr Dale)

- 18 **Report of Clerk** – to receive a verbal update on items of interest to Council not covered elsewhere.

19 **Date, Time, and Venue of the Next Meeting**

Cemetery & Grounds Committee – Monday 06 July 2026 at 1100 hrs
Events Management Committee – Monday 13 July 2026 at 1700 hrs
Ordinary Meeting of Council - Monday 13 July 2026 at 1800 Hrs

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

To:

All Members - Easington Village Parish Council

Cc:

Durham County Councillors:

Cllr Louise Penders DCC

Cllr Howard Brown DCC

Cllr Louise Taylor DCC

EVPC Website & Public Notice Board

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF ELECTORS
EASINGTON VILLAGE
HELD AT 1800 Hrs ON MONDAY 11th May 2026**

Present: Cllr W Day
Cllr J Lee
Cllr J Ramshaw
Cllr A Lumsden
Cllr S Gibbins
Cllr C Dale

Apologies: Cllr N Fenwick
Cllr A Dent
Cllr R Godfrey

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

In Attendance: Cllr L Penders DCC
Cllr H Brown DCC

EVPC/AAE/26/001 **Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Assembly of Electors held on Monday 12 May 2025**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Assembly of Electors meeting held on Monday 12 May 2025 be received and accepted.

EVPC/AAE/26/002 **Report of the Chair of Easington Village Parish Council for the year ended 31st March 2026**

Yet another year has passed by very quickly! The year has seen a number of changes, with members leaving and new ones co-opted, and at last we have a full council.

There have been changes too at county level with a wholesale shift from a coalition to a majority party. This has resulted in new faces at local ward level, with a good working relationship being formed.

Whilst for many years the council has opposed new housing developments without success, a new threat to the west side of the village in the form of planning applications for solar farm and battery storage installations. The council has joined with opposition groups to further raise awareness to the environmental effects and safety aspects of such developments.

The council has again this year staged its now well-established events programme, and in particular the Armistice and Christmas events which were extremely well attended.

The council is facing increasing financial pressures, just like everyone, and continually looks for savings and efficiencies. However, there will be further pressures because of the current global situation. On the positive side all available rooms to let are occupied, maintaining a good revenue stream.

On the staffing side, we lost Margaret one of our caretakers, and appointed Dawn in her place. I would like to place on record my thanks to Paul and Hayley for their sterling work in dealing with the many problems which come their way. I would also like to thank all members for their support this year.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Chair be received and accepted.

EVPC/AAE/26/003 **Report of the Accounts for the Parish Council for the year ended 31st March 2026**

RESOLVED: That the accounts be received and accepted.

EVPC/AAE/26/004 **Resolutions of which written notice had been given to the Chair or Clerk**

None received

EVPC/AAE/26/005 **Any other urgent business or matter raised by the electorate.**

None received

EVPC/AAE/26/006 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next Annual Assembly of Electors will take place on Monday 17th May 2027 at 1800 hrs in Seaton Holme.

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

**ANNUAL MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 1815 Hrs ON MONDAY 11th May 2026**

Present: Cllr W Day
Cllr J Lee
Cllr J Ramshaw
Cllr A Lumsden
Cllr S Gibbins
Cllr C Dale

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

In Attendance: Cllr L Penders DCC
Cllr H Brown DCC

Apologies: Cllr R Godfrey
Cllr N Fenwick
Cllr A Dent

EVPC 26/27/001 **To elect a Chair for the Civic Year 2026-27.**

Nomination: Cllr W Day

Proposed: Cllr Lee
Seconded: Cllr Lumsden

RESOLVED: unanimously that Cllr W Day be appointed as Chair of Easington Village Parish Council for the Council year 2026-27.

EVPC 26/27/002 **To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office from the Chair.**

RESOLVED: that the Declaration of Acceptance of Cllr Day be received and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/003 **To elect a Vice-Chair for the Civic Year 2026-27.**

Nomination: Cllr J Lee

Proposed: Cllr C Dale
Seconded: Cllr A Lumsden

RESOLVED: unanimously that Cllr J Lee be appointed as Vice-Chair of Easington Village Parish Council for the Council year 2026-27.

EVPC/26/27/004 **To receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office from the Vice-Chair.**

RESOLVED: That the Declaration of Acceptance of Cllr Lee be received and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/005 **To appoint persons to be Councillors of the Council in accordance with LGA 1972 s16a(1) (Co-option)**

Nomination: Cllr C Dale – co-opted 09 March 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Ramshaw

Seconded: Cllr Lee

RESOLVED: that Cllr C Dale be co-opted to Council.

EVPC/26/27/006

To receive the report of the Chair of the Parish Council for the civic year 2025-26. (Cllr W Day)

Yet another year has passed by very quickly! The year has seen a number of changes, with members leaving and new ones co-opted, and at last we have a full council.

There have been changes too at county level with a wholesale shift from a coalition to a majority party. This has resulted in new faces at local ward level, with a good working relationship being formed.

Whilst for many years the council has opposed new housing developments without success, a new threat to the west side of the village in the form of planning applications for solar farm and battery storage installations. The council has joined with opposition groups to further raise awareness to the environmental effects and safety aspects of such developments.

The council has again this year staged its now well-established events programme, and in particular the Armistice and Christmas events which were extremely well attended.

The council is facing increasing financial pressures, just like everyone, and continually looks for savings and efficiencies. However, there will be further pressures because of the current global situation. On the positive side all available rooms to let are occupied, maintaining a good revenue stream.

On the staffing side, we lost Margaret one of our caretakers, and appointed Dawn in her place. I would like to place on record my thanks to Paul and Hayley for their sterling work in dealing with the many problems which come their way. I would also like to thank all members for their support this year.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Chair be received and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/007

To review and approve EVPC Standing Orders 2026-27

RESOLVED: That EVPC Standing Orders 2026-27 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/008

To review and approve EVPC Financial Regulations 2026-27

RESOLVED: That EVPC Financial Regulations 2026-27 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/009

To approve delegated authority to the Clerk / RFO in accordance with EVPC Financial Regulations (Para 5.15)

RESOLVED: that delegated authority to the Clerk / RFO be approved in accordance with EVPC Financial Regulations Para 5.15.

EVPC/26/27/010 **To review and approve the EVPC Corporate Risk Assessment 2026-27**

RESOLVED: that the EVPC Corporate Risk Assessment 2026-27 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/011 **Declaration of the General Power of Competence**

Easington Village Parish Council resolves from Monday 11th May 2026, until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, to adopt the General Power of Competence.

RESOLVED: that the Declaration of the General Power of Competence be accepted.

EVPC/26/27/012 **To appoint persons to Parish Council Committees**

Cemetery & Grounds Committee (5 Cllrs)

Cllr Lee
Cllr Ramshaw
Cllr Day
Cllr Lumsden
Vacant

Events Management Committee (3 Cllrs)

Cllr Gibbins
Cllr Dale
Cllr Godfrey – confirmation to follow

EVPC Staffing Committee (3 Cllrs)

Cllr Lee
Cllr Ramshaw
Cllr Day

The EVPC Appeals Committee and Budget and Precept Committee would be filled when required.

RESOLVED: that the above appointments be accepted.

EVPC/26/27/013 **To appoint representatives to outside bodies**

CDALC Small & Medium Councils Forum (2 Cllrs + Clerk)

Cllr Fenwick – subject to confirmation
Vacant

RESOLVED: that the above appointments be accepted.

EVPC/26/27/014

To consider and approve the payment of Council annual subscriptions

- a) County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) - £514.78
- b) National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – included above
- c) Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) - £556.00
(Clerk and Deputy Clerk subscriptions)
- d) North-East Regional Employers Organisation (NEREO) - £354.00
- e) Institute of Cemetery & Crematoria Management (ICCM) - £110.00

It was **RESOLVED**: that the payment of annual subscriptions be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/015

To appoint bank / cheque signatories

Cllr W Day
Cllr J Lee
Cllr J Ramshaw

It was **RESOLVED**: that those Councillors be approved and accepted as bank / cheque signatories.

EVPC/26/27/016

To appoint key holders

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------|
| a) | Seaton Holme | b) | Cemetery |
| | P Moore | | W Hunter |
| | H Hall | | P Robson |
| | D Brown | | S Richardson |
| | H Duffy | | |
| | Steadfast Security | | |

It was **RESOLVED**: that those persons be approved and accepted as key holders.

EVPC/26/27/017

To adopt a calendar of Council dates for 2026-27

(See attached list)

It was **RESOLVED**: that the list of Council dates for 2026/27 be approved and accepted and to be uploaded to Sharepoint.

EVPC/26/27/018

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Annual Meeting of Council will take place on Monday 17th May 2027 at 1815 hrs in Seaton Holme.

RESOLVED: that the information given be NOTED.

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

**ORDINARY MEETING OF EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 1830 Hrs ON MONDAY 11th May 2026**

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

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

In Attendance: Cllr L Penders DCC
Cllr H Brown DCC

Apologies: Cllr R Godfrey
Cllr N Fenwick
Cllr A Dent

EVPC 26/27/019 **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 26/27/020 **Declarations of Interest by members on items on the Agenda.**

None

EVPC 26/27/021 **Public Participation**

None

EVPC/26/27/022 **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Easington Village Parish Council held on Monday 13 April 2026**

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

EVPC/26/27/023 **Durham Police Report (Easington PCSO's)**

Easington Village crime statistics and anti -social behaviour incidents from the 8th of April 2026 to 5th of May 2026

Burglary – 0

Theft and Handling-0

ASB-

Personal – 1 – 16/04/2026 Laburnum Crescent, Male knocking on doors trying to sell kitchen utensils.

Nuisance – 1 – 09/04/2026 Seaside Lane, Issue regarding parking issues outside address' on Seaside Lane.

Environmental – 0

Vehicle Crime- 1 – 21/04/2026 Thorpe Road, Car windows damaged.
Criminal Damage-2
22/04/2026 Merrick house, Member of the public has kicked a radiator
04/05/2026 Cranford Terrace, Vehicle Tyres slashed.

Note: Be aware of opportunists trying home/ car door handles in and around Easington Village. Easington neighbourhood police team will make efforts to safeguard those that could have been affected by providing advice as well as reassurance.

The next PACT meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 at 6pm at The Parish Rooms, Crawlaw Road, Easington SR8 3LP. Please note that PACT meetings are held for both the Colliery and the Village. PACT meetings are for Police issues and at this time are not joint meetings held with our local county councillor.

The next Drop-in session/Cuppa with a Copper will be held on:
Thursday 18th June 2026 at 2pm at Easington Library
Thursday 21st May 2026 at 2pm at Seaton Holme (re-scheduled meeting)
Thursday 16th July at Seaton Holme at 2pm.

Councillors noted that it had been a while since the PCSO's had attended a Parish Council meeting to report in person. In addition, each report seems to be very vague and not representative of the actual incidents known to be taking place around the village.

RESOLVED: That the information received is noted and accepted and that the Neighbourhood PCSO's and Neighbourhood Wardens be invited to future meetings.

EVPC/26/27/024

Report from Durham County Councillors

Cllr Penders spoke on the following:

Closure of Easington Police Station on Seaside Lane – Easington PCSO's are currently based out of Seaham Police Station 5 miles away, despite Peterlee station being only 2 miles away. Lack of Easington PCSO's patrolling Easington Village and Colliery lately is probably due to them being used on ASB tasks in Seaham rather than being deployed in Easington as they should be. It is known that local people want to see 'Bobbies on the beat' in the parish. It is noted that the Parish Council have not been informed of the imminent closure of the Easington Police House.

The Sunderland Road Development – still an unacceptable amount of mud and gravel from the site on the roads in the village as well as heavy traffic negotiating the central crossroads, and vehicles associated with the site parking in nearby streets causing a problem for residents.

DCC Easington Parking Measures Consultation – the response date is 15th May 2026.

The Garth Footpath (Easington village) – this had been trimmed by DCC staff however, the footpath itself needs clearing due to soil encroaching on the overall width of the path.

Cllr Brown spoke on the following:

Durham Bus Station – work about to start.

Cockerells on allotments – a ban on cockerels is still in place and owners have one year in which to remove them.

House purchase for SEND provision: 25 houses will be bought around the County for SEND provision which will be cheaper than the sum allocated on the daily rate at present.

Thornley Tip Closure – This is an essential local resource. It is essential that DCC know how important it is to residents.

RESOLVED: that the County Councillor Reports for May 2026 be noted and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/025

Member Reports – Attendance at meetings and events on behalf of the Parish Council

None

EVPC/26/26/026

EVPC Internal Audit Annual Report 2025/26

RESOLVED: that the EVPC Internal Audit Report for 2025/26 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/027

EVPC RFO Report on the Effectiveness of Internal Control

RESOLVED: that the EVPC RFO Report on the Effectiveness of Internal Control for 2025/26 be approved and accepted.

EVPC//26/27/028

EVPC Annual Governance Statement 2025-26

RESOLVED: that the EVPC Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/029

EVPC Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026

RESOLVED: that the EVPC Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/030

EVPC Asset Register 2025/26

RESOLVED: that the EVPC Asset Register be approved and accepted.

EVPC/26/27/031

Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Public

RESOLVED: that the following dates shall apply and be duly notified:

Date of announcement: Friday 29 May 2026

Inspection Period: Wednesday 03 June 2026 to Tuesday 14 July 2026

EVPC/26/27/032

Financial Monthly Report – April 2026

Bank Balance Report at 30/04/26

RESOLVED: that the Bank Balance Report be APPROVED

Bank Transfer Report to 30/04/26

RESOLVED: that the Bank Transfer Report be APPROVED

Expenditure Report to 30/04/26

RESOLVED: that the Expenditure Report be APPROVED.

Income Report to 30/04/26

RESOLVED: that the Income Report be APPROVED.

EVPC/26/27/033

Monthly Cash & Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED: that Cllr Dale would make a reconciliation of cash and bank during the week of 11-15 May 2026.

EVPC/26/27/034

Planning Applications

a. **Planning Applications**

b.

23 April 2026 – DM/26/00986/FPA (Shakespeare Terrace, Easington)

30 April 2026 – DM/26/01043/FPA (Stockton Rd, Easington)

c. **Planning Decisions** – None to consider

d. **Planning Refusals** - None to consider

e. **Planning Applications Withdrawn** – None to consider

f. **Planning Appeals / Objections** – None to consider

g. **Other Planning Matters** – None to consider

RESOLVED: That this information be received and noted.

EVPC/26/27/035

To form working groups – Seaton Holme Future Repairs & Highways.

It was resolved that two working groups will be formed to look at the following items / issues reporting back to Council as required:

Seaton Holme Long-Term Maintenance & Repairs Working Group

Cllr Day
Cllr Lee
Cllr Dale
Cllr Lumsden

Easington Village Highways Working Group

Cllr Ramshaw
Cllr Gibbins
Cllr Godfrey
Cllr Dent
Cllr Fenwick

RESOLVED: That two working groups be formed under the terms of reference attached.

EVPC/26/27/036

Staff Annual Leave Policy & Procedures (Revision)

RESOLVED: that the Staff Annual Leave Policy & Procedures be accepted and adopted.

EVPC/26/27/037

Verbal Report from the Clerk on matters not covered elsewhere.

Kings Speech – 13 May 26 Two possible items of interest:

1. Possible introduction of legislation to allow remote and hybrid meetings in England.
2. Possible reform of Councillor standards regime.

2nd FOI Request – response due by 13 May. Probably by email to Chair.

DCC Parking restrictions – Comment by **15 May 26**

Email sent to all Cllrs on 22 Apr. Only one reply with comment.

(possible comments are:)

Increased yellow lines / no waiting may push the parking problem further out into neighbouring streets & residential areas.

(We already have parking issues at SH & St Mary's Close associated with the school)

Any new measures need plenty of pre-media output from DCC and School.

New measures also need enforcement action once in place.

New traffic crossing person has made a big difference. Unfortunately, she has received abuse.

New Cleaner / Caretaker in place & already a great team member.

Clerk on leave in Normandy, France 25-29 May.

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

EVPC/26/27/038

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Council Ordinary Meeting - Monday 08 June 2026 at 1800 Hrs.

Cemetery & Grounds Committee Meeting – Monday 18 May 2026 at 1100 Hrs

Events Management Committee Meeting – Monday 18 May 2026 at 1700 Hrs

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

RESOLVED: that the information given be NOTED.

EVPC/26/27/039

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

None

The meeting closed at 1930 hrs.

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CEMETERY AND GROUNDS
COMMITTEE HELD ON Monday 18th May 2026 at 1100hrs**

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

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

Apologies for
Absence Cllr A Dent
Mr W Hunter

Apologies were **NOTED**.

In Attendance: None

C&G
26/27/001

Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public may be excluded from the meeting for any item on the agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

C&G
26/27/002

Declaration of Interest on Items on the Agenda – To note any declarations in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct.

Cllr Lee (Allotment holder)

Declaration - **NOTED**

C&G
26/27/003

Public Participation

None

C&G
26/27/004

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous Cemetery & Grounds committee meeting held on Monday 09 February 2026 were ratified at a meeting of Council on Monday 09th March 2026.

C&G
26/27/005

Play Inspection Reports

Play Inspection Report were received and circulated electronically due to file size.

RESOLVED: that the Play Equipment Inspection report be accepted.

C&G
26/27/006

Allotments Report from Deputy Clerk

The Deputy Clerk noted that at this time of year there is very little to report regarding the allotments as such, but in general, the condition of the allotments is good. A couple of allotment holders have been written to in order to remind them that they must make progress. The allotment track could do with strimming so the grounds team will be tasked with that.

RESOLVED: that the Allotments Report be accepted.

C&G
26/27/007

Cemetery Supervisor Report

No report

RESOLVED: that the absence of the Cemetery Supervisor report be noted.

C&G
26/27/008

Allotment Security

A recent break-in and theft of a log burner (none of which has been formally reported to police nor the Parish Council) prompted discussion regarding allotment security. The council hold a number of trail cameras which could be made available to individual allotment holders upon request on the understanding that any footage is passed to police at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED: that four trail cameras be made available to allotment holders on request.

C&G
26/27/009

Allotment Management Policy 2026-29

RESOLVED: that the Allotment Management Policy 2026-29 be approved and adopted.

C&G
26/27/010

Cemetery - Residential Rate Request (Plot F23)

RESOLVED: that the request for a residential rate for Plot F23 be denied as the request falls outside of the scope of the Cemetery Rules.

C&G
26/27/011

Cemetery – Memorial Installation Request (Plot E96)

RESOLVED: that the request for a memorial to be installed on Plot E96 (Public Plot) be denied.

RESOLVED: that the cemetery rules be amended specifically to mention that no memorials are to be placed on public graves, but a memorial garden plot may be obtained for such purposes.

C&G
26/27/012

Report of the Clerk on any further cemetery or grounds issues

Equipment Servicing – Rickerby Ltd

We currently have 2 x strimmers and 2 x lawnmowers in for service at Rickerby's. This is taking some time as they are apparently having difficulty obtaining spares due to the age of the machines which are all Husqvarna. We are chasing this up.

Rickerby recently came out to fix the cutting bed on a tractor.

Summer Bedding Plants

These are due in the first week of June. Date tbc.

Enhanced Security – Cemetery Workshop – the new fuel storage locker has been installed in the container. The proposed roller doors will be fitted in the near future.

C&G
26/27/013

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 06 July 2026 at 1100 hrs in the Milburn Room of Seaton Holme.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE

Easington Village Parish Council Monthly Financial Report for MONTH 2 - MAY 2026

1. Bank Balance Report

Current	£8,000.00
Savings	£7,891.78
PSDF	£100,167.94
Cash on hand (CASHBOX)	(at 30 April 26)
	£18.44
Total Cash Assets	£116,078.16

2. Bank Transfer Report

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (to)	AMOUNT (from)
05/05/2026	Transfer T1	Transfer to Savings Account	£391.85	£2,076.21
08/05/2026	Transfer T2	Transfer from Savings Account		
11/05/2026	Transfer T3	Transfer to Savings Account	£694.87	£305.29
18/05/2026	Transfer T4	Transfer from Savings Account		£5,521.65
19/05/2026	Transfer T5	Transfer from Savings Account		£1,398.74
22/05/2026	Transfer T6	Transfer from Savings Account		£3,000.00
29/05/2026	Transfer T7	Transfer from Savings Account		£7,485.39
29/05/2026	Transfer T8	Transfer from Savings Account		

3. Expenditure Report

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	Payment Method	Invoice Number	FD Code	Nominal Code	Status
01/05/2026	Cathedral Hygiene	Hygiene Services - MAY	£97.50	DD	V/171391MAV26	6888	4043/3	Complete
05/05/2026	Barclays	BACS File Charges - MAY	£15.81	DD	B78128	6889	4025/2	Complete
05/05/2026	Amazon	Stationary Supplies	£54.84	Online	NEED INVOICE	6890	4018/2	Complete
05/05/2026	Transfer T1	Transfer to Savings Account	£391.85	T1	T1		T1	Complete
08/05/2026	DCC	Business Rates - CEM	£119.00	DD	57200MAV26	6891	4013/1	Complete
08/05/2026	DCC	Business Rates - Office 6	£105.00	DD	59600MAV26	6892	4013/3	Complete
08/05/2026	ADT	Alarm Services - MAY	£155.70	DD	59848797	6893	4039/3	Complete
08/05/2026	G. Fletcher	Audit Fee	£640.00	Online	EV/1/26	6894	4024/2	Complete
08/05/2026	T J Heating	Heating Repairs - LR	£145.00	Online	INV137	6895	4043/3	Complete
08/05/2026	JRB Enterprize	Dog Waste Bags (Inc O/S Fab Bill)	£632.40	Online	29437/29569	6896	4012/1	Complete
08/05/2026	IOS	Stationery Order (BULK)	£208.39	Online	211476	6897	4018/2	Complete
08/05/2026	Big Gorilla Group	Uniform - Cleaning Team	£153.05	Online	INV0037	6898	4005/3	Complete

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	Payment Method	Invoice Number	Receipt Code	Nominal Code	Status
08/05/2026	Go Local Easington (PVR)	Refreshments Events	£10.93	Card	82580001	6899	4052/3	Complete
11/05/2026	Transfer T3	Transfer to Savings Account	£684.87	T3			T3	Complete
12/05/2026	Amazon	Safety Boots - BH	£24.98	Online	3877111	6900	4005/1	Complete
14/05/2026	Amazon	Garden Sprayer - Grounds	£11.46	Online	5494747C	6901	4004/1	Complete
14/05/2026	Amazon	Weedkiller - Grounds	£21.49	Online	5494747A	6902	4004/1	Complete
14/05/2026	Amazon	Garden Sprayer - Grounds	£11.46	Online	5494747B	6903	4004/1	Complete
14/05/2026	Amazon	Ear Defenders - Grounds	£16.20	Online	2183918	6904	4005/1	Complete
14/05/2026	Amazon	Safety Glasses - Grounds	£7.99	Online	511543	6905	4005/1	Complete
15/05/2026	Amazon	Safety Gloves - Grounds	£20.98	Online	7361944	6906	4005/1	Complete
15/05/2026	Post Office Counter (Village News)	Postage Deeds - C/28A	£3.30	Card	1-689809	6907	4018/2	Complete
18/05/2026	Crown Gas & Power	Gas Bill - MAY	£655.05	DD	3937911	6908	4034/3	Complete
19/05/2026	Amazon	Fridge - CEM	£102.88	Online	4704353	6909	4041/1	Complete
19/05/2026	Wages - MAY	Wages - MAY	£5,581.65	BACS	N/A	6909	N/A	Complete
20/05/2026	CF Corporate	Lease Rental - MAY	£105.60	DD	V10817817MAY26	6910	4019/2	Complete
21/05/2026	Siemens	Lease Rental - MAY	£267.48	DD	001/26/87/4847	6911	4018/2	Complete
22/05/2026	Greenham	Toilet Rolls (back order)	£84.00	Online	06/361144	6912	4018/3	Complete
22/05/2026	Rickery	Tractor Service - Grounds	£114.78	Online	416136	6913	4007/1	Complete
22/05/2026	DCC	Payroll SLA 26/27	£1,076.88	Online	601331515	6914	4022/2	Complete
26/05/2026	EE	Mobile Phone Services	£59.62	DD	NEED INVOICE	6915	4019/2	Complete
27/05/2026	Crescent Mini Market - Easington	Refreshments - Liker Pick	£8.84	Card	LP26052026	6916	4070/3	Complete
28/05/2026	Chaser	Telecom Services - MAY	£116.98	DD	80912	6917	4019/2	Complete
28/05/2026	CF Corporate	Lease Rental	£55.20	DD	N/A	6918	4019/2	Complete
29/05/2026	Wages	Wages - MAY	£9,653.26	BACS	N/A	N/A	N/A	Complete
29/05/2026	Doc Solutions	IT/Copier Services	£185.28	DD	370238	6919	4018/2	Complete
29/05/2026	Gorilla Workwear	Staff Uniform - Grounds	£294.21	Online	INV0058	6920	4005/1	Complete
29/05/2026	Petree TC	Pitch Markings - JAN - MAY	£192.00	Online	C2683	6921	4011/1	Complete

Total Expenditure: £22,087.91

4. Income Report

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	Payment Method	Invoice Number	Receipt Code	Nominal Code	Status
01/05/2026	H. James	Room Rent - APR	£200.00	BACS	3465	EV2285	1093/3	Complete
05/05/2026	J. Burnham	Room Hire	£360.00	BACS	3451	EV2286	1077/3	Complete
06/05/2026	A. Jones	Room Rent - APR	£93.26	BACS	3446	EV2287	1092/3	Complete
08/05/2026	Transfer T2	Transfer from Savings Account	£2,076.21	T2				Complete
11/05/2026	C. Martindale	Room Rent - APR	£196.87	BACS	3488	EV2288	1088/3	Complete
11/05/2026	Nouveau	Room Hire	£238.00	BACS	3437	EV2289	1077/3	Complete
11/05/2026	Nouveau	Room Hire	£220.00	BACS	3450	EV2290	1077/3	Complete
11/05/2026	L. Johnson	Room Hire - 12052026 (Soundbath)	£30.00	BACS	3460	EV2291	1077/3	Complete
11/05/2026	Nouveau	Room Hire - (Dac Inv Query)	£153.00	BACS	3469	EV2292	1077/3	Complete
18/05/2026	Scalp Inked	Room Rent - MAY	£419.50	BACS	3466	EV2293	1089/3	Complete
18/05/2026	Transfer T4	Transfer from Savings Account	£305.29	T4				Complete
19/05/2026	Little Blossoms	Room Hire - MAY	£60.00	BACS	3463	EV2294	1077/3	Complete
19/05/2026	Transfer T5	Transfer from Savings Account	£5,521.65	T5				Complete
22/05/2026	J. Burnham	Room Hire	£250.00	BACS	3462	EV2297	1077/3	Complete
22/05/2026	HMI Land Registry - REF CLP/FR/25/25/001	Refund Received - Computer Work 17052026	£30.00	766771/100484	3470	EV2296	1076/2	Complete
22/05/2026	Easington WI	Room Hire - MAY	£30.00	000004/100483	3461	EV2295	1077/3	Complete
22/05/2026	Transfer T6	Transfer from Savings Account	£1,398.74	T6				Complete
29/05/2026	Transfer T7	Transfer from Savings Account	£3,000.00	T7				Complete
29/05/2026	Transfer T8	Transfer from Savings Account	£7,485.39	T8				Complete

Total Income: £22,087.91

Weekly List of Planning Applications Received

Week Ending: 21 May 2026



The Planning Applications listed below have been received by Durham County Council since the publication of the previous list dated **15 May 2026**. Copy and paste the reference number from the weekly list into the search box on our online planning system using the attached link as follows:-
<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/>

You can also search for planning applications and appeals online, via the same link, using a keyword, application reference, postcode or by a single line of an address and view the current status of any application (including the decision if it has been made) and any comments or objections received.

If you register as a user of the system there are additional features which enable you to:

- post comments or objections online or directly to the case officer, if the consultation period is open
- receive email notifications of new planning applications based on your search criteria
- track individual application progress
- obtain information about applications in individual Wards or Parishes

If you need any help please view the [Planning System User Guide](#) or contact us at Planningsystemsupport@durham.gov.uk

Note for Members

Under the terms of the delegation scheme, Members and Parish or Town Councils are reminded that if they wish any applications, which have a relevant timescale of more than 28 days to be referred to Committee for determination, they should write to the Head of Planning and Assets. Any such request should state the particular material planning reasons why the request is made. Please note that following recent changes to the Councils constitution the time scale for requesting applications to be 'called in' to committee is now 21 days from publication on the weekly list OR the publication of the site notice or press notice and service of neighbour consultation letters, whichever is the later.

Proposals which fall outside the categories appropriate for delegation will automatically be reported to the Planning Committee. A copy of the scheme of delegation is available upon request. The expected decision level at the time of registration of the application is shown on the list.

Please note the Strategic Team receive applications from all areas of the County of strategic importance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Reed'.

Stephen Reed

Planning Manager

(T) 03000 263 870

(e) stephen.reed@durham.gov.uk

Elvet, Gillesgate And Shinccliffe/ City Of Durham/ East North	DM/26/01239/FPA	Mockingbird Durham LTD	27 Silver Street Durham DH1 3RD	Change of use of the ground floor premises from Class E use to a small-scale cocktail lounge/bar (Sui Generis), operating primarily through seated table service, and associated internal alterations.	Emma Price Delegated
Easington And Shotton/ Easington Village/ East South	DM/26/00593/FPA	Steven Burn	Part Of Unit 1 3 Cook Way North West Industrial Estate Peterlee SR8 2HY	Change of use from Use Class B8 (storage and distribution) to Use Class E(d) (indoor sport, recreation or fitness).	Lisa Morina Committee
Ferryhill/ Ferryhill/ East South	DM/26/01229/FPA	Mr Michael Hetherington	The Ivorson North Street Ferryhill DL17 8HX	First floor roof terrace	David Richards Delegated
Ferryhill/ Ferryhill/ East South	DM/26/01243/VOC	Mr John Seymour	Woodland Barn Chilton Ferryhill DL17 0JY	Variation of Conditions 3 (habitat management plan) and 4 (woodland fencing measures) pursuant to planning application DM/25/02099/FPA to allow for the nutrient impact to be offset by credit purchase rather than on-site planting.	Ben MacFarlane Delegated



Weekly List of Planning Applications Received

Week Ending: 28 May 2026

The Planning Applications listed below have been received by Durham County Council since the publication of the previous list dated **22 May 2026**. Copy and paste the reference number from the weekly list into the search box on our online planning system using the attached link as follows:-
<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/>

You can also search for planning applications and appeals online, via the same link, using a keyword, application reference, postcode or by a single line of an address and view the current status of any application (including the decision if it has been made) and any comments or objections received.

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Please note the Strategic Team receive applications from all areas of the County of strategic importance.

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Stephen Reed

Planning Manager

(T) 03000 263 870

(e) stephen.reed@durham.gov.uk

Elvet, Gillesgate And Shinccliffe/ Shinccliffe/ East South	DM/26/01297/LB	Mr Nigel Gadd	The Old House High Street North Shinccliffe Durham DH1 2NJ	Proposed single-storey rear extension	Kelly Scott Delegated
Easington And Shotton/ Easington Village/ East South	DM/26/01030/FPA	GC Kitchen and Grill	Unit 1 3 Cook Way North West Industrial Estate Peterlee SR8 2HY	Installation and use of two 20ft shipping containers as a hot food takeaway (retrospective).	David Richards Delegated
Framwellgate And Newton Hall/ City Of Durham/ East North	DM/26/01257/AD	Durham County Council	Land North West Of Overflow Car Park Framwelgate Peith Durham DH1 5TP	Display of double sided V entry sign for The Light.	Lisa Morina Delegated
Framwellgate And Newton Hall/ No Parish/ East North	DM/26/01271/FPA	Mrs Jan Maddison	45 Raby Road Newton Hall Durham DH1 5NJ	Single storey front and side extensions, new vehicular and pedestrian accesses and drop kerb onto highway	Amy Beveridge Delegated
Langley And Esh/ Satley/ West North	DM/26/00777/FPA	Mr Chris Rowley	Harpers Barn High Stoop Bishop Auckland DL13 4HL	Detached double garage to front	Mark Sandford Delegated



APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

PRINTED ON 29 May 2026

The planning applications listed below have been determined by Durham County Council since the publication of the previous list dated **22 May 2026**.

To view full details of conditions attached to approvals or reasons for refusal please access individual applications via the Planning Public Access element of the Council's website at www.durham.gov.uk using the following link:

<http://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application>

Easington And Shotton/Shotton/East South	DM/25/03578/AD Mrs Nabjiba Hawez	Takeaway At 1 Potto Street Shotton Colliery Durham DH6 2LA	Illuminated shop sign	Approved 7th May 2026
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Easington And Shotton/Easington Village/East South	DM/26/00397/VOC Eden Homes (Durham) Ltd	Land West Of Aireville Loaning Burn Easington Village SR8 3TX	Application for the variation of Condition 1 (approved plans) to allow for the resiting of dwellings and amended land levels, and for the removal of Condition 2 (materials), Condition 7 (EV charging), and Condition 8 (bin store), as the required details have been submitted pursuant to application DM/24/03198/RM	Approved BNG Not Required 20th May 2026
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Easington And Shotton/Easington Village/East South	DM/26/00986/FPA Miss Jessica Barker	8 Shakespeare Terrace Easington Colliery Peterlee SR8 3DT	Retention of single-storey extension to the front	Approved BNG Not Required 18th May 2026
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Sent by email

Easington Village Parish Council
Seaton Holme
Hall Walks
Easington Village
County Durham
SR8 3BS

Email sent to:
clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

Date
17 May 2026

Your ref
CUPL/FR1/24/25/001

Our ref
HC6164B

Proprietor/Applicant **Easington Village Parish Council**

Title number **DU398923**

Property **Land on the north side of Sea View
House, The Green, Peterlee (SR8 3BE)**

Dear Customer

We write further to previous correspondence and can confirm the survey has now been carried out.

The application has been reviewed by one of our lawyers who have decided that we are unable to proceed to grant any title to you in respect of the land sought.

The survey shows the land is a grass verge, open to the public, with no signs of control by the applicant. As explained in our letter of 1 November 2025, there are certain requirements an applicant must satisfy to be successful in a claim of adverse possession, and we do not feel that these have been met.

Your own evidence confirms that other people access and use the land for parking and at the time of the survey a van owned by a third party was parked on the land. Whilst you state that you maintain the land by cutting the grass, this is not a sufficient act of possession for the purposes of adverse possession. You state that you wish to acquire the land so that you can prevent other people using it, however, to be successful in a claim of this type, we would have expected you to have already been using the land as an owner would, as explained in our letter of 1 November 2025.

For the reasons set out above we have cancelled your application, however this does not prevent you from re-lodging an application when you feel that you have further evidence to support your claim.

HM Land Registry
Gloucester Office
PO Box 7803
Bilston
WV1 9QN

DX 427301 Bilston 3

gloucester.office
@landregistry.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/land-registry

If you would like to discuss this correspondence or require it in an alternative format please contact us, quoting our reference.

Yours faithfully

Julie Workman
0300 006 1119

EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL



ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY

2026 - 2029

Adopted: 11 September 2023

Review: September 2025

Next Review: September 2029

Approved at Cemetery & Grounds Cttee: 18 May 2026

Approved at Full Council:

Minute: EVPC/26/27/XXX

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY

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GENERAL

1. Policy Objectives

1.1 Easington Village Parish Council (EVPC) is committed to having allotment sites that:

- Provide opportunities for residents to grow and access fresh food for their family.
- Provide spaces for residents to enhance their physical and mental wellbeing.
- Contribute to the sustainability of the local environment.
- Balance the needs of tenants, non-tenants and the Council.

2. Background

2.1 In recent years, lifestyles and interests have changed to focus more on the benefits of healthy eating, organic food, fresh air and exercise. This in turn has led more people to consider an allotment as a cheap source of fresh food and healthy exercise resulting in greater interest in allotments and therefore demand for sites has increased. EVPC are keen to ensure that our allotment sites are well managed on behalf of the Council and the Tenant and achieve the Council's policy objectives.

3. Allotment Management Roles

3.1 In order to deliver the objectives set out above, Easington Village Parish Council are committed to the effective management of its allotment sites in line with this policy and in compliance with the Allotments' Act 1908, 1925 and 1950. This commitment will be delivered through the effective implementation and enforcement of the Allotment Tenancy Agreement by the Parish Council, through the Cemetery and Grounds Committee. The Cemetery & Grounds Committee is a public meeting held bi-monthly at Seaton Holme, details of which are published on the Parish council website and public notice board.

3.2 This document – the Allotment Management Policy 2026 – sets out how the allotments are to be managed on a day-to-day basis both by EVPC and the Tenants who rent the plots. It is important that both parties understand there are roles and responsibilities each way, and sensible application of these rules is important for the continued success of the allotments.

4. Allotment Tenancy Agreement Terms

4.1 The Allotment Tenancy Agreement is at **Annex A** to this policy. In the Allotment Tenancy Agreement the expressions below have the following meanings:

a. “the Tenant” - Shall mean the person, over 18 years old, whose name, address and contact details are held by Easington Village Parish Council on a Tenancy Agreement as the person responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the allotment.

b. “the Allotment Garden” – Is the land or plot situated at Sunderland Road or Lee Terrace allotment site within the Parish of Easington Village and being identified on the plan annexed hereto and verged or coloured red thereon (not

exceeding 1/3 acre) intended to be cultivated by the tenant for the production of vegetable and fruit crops for consumption by the tenant and his family (subject to the exceptions and reservations contained in any deed under which the Landlord hold the Allotment Garden).

c. “The Rent” - The sum of Pounds Sterling per plot or half-plot payable yearly in advance on 1st October.

d. “The Term” - The period from the date of the Agreement continuing from year to year until 01 October renewable each year by payment of the rent, or until a surrender date is determined and notified by either party.

5. Allotment Tenancy Agreement – Tenants Obligations

5.1 In signing and agreeing to the Allotment Tenancy Agreement the tenant agrees with the Council the following:

a. To Pay Rent – to pay rent in advance to the Council without any deduction, (except as provided by law) on, or by the first day of October each year and during the continuation of the tenancy.

b. Use of Land—to use the said land solely as an allotment garden in accordance with the relevant Allotment Acts, **or** used for other such recreational purpose as the Council may from time to time agree in writing. Any business use is strictly forbidden.

c. Cultivation- The allotment is to be kept in good condition, reasonably free from weeds and well maintained in a good, fertile state of cultivation at minimum of 75% of the ground area of the allotment. Cultivated plants are to be kept tidy in neat, ordered rows or pots. Pathways included therein or abutting thereon, or in the case of any shared pathway abutting on the said land and any other allotment garden(s) the half-width thereof, are to be kept reasonably free from weeds and rubbish. To properly spray, cut or pull up and properly dispose of any thistles, ragwort, brambles and any other noxious weeds on the allotment plot.

d. Water Usage – On sites where water is supplied the consumption costs of the water provided by the Council on site will be met by Council subsidy and the water surcharge included in the annual rent levied by the Council.

All tenants must use the water sensibly at all times to eliminate excessive consumption costs and wastage. Sprinkler systems and prolonged use of hoses will not normally be permitted under normal climatic conditions, however, some flexibility on this restraint may be allowed during periodic dry spells to alleviate any hardship suffered by gardeners, but in no circumstances must these be left unattended.

The water supply will normally be turned off from 31st October until the 1st of April of each year, with provision for the water supply to be turned on for a limited short period to allow tenants to fill containers if hardship or difficulty is being experienced during a particularly dry Spring.

The Council must be advised through the Clerk on the occasions when these provisions are required, and approval must be given. A prominent notice must be displayed on site in the Council notice board, informing all tenants, prior to the water being turned on for any period during the closed season. The Council shall review the water consumption costs and the water surcharge will be levied on tenants at regular intervals, such as during a review of tenancy charges.

e. Use of Chemical Sprays and Fertilisers – the tenant will take proper precautions when using chemical sprays or fertilisers to avoid or minimise any adverse effects on the environment or neighbouring allotments and comply at all times with current legislation. All chemical weed killers and fertilisers must be properly stored in a locked and sealed container designed for the purpose and where appropriate, must be isolated from attack by rodents or other animals.

f. Nuisance – not to cause or permit any nuisance or annoyance in any form to the occupier of any other allotment garden or to the owners or occupiers of any adjoining or neighbouring land nor to obstruct or encroach on any path or roadway used by the Council or by the owners or occupiers of any adjoining or neighbouring property.

g. Restriction on Assignment etc.- not to assign, charge, sub-let or to part share the possession, occupation or use of the said land or any part or parts thereof or suffer any person to occupy the said land or any part or parts thereof as a Licensee without due written application and consultation with the Council and receipt of written permission.

h. Vehicles – not to bring or place any vehicle, tractor, mini digger, caravan, trailer or vehicle parts on to the allotment, without the written consent of the Council.

i. Speed Limit – to adhere to the site speed limit of a maximum of 5 mph.

j. Firearms – not to use any firearms including air rifles on the allotment site without written permission of the Council.

k. Vermin Control – the tenant is to take all reasonable steps to control vermin on their plot. Any tenant who has Council written permission to keep livestock of any kind is to ensure that all rodent poison and feed is kept in sealed rodent-proof containers and that there is no unnecessary scattering of animal feed. Any significant rodent problem should be reported to the Council.

l. Trees and Timber – not without the written consent of the Council to cut or prune any trees or other timber or to take, sell or carry away mineral, sand, earth or clay from the allotment site. Trees on allotment plots may be maintained to ensure their safety and well-being.

m. Hedges and Fences – to keep every hedge on the boundary of the plot properly cut and trimmed to a maximum height of 2 metres, and all drainage ditches properly cleansed and maintained, and to keep in good repair any existing boundary fences and gates on the said land and not to erect any fence whatsoever sub-dividing the inside of any plot without the written permission of the Council.

n. Buildings and Sheds - not without the written consent of the Council to erect, construct, place or lay any buildings, structure or works on the said land or any part or parts thereof provided that consent shall not be unreasonably refused under this clause to the erection of any building reasonably necessary for the keeping of hens, or to the erection of a garden shed, polytunnel or greenhouse. Materials chosen should be neutral in colour and sympathetic to the surroundings.

Before the expiration of any tenancy or sooner, the tenant agrees to take down and remove at the tenant's expense any sheds, greenhouses etc., erected or owned by the tenant, making good all damage to the allotment thereby. Any structures not removed on expiration of the tenancy shall become the property of the Council and will be disposed of in accordance with the waiting list. Any charges incurred by the Council may be levied to the tenant.

o. Barbed Wire - not to use barbed wire for or on any existing or new fence on the boundaries of the said land.

p. Restrictions on Cropping- not without the written consent of the Council to plant any woodland trees or bushes or any crops which require more than two years to mature. Small fruit trees and bushes will be permitted, along with asparagus beds, rhubarb and similar long- term edible crops provided that they are marked as such and that written permission is obtained from the Council.

q. Depositing Refuse - not to deposit or allow other persons to deposit on the said land any refuse or household waste or place any refuse or decaying matter in the hedges or ditches adjoining the said land.

r. Manure and Compost – not to import manure and compost only in such quantities as may be reasonably required for the use in cultivation.

r. Dogs- All dogs brought on the site must be kept under control and not allowed to foul footpaths or roadways. No dogs to be kennelled on the gardens overnight.

s. Restrictions in Keeping Animals- not without the written consent of the Council to keep any animals, hive bees or livestock of any kind on the said land. This includes such as horses, pigs, sheep, goats, geese, chickens, cockerels, geese and similar large animals. An allotment holder must always seek written permission from the Council before bringing any animal onto the allotment plot.

t. Not to Display Advertisements etc.- not to display or permit to be displayed on the said land, or on any part or parts thereof, any sign, notice, placard, advertisement or writing of any kind whatsoever.

u. Allow Inspection- to permit the Council at any time to enter on to the said land to inspect the state and condition thereof.

v. To Yield Up- to yield up to the Council vacant possession of the said land on the termination of this tenancy in a condition consistent with the due performance by the Tenant of the provisions of this Agreement.

w. Change of Contact Details - that the Tenant shall inform the Council forthwith of any change of contact details.

x. Site Gates – to ensure that once the gates have been used to gain access/egress from the allotment site the gates are immediately closed and locked.

ELIGIBILITY

6. Eligibility to Rent an Allotment

6.1 Individuals

Priority will be given to residents and groups within Easington Parish. However, individuals and groups from outside of the Parish Boundary may be eligible if none of the former are currently waiting for a plot.

All applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age and who have not previously had an allotment tenancy terminated by notice to quit within the previous 5 years.

In every case, there must only be ONE PERSON who is responsible for the tenancy agreement, payment of bills and the upkeep of the plot. That individual will be known as the TENANT. Under no circumstances may plots be sub-let to anyone else.

In some cases, a tenant may have another person who co-works the plot as an assistant and privately, may or may not share the bills and upkeep of the plot as they see fit. That person will be known as the CO-WORKER. (See Para 8)

6.2 Charity or Voluntary Groups

Applicants from Charity or Voluntary Groups need to have public liability insurance, be fully constituted and be able to provide risk assessments.

7. Allotment Provision

7.1 Easington Village Parish Council currently own 2 allotments sites that provide 68 plots within the Parish. These sites are:

Sunderland Road (Petwell Lonnen) – 40 Plots

(23 full plots and 17 plots available as 34 half plots)

Lee Terrace – 11 Plots

8. Applications, Waiting Lists and Allocation of Plots

8.1 Applications

To apply for a full or half plot at either of the sites an email must be sent to the parish council:

deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

giving the following information:

Full name

Address & postcode

Contact telephone number

Preferred site

8.2 Waiting Lists

8.2.1 A 'Waiting List' of potential allotment tenants is maintained by the EVPC Deputy Clerk and is reviewed on a regular basis. When a plot becomes available it will be offered to the next available person on the waiting list. If that person is unable to take the plot or defers, it will be offered to the next person in line. Waiting lists are not published.

8.2.2 If a co-worker is registered on the waiting list for a plot that he / she already works with a tenant, they will be considered for the plot in line with the co-worker agreement first.

8.2.3 If there is no co-worker registered or they do not want to take the tenancy, the plot will be advertised for existing tenants who wish to upgrade or move plot.

8.3 Allocation

8.3.1 The advertisement will be placed on the Allotment Noticeboard for 21 days. If there are no applications from existing tenants then the Council will offer it to the person/charity/voluntary group who have been on the waiting list for the longest period of time and are living within the parish boundary of Easington Village, or in the case of a charity/voluntary group are based within the parish boundary.

8.3.2 If there is no-one from within the parish boundary who wants to accept the Plot, those from outside the parish boundary will be offered the plot based on who has been on the waiting list for the longest period.

8.3.3 Applicants may decline a plot they are offered, however, if they decline a second plot they will be removed from the waiting list. Where an applicant declines the offer of a plot, the Council will offer the plot to the next individual or charity/voluntary group on the list.

8.3.4 In the event of no-one being on the waiting list the plot will be publicly advertised by the Parish Council.

8.3.5 On allocation of an allotment, the tenant will be subject to an 8 week 'probation period' during which it is expected that work will be started on the allotment, including demonstrating an intent to cultivate the plot and make improvements as necessary. Failure to do so in the probation period may result in termination of the tenancy. The tenant will be notified of successful completion of the probation period.

9. Enforcement

9.1 It is the responsibility of every allotment holder to keep their allotment well-tended, planted and maintained at all times. If at any time this becomes a difficulty or unworkable, the Parish council must be informed at the earliest opportunity so that the situation can be managed to the mutual benefit of both parties.

9.2 Enforcement of the Allotment Tenancy Agreement will be achieved through the investigation of complaints made to the Council and periodic site inspections by parish council staff. A formal annual inspection by the Clerk to the Council will normally take place in June or July.

9.3 Where an inspection or investigation identifies that a tenant is in breach of their agreement, the following enforcement procedure will apply:

- a. **Informal Warning** – Tenants who fail to comply with their tenancy agreement will be contacted to request that they address issues of non-compliance forthwith.
- b. **Formal Warning** – Tenants who fail to respond adequately to an informal warning within 28 days will be issued with a formal written warning.
- c. **Notice to Quit** – Tenants who fail to respond adequately to a formal warning within a further 28 days will be given 28 days notice to quit their plot. This is non rescindable.
- d. **Eviction** – Tenants who fail to respond to a notice to quit or vacate their plot within 28 days will be evicted and any equipment left on the plot will become the property of the parish council.

10. Amendment of the Allotment Tenancy Agreement

10.1 Easington Village Parish Council reserves the right to amend or update the Allotment Tenancy Agreement at any time.

10.2 Where such amendments are made, appropriate consultation will be undertaken, and existing tenants will be informed of the final changes and of any transitional arrangements through parish council publications and notices on the website and public notice boards.

10.3 Tenants may attend any meeting of the Cemetery & Grounds Committee or full Parish Council meeting and speak in the part of those meetings set aside for public comment.

11. Allotment Co-Workers

11.1 The Council allows tenants to register a co-worker as a means of enabling plots to be passed on to individuals where there has been a joint commitment to working the plot.

11.2 Each tenant will be allowed to register only one named individual as a co-worker for each plot they lease. There are no restrictions on who can be registered as a co-worker, however, co-workers must meet the general tenant eligibility criteria at the time they are offered the plot. (See Para 4)

11.3 The only exception to the single co-worker rule is that a social group or charity that are tenants to a plot may be allowed to have a small group working on the allotment by prior arrangement, so long as the group working arrangement is of benefit to the individuals or group in terms of their social rehabilitation / reducing loneliness etc. (Veterans group etc)

11.4 The EVPC Allotment Tenancy Co-Worker Agreement application form is at **Annex B** to this policy.

12. Tenancy Limits

12.1 Easington Village Parish Council only permits allotment tenancies to be issued to one named person or one named person from an organisation.

12.2 Tenants will only be allowed to rent a maximum of one full plot. Those individuals who have historically held more than one full plot upon their tenancy ending only one plot will be allowed to be considered under the co-worker agreement.

13. Change in Circumstances

13.1 Easington Village Parish Council requires tenants, waiting list applicants and co-workers to keep it informed of any changes in their contact details.

13.2 If the Council is not kept informed, any communication sent to the last provided email address/postal address will be deemed to have been delivered to the individual it was intended for, and if a person cannot be contacted within a reasonable time, the next person on the list will be contacted.

14. Allotment Rents

14.1 Annual rents cover the period 1st October to 30th September the following year.

14.2 Tenancies starting during the year will be charged a pro-rata amount based on one twelfth of the full year amount or part month that the plot is occupied. Partial refunds will be given for the remaining full months to the end of September for cancellation by the end of December.

14.3 Allotment rents will be reviewed at a Cemetery and Grounds Committee meeting between October to December of each year and tenants will be given at least 6 months prior notice of changes taking place in September of the following year.

15. Allotment Boundaries, Plot Boundaries and Fencing

15.1 Easington Village Parish Council will maintain the allotment perimeter fence, the access roads and entrance gates to allotment sites. This includes general repairs, strimming and weed killing, however, the ability to undertake such work will be dependent on funds being available.

15.2 Allotment tenants are not required to fence their plots. However, any fence or similar that they do have around their plot must be constructed and maintained in accordance with the Allotment Tenancy and kept in a good state of maintenance.

16. Allotment Maintenance - Tenants

16.1 It is the responsibility of the allotment tenant to maintain the allotment plot in a good state of maintenance. In certain cases, and only by consultation, the Council may provide materials for tenants and allotment users to 'self help' in terms of repairs and maintenance.

16.2 All biodegradable / plant material is to be composted wherever possible or disposed of at the tenant's expense off-site.

16.3 Allotment tenants are responsible for the transport and disposal at own expense of any waste material off the allotment site for a disposal at a site licensed for that purpose. Those materials may be (but not limited to): wood, metal, plastic, bricks or other construction materials.

16.4 Allotment tenants who are found to be in breach of this may be liable for any costs incurred by the Parish Council for the removal of said items.

17. Security

17.1 The main entrance to the allotment sites is secured by gates and will remain locked at all times.

17.2 Tenants are responsible for unlocking / locking the main gates to the site upon entering or leaving the site.

17.3 Tenants will be issued a key for which a deposit must be lodged with EVPC. Deposits can be recovered on return of the key to the Council Office.

18. Animals and Livestock

18.1 No livestock or fowl will be allowed unless expressly permitted in writing by Easington Village Parish Council. This includes: Bees, rabbits, ferrets, geese, cockerels horses, pigs, sheep, goats, and similar large animals.

18.2 Permission to keep animals may subsequently be withdrawn if it is determined that the animals are being kept in a manner prejudicial to their good health or well-being, or that they are causing a nuisance to other tenants. In such circumstances the tenant will receive a written notification to remove the animals from the site within a maximum of one month.

18.3 The EVPC Bee Keeping Policy, Application Form and Agreement can be found at **Annex C**.

19. Allotment Water Supply

19.1 Easington Village Parish Council encourages its tenants to use rainwater capture to meet their needs and as a way of reducing metered water usage.

19.2 On a site where water is supplied the consumption costs of the water provided by the Council will be met by Council subsidy and the water surcharge included in the annual rent levied by the Council. The Council shall review the water consumption costs and water surcharge levied on tenants at regular intervals.

19.3 All tenants must use water sensibly to eliminate excessive consumption costs and wastage. Sprinkler systems and use of hoses will normally be permitted under normal climatic conditions however restraint must be exercised by all tenants during periodic dry spells. On no account must these be left unattended or left on overnight.

19.4 The water supply will normally be turned off from 31st October until the 1st of April of each year, with provision for the water supply to be turned on for a limited short period to allow tenants to fill containers if hardship or difficulty is being experienced during a

particularly dry Spring. The Council must be advised through the Clerk on the occasions when these provisions are required, and approval must be given.

19.5 A prominent notice will be displayed on site in the Council notice board, informing all tenants, prior to the water being turned on for any period during the closed season. Other methods of informing tenants may be used such as notices on the Council website and social media.

20. Re-Useable Materials

20.1 Easington Village Parish Council recognises that the re-use of relevant materials is an important and beneficial aspect of how allotment holders operate. However, this cannot be an excuse for tenants to store waste on their plots. Given this, the Council does permit tenants to store re-useable material on their plots provided: -

- Materials do not prevent compliance with cultivation requirements.
- Materials are stored in a tidy manner.
- Materials are used or disposed of within a reasonable period of time.
- Materials do not cause a nuisance to other plot holders or neighbouring residents.

21. Representation and Dispute

21.1 Tenants may represent themselves or put suggestions regarding the management of the allotments to Council by writing to or attending the Cemeteries and Grounds Committee Meeting which is held at Seaton Holme on alternate months. Dates and timings of meetings are posted on the Parish and Allotment Notice Boards and on the Council website.

21.2 All comments, questions or suggestions to the Cemetery and grounds Committee regarding allotments should be sent to the Parish clerk at:

clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

or:

deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

21.3 The Allotments Management Policy and Tenancy Agreement will be reviewed on an tri-annual basis or as required.

**Annex A to
EVPC Allotment Management Policy**



ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT (Part 1 – The Agreement)

AN ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT made this the day of
..... (Month and Year)

between: **Easington Village Parish Council** – ‘The Landlord’ (hereinafter referred to as the Council) care of The Clerk to the Council, Seaton Holme, Hall Walks, Easington Village

and (Print Name)

..... (hereinafter referred to as the Tenant),
of the other part.

WHEREBY IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS

In this Agreement, the expressions below shall have the following meanings:-

In this agreement the expressions below have the following meanings:

- a. **“ the Tenant”** - Shall mean the person, over 18 years old, whose name, address and contact details are held by Easington Village Parish Council on a Tenancy Agreement as the person responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the allotment.
- b. **“the Allotment Garden”** – Is the land or plot situated at Sunderland Road or Lee Terrace allotment site within the Parish of Easington Village and being identified on the plan annexed hereto and verged or coloured red thereon (not exceeding 1/3 acre) intended to be cultivated by the tenant for the production of vegetable and fruit crops for consumption by the tenant and his family (subject to the exceptions and reservations contained in any deed under which the Landlord hold the Allotment Garden).
- c. **“The Rent”** - The sum of Pounds Sterling per plot or half-plot payable yearly in advance on 1st October.
- d. **“The Term”** - The period from the date of the Agreement continuing from year to year until 01 October renewable each year by payment of the rent, or until a surrender date is determined and notified by either party.

Allotment Tenancy Agreement – (Part 2 – Tenants and Council Obligations)

In signing and agreeing to the Allotment Tenancy Agreement the tenant agrees with the Council the following:

- a. **To Pay Rent** – to pay rent in advance to the Council without any deduction, (except as provided by law) on, or by the first day of October each year and during the continuation of the tenancy.
- b. **Use of Land**—to use the said land solely as an allotment garden in accordance with the relevant Allotment Acts, **or** used for other such recreational purpose as the Council may from time to time agree in writing. Any business use is strictly forbidden.
- c. **Cultivation**- to keep the said land in good condition and reasonably free from weeds and well maintained in a good state of cultivation, fertility and tidiness, and to keep a pathway included therein or abutting thereon, or in the case of any shared pathway abutting on the said land and any other allotment garden(s) the half-width thereof, reasonably free from weeds and rubbish. To properly spray, cut or pull up and properly dispose of any thistles, ragwort, brambles and any other noxious weeds on the allotment plot.
- d. **Water Usage** – On sites where water is supplied the consumption costs of the water provided by the Council on site will be met by Council subsidy and the water surcharge included in the annual rent levied by the Council.

All tenants must use the water sensibly at all times to eliminate excessive consumption costs and wastage. Sprinkler systems and prolonged use of hoses will not normally be permitted under normal climatic conditions, however, some flexibility on this restraint may be allowed during periodic dry spells to alleviate any hardship suffered by gardeners, but in no circumstances must these be left unattended.

The water supply will normally be turned off from 31st October until the 1st of April of each year, with provision for the water supply to be turned on for a limited short period to allow tenants to fill containers if hardship or difficulty is being experienced during a particularly dry Spring.

The Council must be advised through the Clerk on the occasions when these provisions are required, and approval must be given. A prominent notice must be displayed on site in the Council notice board, informing all tenants, prior to the water being turned on for any period during the closed season. The Council shall review the water consumption costs and the water surcharge will be levied on tenants at regular intervals, such as during a review of tenancy charges.

e. Use of Chemical Sprays and Fertilisers – the tenant will take proper precautions when using chemical sprays or fertilisers to avoid or minimise any adverse effects on the environment or neighbouring allotments and comply at all times with current legislation. All chemical weed killers and fertilisers must be properly stored in a locked and sealed container designed for the purpose and where appropriate, must be isolated from attack by rodents or other animals.

f. Nuisance – not to cause or permit any nuisance or annoyance in any form to the occupier of any other allotment garden or to the owners or occupiers of any adjoining or neighbouring land nor to obstruct or encroach on any path or roadway used by the Council or by the owners or occupiers of any adjoining or neighbouring property.

g. Restriction on Assignment etc.- not to assign, charge, sub-let or to part share the possession, occupation or use of the said land or any part or parts thereof or suffer any person to occupy the said land or any part or parts thereof as a Licensee without due written application and consultation with the Council and receipt of written permission.

h. Vehicles – not to bring or place any vehicle, tractor, mini digger, caravan, trailer or vehicle parts on to the allotment, without obtaining the express written consent of the Council prior to siting.

Before the expiration of any tenancy or sooner, the tenant agrees to remove at the tenant's expense any vehicle, tractor, mini digger, caravan, trailer or vehicle parts etc. sited or owned by the tenant, making good all damage to the allotment thereby. Any vehicle, tractor, mini digger, caravan, trailer or vehicle parts or structures not removed on expiration of the tenancy shall become the property of the Council and will be disposed of in accordance with the waiting list. Any charges incurred by the Council for such removal may be levied to the tenant.

i. Speed Limit – to adhere to the site speed limit of a maximum of 5 mph.

j. Firearms – not to use any firearms including air rifles on the allotment site without written permission of the Council.

k. Vermin Control – the tenant is to take all reasonable steps to control vermin on their plot. Any tenant who has Council written permission to keep livestock of any kind is to ensure that all rodent poison and feed is kept in

sealed rodent-proof containers and that there is no unnecessary scattering of animal feed. Any significant rodent problem should be reported to the Council.

l. Trees and Timber – not without the written consent of the Council to cut or prune any trees or other timber or to take, sell or carry away mineral, sand, earth or clay from the allotment site. Trees on allotment plots may be maintained to ensure their safety and well-being.

m. Hedges and Fences – to keep every hedge on the boundary of the plot properly cut and trimmed to a maximum height of 2 metres, and all drainage ditches properly cleansed and maintained, and to keep in good repair any existing boundary fences and gates on the said land and not to erect any fence whatsoever sub-dividing the inside of any plot without the written permission of the Council.

n. Buildings and Sheds - not without the written consent of the Council to erect, construct, place or lay any buildings, structure or works on the said land or any part or parts thereof provided that consent shall not be unreasonably refused under this clause to the erection of any building reasonably necessary for the keeping of hens, or to the erection of a garden shed, polytunnel or greenhouse. Materials chosen should be neutral in colour and sympathetic to the surroundings.

Before the expiration of any tenancy or sooner, the tenant agrees to take down and remove at the tenant's expense any sheds, greenhouses etc., erected or owned by the tenant, making good all damage to the allotment thereby. Any structures not removed on expiration of the tenancy shall become the property of the Council and will be disposed of in accordance with the waiting list. Any charges incurred by the Council for such removal may be levied to the tenant.

o. Barbed Wire - not to use barbed wire for or on any existing or new fence on the boundaries of the said land.

p. Restrictions on Cropping- not without the written consent of the Council to plant any woodland trees or bushes or any crops which require more than two years to mature. Small fruit trees and bushes will be permitted, along with asparagus beds, rhubarb and similar long- term edible crops provided that they are marked as such and that written permission is obtained from the Council.

q. Depositing Refuse - not to deposit or allow other persons to deposit on the said land any refuse or household waste or place any refuse or decaying matter in the hedges or ditches adjoining the said land.

r. Manure and Compost – not to import manure and compost only in such quantities as may be reasonably required for the use in cultivation.

r. Dogs- All dogs brought on the site must be kept under control and not allowed to foul footpaths or roadways. No dogs to be kennelled on the gardens overnight.

s. Restrictions in Keeping Animals- not without the written consent of the Council to keep any animals, hive bees or livestock of any kind on the said land.

This includes such as horses, pigs, sheep, goats, geese, chickens, cockerels, geese and similar large animals. An allotment holder must always seek written permission from the Council before bringing any animal onto the allotment plot.

- t. Not to Display Advertisements etc.**- not to display or permit to be displayed on the said land, or on any part or parts thereof, any sign, notice, placard, advertisement or writing of any kind whatsoever.
- u. Allow Inspection**- to permit the Council at any time to enter on to the said land to inspect the state and condition thereof.
- v. To Yield Up**- to yield up to the Council vacant possession of the said land on the termination of this tenancy in a condition consistent with the due performance by the Tenant of the provisions of this Agreement.
- w. Change of Contact Details** - that the Tenant shall inform the Council forthwith of any change of contact details.
- x. Site Gates** – to ensure that once the gates have been used to gain access/egress from the allotment site the gates are immediately closed and locked.

ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENT (Part 3 – Terms of Understanding)

Easington Village Parish Council

SIGNED by:

The Clerk / Deputy Clerk * (delete one)
(On behalf of the Chair)
Easington Village Parish Council
Duly authorised on behalf of the Parish Council 'The Landlord'.

In the presence of: -

The Allotment Tenant

I have read and understood the attached terms of this tenancy agreement and have signed below to agree to be bound on these terms.

SIGNED by: _____ Print Name: _____

Address of Tenant: _____

Telephone..... Post Code

WITNESSED by: _____ Print Name: _____

Address of Witness- _____

Telephone Post Code

In the event of a tenant wishing to terminate the tenancy of an allotment, they **MUST** inform the Parish Clerk.

Under **NO** circumstances may the person giving up the allotment transfer an allotment to another person.



EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL

ALLOTMENT CO-WORKER AGREEMENT

Both the tenant and co- worker should complete and sign both copies of this agreement, return one copy to Easington Village Parish Council and keep the second copy for your own records.

All information supplied will be treated in strict confidence in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Allotment Site:

Tenant's Name:

Co-workers Details

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. No

Email address.

Date of Birth

Additional Notes / Rules

1. Co-workers will NOT be automatically placed on the allotment waiting list. If a co-worker wished to apply for their own plot, then they must complete a separate application form.
2. Payment of the annual rental invoice is the responsibility of the tenant, not the co-worker.
3. If a tenant wishes to terminate the tenancy of their allotment, it is their responsibility to inform the Council in writing. A co-worker will only be considered eligible to take over the tenancy of the plot if they have been registered as a co-worker for at least 3 years / or as long as the next person to be offered a plot on the waiting list.
4. The registered tenant of an allotment plot must retain a regular involvement in the maintenance of the allotment garden.

5. A co-worker can only be registered as a co-worker on a maximum of one plot.
6. The co-worker must make themselves aware of, and comply with, the allotment tenancy rules.
7. The tenant is responsible for the conduct of the co-worker whilst they are on the allotment site, and understands that if a co-worker breaches any of the allotment tenancy rules, notice to quit may be served on the tenant of the allotment as well as the co-worker.
8. The tenant is allowed to cancel a co-worker agreement at anytime, by notifying the landlord in writing.
9. The Council reserves the right to end a co-worker status for a co-worker if they are breaching allotment rules or are involved in incidents of harassment or undertaking any illegal activity.
10. The Council reserves the right to deny co-worker status to any individual who is currently involved in an allotment dispute or investigation.
11. The Council reserves the right to deny co-worker status to any individual who has previously had a co-worker status ended for misconduct, harassment or undertaken an illegal activity on an allotment.

Tenant's Signature

Date

Co-worker's Signature

Date

Please return your completed application form to:

Easington Village Parish Council
Seaton Holme
Hall Walks
Easington Village
SR8 3BS

Or email to:

clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL

BEE KEEPING POLICY & AGREEMENT

Consent

- 1.1 Any tenant wishing to keep bees on a Parish Council Allotment site must first seek written agreement from the Parish Council.
- 1.2 No bees shall be kept on any allotment site until such permission has been given in writing, and this agreement has been signed.
- 1.3 The Parish Council reserves the right to issue 14 days' notice for the removal of hives.

Consultation

- 2.1 The Parish Council will notify neighbouring allotment tenants of any requests to keep bees on the allotment site, and prominently display a notice for a minimum period of 28 days in the growing season and 56 days outside the growing season.

Duty of Care

- 3.1 The beekeeper owes a duty of care to:
 - The public in the vicinity of the hives;
 - Other allotment gardens and visitors;
 - Intruders, even though it is clear that their intention was to disturb the colony.
- 3.2 Where an objection on allergy or medical grounds is made to the Parish Council and substantiated by clear medical evidence, the Parish Council may refuse permission to place bees on the site.

Training

- 4.1 Beekeeping requires a level of competency in maintaining hives to ensure the health and productivity of the colony and therefore evidence of training from a recognised body such as the British Bee-Keepers Association (BBKA) must be provided.

(The Basic Assessment in Beekeeping is open to those members who have managed at least one colony of bees for a minimum of 12 months)

Insurance/Membership

- 5.1 The named beekeeper is required to be a member of a Bee-Keepers Association affiliated to the British Bee-Keepers Association (BBKA), which provides third party insurance as well as up-to-date advice and training.
- 5.2 The bee-keeper is required to hold a current insurance policy, which provides specifically for Bee-Keeping Risks and must include Public Liability Insurance. A copy of the insurance must be submitted annually to the Parish Council Office.
- 5.3 The Parish Council accepts no responsibility for the hives, including but not limited to, their damage, destruction or theft and the bee-keeper shall be responsible for insuring the hives.

Siting of Hives and Location

- 6.1 No more than two hives and one nucleus may be located in any specified location. It is recommended that an area 2m x 3 m should be sufficient for two hives and sufficient working space.
- 6.2 Hives should be sited as far as possible from any public road, path or jointly used road or paths within the allotment site and the site of each hive must be agreed in advance with the Parish Council.
- 6.3 Hive entrances should preferably have a southerly aspect and be sheltered from prevailing winds and overhanging shrubbery that may cause damp conditions.
- 6.4 Screening around hives must be provided to ensure that bees are encouraged to rise in excess of two metres before leaving the Allotment Garden. Screening material can be natural hedging, wooden screening such as bamboo on a roll or fine plastic/wire mesh.
- 6.5 Bees need their own water supply situated close to the hives.

Alternative Contact Details

- 7.1 The bee keeper must provide the Parish Council with contact details (name, address, email and phone number) of a suitable contact person to deal with emergencies, such as swarming, during any absence or unavailability of the bee keeper.
- 7.2 Contact details must also be prominently displayed on the allotment noticeboard and in the bee keeper's allotment garden.

Complaints

- 8.1 The Parish Council will investigate any complaints and, in particular, those with health and / or nuisance elements. As a consequence, permission to keep bees may be withdrawn or upheld.

Notices

- 9.1 The Beekeeper must erect notices warning of the presence of bees and must agree the size, wording and location with the Parish Council.
- 9.2 Following any lengthy period of confinement, bees void the contents of their stomachs, resulting in a yellow paste, which can affect an area of around 9 metres. As it can stain and cause a nuisance to neighbouring tenants, it is the beekeeper's responsibility to inform the neighbouring tenants when this is likely to occur.

Beekeeper Responsibilities and Handling of Bees

- 10.1 Beekeepers must not put colonies of bees known to be of an aggressive temperament onto allotment sites. If this does occur, then the beekeeper will be asked to remove the colony.
- 10.2 Hives need to be inspected weekly from April to July in accordance with the BBKA guidelines.
- 10.3 When carrying out inspections, beekeepers must be mindful of adjoining gardeners and inform them that they will be carrying out an inspection. This should be undertaken at quieter times and in calm, dry weather.
- 10.4 Swarming – The Beekeeper must carry out such management and manipulations of the colonies as are necessary to minimise the issue of swarms. Neighbouring tenants must be made aware that the bees may swarm and that it is an essential part of their reproduction.
- 10.5 In the event of an emergency such as swarming, the beekeeper must ensure that a name and contact details are displayed in the area of the hives and on a noticeboard where it is clearly visible to all users of the site.
- 10.6 If the official named beekeeper is away, a standby contact competent to deal with inspection duties and any emergency related to the hives such as swarming, must be available.
- 10.7 The contact details of the named standby must be made available during the absence of the beekeeper, as described in section 7 above and logged with the Parish Council.
- 10.8 Beekeepers have a responsibility to notify the National Bee Unit of certain pests and diseases. **Bee Base** is the Animal and Plant Health Agency's (APHA) National Bee Unit website. It is designed for beekeepers and supports Defra, Welsh Government and Scotland's Bee Health Programmes. Once registered, beekeepers are entitled to free advisory visits from bee inspectors and up-to-date information about local outbreaks and free access to pest and disease information.

Sale of Honey

- 11.1 The beekeeper must not use honey that has been produced by the keeper's bees for the purposes of trade or business on the allotment site.

Withdrawal of Consent

- 12.1 The Parish Council reserves the right to withdraw its permission giving 14 days' notice to remove hives if the beekeeper contravenes any of the above conditions, contravenes any conditions within the Allotment Tenancy Agreement or Allotment Rules and/or substantiated information is received that requires a review of the arrangements.

- 12.2 Any costs resulting from withdrawal of consent shall be paid by the beekeeper.

Easington Village Parish Council Beekeeping Application

The beekeeper must supply the following information: -

Name of Beekeeper	
Site Name	
Plot Number	
Phone	Mobile: Daytime: Home:
Email	
Evidence of Training	
Evidence of Beekeeping Association Membership (including Public Liability Insurance)	
Number of hives and a plan or map of location	
Procedure that the beekeeper will follow in the event of the colony swarming	
Arrangements for hives and colonies on the termination of this agreement by either party	
Name of standby Beekeeper	
Phone	Mobile: Daytime: Home:
E-mail	

I hereby accept and agree to abide by the conditions of the Agreement:

Signature

Print Name Date

The Parish Council hereby accepts the above signatory as a beekeeper upon adherence to the conditions set out above.

Allotment Site Plot No

Signature Date

Print Name Position

Easington Village Parish Council



Cemetery Rules of Management

Durham Lane Cemetery

Easington Village

SR8 3BS

Cemetery Mobile: 07398 480819

Parish Office: 0191 5279360

Email: deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

GENERAL REGULATIONS WHICH APPLY

Easington Village Parish Council has prepared this leaflet as a brief guide to all aspects of burial services at Durham Lane Cemetery, and contains information of benefit to private individual, families and businesses who use the cemetery premises.

If further information is required contact:

Easington Village Parish Council
Seaton Holme
Hall Walks
Easington Village
SR8 3BS
Telephone: 0191 5279360
Cemetery Mobile: 07398480819
Parish Mobile : 07566275618

Email deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk
clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cemetery operational hours:

Monday – Thursday
08:30am – 4:30pm (April – September) 3:30pm (October – March)

Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm (April – September) 2:30 (October – March)

This guide has been produced to help customers better understand the rules and regulations that apply and the range of services provided by Easington Village Parish Council at Durham Lane Cemetery. These rules and regulations are a necessary requirement for the management and maintenance of our cemetery, and every effort has been made to avoid restricting the rights and choices of the individual and relatives of the deceased, whilst ensuring the need to keep the grounds safe and tidy for both users and our staff in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

Access Time

Cemetery Grounds will be opened to the public from 8.30 am until dusk.

The Council may temporarily close the whole or any part of the Cemetery Grounds at short notice as often as, in the opinion of the Council, such closure is desirable.

General Conduct in the Cemetery

The cemetery is a registered burial ground, and it is expected that all persons will behave in a dignified and respectful manner at all times within the cemetery.

Whilst in the Cemetery all persons shall comply with any directions given by the Cemetery Officer or council employee.

- Children under 14 years of age will not be allowed in the Cemetery grounds unless accompanied by an adult.
- Any person who wilfully destroys or damages or defaces any building or property in the Cemetery Grounds or causes disturbance or nuisance is liable to prosecution.

Where an Exclusive Right of Burial has been purchased no grave will be opened for an interment, or the burial or interment of cremated remains without the written consent of the owner of the Right. If the owner is deceased, an indemnity in the form prescribed by the Council must be completed by the assignee of the right or the personal representative of the deceased.

After the Burial

Backfilling of graves will not normally begin until mourners have left the cemetery grounds.

Graves will be left slightly mounded to allow for settlement. Flowers delivered at the time of the burial will be carefully placed on the grave by the groundsmen once backfilling has been completed.

Seeding over of the grave plot will be carried out by cemetery staff following a period of settlement, over a minimum period of twelve weeks during which time the grave will be topped up with soil as necessary. (Settling of graves may occasionally take longer than twelve weeks depending on weather and ground conditions)

Any plants or items found on the area to be seeded will be carefully relocated to the memorial area at the head of the plot to allow seeding to take place.

Mourners are respectfully advised not to place ornaments or plants on the grave during this settlement time as weather and ground conditions can result in rapid overnight settlement.

Grant holders are requested to remove any wreaths or flowers that were placed on a grave after the funeral as soon as they become wilted or weather-worn. Council employees, at the direction of the Cemetery Superintendent, may remove and dispose of wilted flowers or wreaths which have not been removed by visitors.

Selection and Purchase of Graves

There are two types of graves available in the cemeteries:

A Purchased Grave Burial Plot

A single purchased grave is one where the Exclusive Right of Burial has been bought to allow for the interment of one coffin and up to four caskets of cremated remains.

A double purchased grave is one where the Exclusive Right of Burial has been bought to allow for the interment of two coffins and up to four caskets of cremated remains.

It is not possible to reserve a second grave space unless an initial grave space has been purchased for immediate use.

Grave spaces must be purchased in a continuous row. A second grave may be purchased which will be situated directly adjacent to the first space.

Grave spaces can be purchased by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council at which time a grave deed will be issued as proof of ownership.

No purchaser of an exclusive right of burial grave shall convey, assign or transfer such right without the written consent of the Council.

The Council may, upon request, agree to the re-purchasing of a grave from the owner if no interment has taken place, or where the remains have been removed and no cremated remains have been interred therein.

A Deed of Surrender by the registered owner and the original Deed of Grant will be required by the Council and upon receipt a payment of one half of the current fee will be paid to the registered owner.

A Memorial Garden Cremated Remains Plot

This is a smaller purchased space which allows for either the erection of a memorial stone or for the interment of up to two appropriate caskets containing cremated remains.

Cremated remains are not to be 'scattered' anywhere within Durham Lane Cemetery. All cremated remains must be interred in the correct manner.

Public Graves

Public graves are the responsibility of Easington Village Parish Council and cannot be purchased by private individuals. Memorials are not allowed on public graves, but as an alternative, a memorial may be placed in the memorial garden at the appropriately published fee.

Lawn Graves and Memorial Area

To allow for the maintenance of the grassed areas, all surfaces will be turfed flat with an area for a memorial to be erected. A grave must be purchased for a memorial to be installed.

No earth mound will be permitted, and no planted flowers, shrubs, plants or trees will be permitted on any grave space. No grave space shall be enclosed with fences, kerbs or gravel surrounds. Easington Village Parish Council have the authority to remove any item which contravenes these rules without prior notification.

The turfed area shall be maintained solely by Easington Village Parish Council. Maintenance staff may not be able to cut grass around planted or decorated graves where access is restricted as to do so may cause damage to items placed in or on grave plots. The Parish Council cannot accept any responsibility damage to any plants or other items placed in or around graves.

Permanent Memorials

All memorials and inscriptions are subject to the approval of the Council. No work shall be carried out before Council approval is granted and a memorial permit is issued by the Clerk to the Parish Council.

- No memorial will be permitted on a grave until a minimum period of six months following the interment or at the discretion of the Clerk to the Parish Council.
- An application on the prescribed form signed by the owner and the person who is to carry out the works, which is to be forwarded to the Clerk to the Parish Council with payment.
- Monumental work cannot start until the Clerk to the Council has issued a memorial permit.
- Monumental work will only be permitted during normal working hours and must be supervised by a Council employee.

- No memorial of part thereof shall be removed from the Cemetery without prior approval of the Clerk to the Parish Council.
- No memorial shall be erected if there are no remains interred in the grave.
- Memorial Masons must be properly insured for any undertaking of work in a Cemetery, and written proof lodged with the Clerk to the Parish Council prior to any works being carried out.
- Stonemasons and contractors must use mats, boards and other suitable materials to protect grass, plants and other memorials at all times whilst the works are undertaken. The site of the work shall be left in a clean and tidy state. Surplus materials and refuse must be removed at the end of each working day and immediately upon the completion of the works.

Any memorial erected in contravention of these regulations may be removed and the cost of removal charged to the person who erected it.

Memorial Specifications

All stonemasons carrying out memorial work in the Council's cemeteries must adhere to the code of working practice issued by the National Association of Memorial Masons.

All memorials must be constructed of the best natural quarried stone. Any other material, including artificial stone, is not permitted and may be removed by the Council. Memorials must be supported and constructed to the satisfaction of the Cemetery Superintendent on behalf of the Council.

No memorial will be permitted which exceeds:

- 3ft 6inches high
- Is less than 3 inches thick
- The width of the grave
- Kerbstones are not permitted
- All headstones should be dowelled to the foundation slab and be supported on a minimum of 6 inches (150mm) of concrete.

The name of the Monumental Mason may be inscribed at the bottom left-hand side of the memorial.

Maintaining Memorials

It is the responsibility of the grave owner to maintain and repair any damage to the memorial.

Easington Village Parish Council strongly advises owners to take appropriate insurance cover is taken to protect against accidental damage or vandalism. A reputable stonemason should be able to provide advice on this matter.

Warning Notice on Memorials.

Memorials within the cemetery are regularly inspected for safety reasons, and if a memorial is found to be in a dangerous condition, the Council will either place a warning notice on it or, if it is deemed to be a significant hazard, the stone will be laid flat on the ground. In both cases an attempt to contact the owner will be made.

If the owner of the grave space cannot be traced or repairs are not carried out in a reasonable time, the Council may have to take one of the following courses of action:

- Carry out the necessary repairs to the memorial and may recover the cost thereof from the owner.
- Remove and store the memorial or,
- Dismantle the memorial, lay the headstone flush with the ground or
- Remove and dispose of the memorial, if it is beyond repair.

Further interments in such a grave will not be allowed until the cost of carrying out the works has been settled.

Vase and Flower Holders

Vases and flower holders may be placed on purchased graves without specific approval subject to the following conditions:

- The holder must be placed at the head of the grave so as not to impede grass cutting.
- The holder must not be made of glass or pottery.
- It must not be affixed to the grave or any memorial thereon.
- The holder is placed on the grave at the owner's risk, and the Council will not be liable in the event of its loss or damage however caused.
- Any vase or flower holder not complying with the Council's conditions will be treated as any other memorial for the purposes of the regulations.
- The holder is placed on the grave at the owners risk and the Council will not be liable in the event of its loss or damage however caused.
- It is suggested that the grave number is marked on the base of the flower holder so that if it is displaced it can be repositioned on the correct grave.

Renewal of Exclusive Right of Burial

When the period of exclusive right of burial expires, the next of kin should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council if they wish to renew the exclusive right so that the appropriate application can be made.

Cemetery Records

Plans of the Cemetery showing the various sections and individual grave spaces, together with the Burial Registers are available for inspection by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council. There is no charge for this service.

Grave Searches

Easington Village Parish Council maintain the statutory burial records for Durham Lane Cemetery. Enquiries are received from members of the public wishing to locate the place of burial of their relatives.

If you wish to locate a family member who may be buried in Durham Lane Cemetery, please contact the Parish Council on telephone number 0191 5279360 or e-mail: clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

The information required to conduct the search includes:

- The full name of the deceased
- The approximate month/year that the person was interred
- Any further details that can be supplied to assist with the search

Memorial Benches

The Council occasionally accepts the donation of a memorial bench however, the type and quality of the bench must be approved in advance. The siting of benches is restricted to certain locations within the cemetery and is at the discretion of the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Any enquiries regarding the donation of a memorial bench should be made direct to the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Residency and Charging

The Parish Council reserve the right to prioritise the allocation of grave spaces to residents of Easington Village, at the operational discretion of the Clerk to the Council. Each case is considered individually but in basic terms a resident will be considered as being:

- A Resident is a person who has resided within the Parish of Easington for the previous consecutive 12 months or more.
- A person who was previously a resident of the Parish and left for reasons of care will be deemed a resident.
- A member of the Armed Forces will be deemed a resident if their former permanent address was within the Parish for 12 consecutive months or more.
- The council reserves the right to request proof of residency for example a Council Tax Bill or Electoral Roll entry proving residency within the Parish.

The scale of charges for Exclusive Right of Burial, Burials Fees and memorials are reviewed on a regular basis and are approved by the Parish Council. The current scale of charges is attached at **Annex A**.

Useful Contacts and Support Information

A list of useful contacts and support information for the bereaved is attached at **Annex B**.



Easington Village Parish Council

Seaton Holme, Hall Walks, Easington Village, SR8 3BS

Telephone: 0191 5279360

Email : deputy@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

clerk@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

CEMETERY FEES AND CHARGES WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST APRIL 2025

DURHAM LANE CEMETERY, EASINGTON VILLAGE, SR8 3BA

	Resident	Non Resident
Exclusive Right		
Grave Spaces (All Spaces)	£170.00	£330.00
Cremated Remains Space	£50.00	£100.00
Interment Fees		
Adult - Single Depth	£230.00	£460.00
Adult - Double Depth	£350.00	£690.00
Cremated Remains	£60.00	£110.00
Child under 16 years	£0.00	£0.00
Still born	£0.00	£0.00
Memorial Charges		
Erection of Headstone or Tablet	£80.00	£150.00
Erection of Vase	£30.00	£60.00
Added Inscription	£30.00	£60.00
Additional Fees		
Transfer of Deed	£30.00	£30.00

~ A Resident is a person who has resided in The Parish of Easington for the previous 12 months or more

~ A member of the Armed Forces will be deemed a resident if their former permanent address was within the Parish

~ A person who was a resident in the Parish and left for reasons of care will be deemed a resident

~ The Council reserves the right to require proof of residency for example a Council Tax Bill or Electoral Roll entry proving residency within the Parish

Useful Contacts and Support Information

Bereavement helplines and counselling services

Cruse Bereavement Care (Bereavement Counselling)

www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk Tel 01325 288633

Compassionate Friends (Support & Friendship by those Similarly Bereaved)

www.tcf.org.uk

Tel 0345 123 2304

Age UK County Durham

info@ageukcountydurham.org.uk

Tel 0191 386 3856

At a loss

www.ataloss.org

Tel 0800 4480800

UK Care guide

<https://ukcareguide.co.uk/dealing-with-bereavement>

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

www.fsid.org.uk

Tel 08088026868

24 Hour Cot Death Helpline

Tel 02072332090

Stillbirth & Neonatal Death Society (SANDS)

www.uk-sands.org

Tel 0207 436 5881

Child Death Helpline

www.childdeathhelpline.org.uk

Tel: 02078138416

The Natural Death Centre, London

www.naturaldeath.org.uk

Tel 01962712690

AGENDA ITEM

EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

June 2026

Durham Fire Service Peterlee Station Reduction of Crews – (Cllr Dale to speak) to consider an EVPC response.

I want to raise a matter arising from correspondence I have received and from speaking with several residents, including individuals with professional experience in the fire service.

The concerns relate to fire cover arrangements in the Easington District area, specifically around appliance availability at Peterlee Fire Station and how resources are being deployed across the wider service area.

The correspondence does not ask us to take a position on operational matters, but it does raise questions about whether current arrangements remain consistent with the Fire Service's Community Risk Management Plan and the level of risk identified for this area.

Over the course of the last week I have gathered information from several sources and have been advised that within the last fortnight there have been 5 days where no second appliance has been available to protect our community. Over the coming weeks and months, this number will continue to rise with the regularity getting worse. Especially with summer coming, if temperatures rise, so do the fire figures.

A quote from a current serving firefighter:

"CDDFRS have made a financial decision - as opposed to a risk-based approach - to split up the crew at Peterlee, sending the firefighters due to ride 'Ladder 2' to other service stations across the Service area to cover shortfalls elsewhere. This leaves just one appliance 'on the run' at Peterlee. At the very best, our fire cover is operating on 50% of what it should be, what it always has been. In reality however, this is more than a 50% reduction in effectiveness and level of protection, because whilst the appliance and the number of firefighters have halved, the capabilities of the crew that remain to protect the public is further reduced to a more significant level than 50% owing to the increased safety factors that are imposed upon those that remain.

To put this into perspective, whilst we will still get one appliance to a house fire within 8 minutes (as promised by the Service in their Community Risk Management Plan) the increased safety constraints will mean **the crew will be unable to actually enter the property in Breathing Apparatus to attempt to save lives until a second appliance arrives** (from either Seaham, Wheatley Hill, or potentially a station even further afield)."

AGENDA ITEM

EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

June 2026

Now, imagine that crew are surrounded by friends and neighbours, begging the crew to go in and do their job, but instead, they're waiting for a second appliance to arrive before they can do so? That pressure alone is something that I simply cannot begin to comprehend.

Another quote:

"Why has this happened and why now? The Service have made a change to their Degradation Plan - like all Fire and Rescue Services throughout the country, CDDFRS created a Degradation Plan a number of years ago to help them deal with occasions of short staffing caused by unforeseen exceptional circumstances. Some examples would be a large incident on such a scale as seen with Grenfell Tower in London. Or to deal with elevated sickness as caused by a Global Pandemic. Previously they used Operational Cover Contracts (a cheaper version to overtime) to cover staffing shortfalls. If they were 8 short, they would pay 8 people to provide cover to plug the gaps. Now, they have capped the number of people they will bring in on Operational Cover at 2. So if there are 8 required, they will use the steps in the Degradation Plan (of which losing an appliance from Peterlee is one of the first steps) to backfill the shortages. They could bring people in to maintain their level of cover but they are choosing instead to take trucks off the run. The major concern here is that the problems they are having with staffing are largely self inflicted. For years the Service have failed to recruit and retain staff effectively, especially across their Retained Duty System (RDS), which has led to gaps in cover at RDS stations, in turn leading to the need to plug those holes with Whole Time Personnel, taking cover away from areas like ours where the risks are greater. The Service finds itself in a position where it is unable to fulfil their responsibility to the people of County Durham and Darlington as promised in their own Community Risk Management Plan.

Utilising their Degradation Plan in the way they are doing is wrong. A financial decision to remove our fire cover and not a risk based one. They are using the Degradation Plan as an 'Everyday Plan'. They are gambling with people's lives. They know the risks in Easington District are some of the biggest in the country. Their own risk profiling tells them that we are top of various tables of fire statistics; dwelling fires, deliberate vehicle fires and when it comes to secondary fires (which are grouped together as things like grass fires, wheelie bin fires and anything stemming from anti-social behaviour) our District is top of the table for the entire country. No other station area in England has to deal with more secondary fires than we do."

Given that these concerns have now come from multiple sources, I would like to ask whether the Council would support writing to the Chief Fire Officer and the Chair of the Fire Authority to request clarification on three key points:

AGENDA ITEM

EASINGTON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING

June 2026

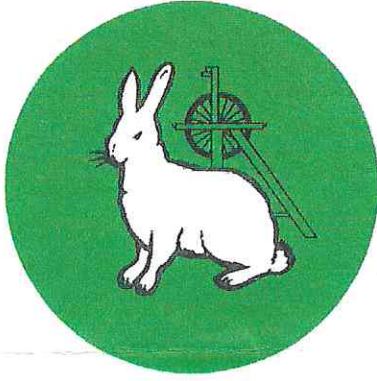
- Current fire appliance availability at Peterlee and whether there are periods of reduced cover
- Whether staffing deployment arrangements affect resilience within higher-risk areas such as Easington
- How current arrangements align with the published Community Risk Management Plan

I would also suggest that we consider inviting a representative of the Fire Service to a future meeting so that councillors and residents can receive accurate information directly.

To be clear, this is not a criticism of frontline firefighters, who continue to provide an essential service under difficult conditions. This is about ensuring that our community has clear reassurance on emergency cover and that we are acting on behalf of residents who have raised legitimate concerns.

Kind regards

Claire



EASINGTON COLLIERY PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL MR. A. FORSTER

Parish Hall,
Crawlaw Road,
Easington Colliery,
Peterlee,
Co. Durham.
SR8 3LP
Tel/Fax: (0191) 527 2700

1 June 2026

Easington Village Parish Council
Seaton Holme
Easington Village
Peterlee
Co Durham

Dear Easington Village Parish Council,

75th Anniversary – Easington Colliery Mining Disaster

On behalf of Easington Colliery Parish Council, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for the loan of your PA system for the 75th anniversary commemoration of the Easington Colliery Mining Disaster.

Your support made a genuine difference. The PA system ensured that the service could be clearly heard by the hundreds of people who attended, allowing the readings, tributes, and moments of reflection to be shared by everyone present. It contributed greatly to the dignity and smooth running of the event.

We are grateful for your willingness to assist and for the spirit of cooperation shown between our two councils. Your help was very much appreciated by both the organisers and the local community.

Thank you once again for your valued support.

Yours sincerely,

**A Forster
Clerk to Easington Colliery Parish Council**

The PSTN Switch-Off Checklist

The UK's landline network is being switched off. Don't wait to be contacted. Here's what to do now, in plain English.

- STEP 01 Don't wait. Start planning now**

Your provider should write to you before your line is switched, but letters can come late, get missed, or not arrive at all. We've heard from people whose lines stopped working with no warning. Acting early gives you choice and avoids the rush.
- STEP 02 Ask your provider when your area is scheduled**

The switch-off is rolling out area by area across the UK. Call your provider and ask directly. Don't wait for a letter. Knowing your date helps you sort everything else in good time.
- STEP 03 Check if your home phone will still work**

Most older corded phones that plug directly into the wall socket will not work on the new digital network without an adapter. Check with your provider. Many will supply one free of charge, or replace your handset.
- STEP 04 Check any personal or medical alarm**

If you or someone in your home uses a telecare device, such as a lifeline pendant alarm, fall detector, or emergency call button, contact the alarm provider before anything changes. These devices often rely on the phone line and may need replacing or reconfiguring.
- STEP 05 Check your home burglar alarm**

Many home alarm systems use the phone line to contact a monitoring centre if they're triggered. Contact your alarm company to ask if your system is switch-off ready.
- STEP 06 Know what happens if the power or internet goes down**

Unlike a traditional landline, your new digital phone needs your broadband router switched on and working. If the power goes out or your internet drops, it won't work. **The Phonely app** means you can still make and receive calls from your mobile using mobile data, so you're never left without a phone.
- STEP 07 Ask your broadband provider about emergency call backup**

Your broadband provider is required by Ofcom to offer you a way to call 999 during a power cut, usually a battery backup unit for your router, free of charge if you rely on your landline and don't have another device, such as a mobile phone. Contact them directly to find out more about battery backups.
- STEP 08 Write down your key phone numbers today**

In case of any disruption during the switch, keep a few important numbers written down somewhere easy to find: your doctor's surgery, a family member, and your provider's customer service number.
- STEP 09 Ask for help, sooner rather than later**

You don't have to figure this out alone. Your provider must offer assisted migration support, and charities like Age UK can help. The earlier you ask, the more time there is to get it right.

Your landing is switching off.

Plain-English checklist. Don't wait to be contacted.

- 01** Don't wait for a letter **02** Find out your switch-off date
- 03** Test your old corded phone **04** Check medical & fall alarms
- 05** Check your burglar alarm **06** Plan for power & internet outages
- 07** Ask for emergency call backup **08** Write down key phone numbers
- 09** Ask for help, sooner not later

EASINGTON VILLAGE
PARISH COUNCIL

ROADS MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP



Easington Village Parish Council have introduced a **NEW** Road Safety and Traffic Management initiative, focusing on all areas of road and traffic safety in Easington Village.



OBJECTIVES



To raise awareness of Safe Driving procedures and behaviours throughout our Village.



Promoting Road Safety, Speed Awareness and responsible road use.



Working together to keep our roads safe for pedestrians, residents and road users.



Formed by EVPC Councillors, the new initiative will be **COMMUNITY DRIVEN** and we would like you to get involved.



CONTACT

FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT
YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

- Cllr Ramshaw jason.ramshaw@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Godfrey rachael.godfrey@easingtonvillageparishcouncil.gov.uk

JOIN US

GET INVOLVED

WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND OUR NEWLY FORMED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEETINGS TO ASSIST IN TACKLING ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE VILLAGE.

MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE IN
THE MILBURN ROOM
OF SEATON HOLME
STARTING AT **6PM**



Thursday 25 June

Covering Stockton Road
(inc Half Moon/Southside)
and Hall Walks



Thursday 23 July

Covering Rosemary Lane
and Seaside Lane



Thursday 20 August

Covering Sunderland Road



Thursday 8 October

Covering Thorpe Road
(Inc North Cres and
surrounding areas)

WORKING TOGETHER
FOR A **SAFER COMMUNITY**

