

# EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 83

April 2014



### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year the Annual Meeting of the Parish Assembly will be held on  
Thursday 24th April at 7.30pm  
in Eggescliffe Community Centre on Durham Lane.

Councillors will report on the work of the Council during the past year; you will have the opportunity to put questions to the Councillors and to air your views on any topic which concerns you. This year we also have a guest speaker, Reverend Sylvia Wilson

Eggescliffe Village and Eliff's Mill allotment awards for 2013 will be presented at the meeting.



The meeting will be followed by the Chairman's Social Evening and you are cordially invited to join us for light refreshments and a chance to chat informally with your Councillors

### PARISH BUDGET 2014-15

Every year Stockton Council is obliged to collect through Council Tax from the householders of Eggescliffe Civil Parish the amount which Eggescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council decides is needed by them. This has to cover maintenance / improvement of play areas, war memorials, Eggescliffe village green etc., together with administrative overheads. After careful consideration of all items, your local council required £58,580, which means that a Band D household will pay £18.27 Council Tax for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 (in addition to tax collected for the Borough Council and police and fire). This is a 4.8% increase on last year. However:

£ This is only 35.1p per week; £ Last year parish Council Tax was reduced by 22.5% - rather than building up a surplus in 2013-14 your local council wanted the money to stay in your pockets for twelve months;

£ The 2014-15 parish Council Tax is still less than it was from 2008-09 to 2012-13; £ Nearly all income is from Council Tax. Apart from a fixed grant to represent the parish's share of the cost of Council Tax Reduction, no Government money is received. The Government did not offer any grant to parish councils in return for not increasing Council Tax (as was offered to larger authorities).

Full details are available from the office or at the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting, at which local electors can ask questions. It is hoped also to present accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014

### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

When the Parish Council held a consultation session last year to launch our Neighbourhood Plan several comments were made about the lack of Christmas lights around the parish. Councillors agreed to put aside some money to purchase display lights which can be mounted on light columns, similar to those which Stockton Borough Council erect in Yarm and Stockton. Owing to the cost of these items it was agreed to purchase sufficient to erect on selected columns near to the boundaries of the parish for Christmas 2014, with the aim of extending the display in subsequent years as Council Tax precept permits. We hope that residents will be pleased with the result in December this year.

Councillors are pleased that Eggescliffe Area Residents Association have started a tradition of having an illuminated tree outside Eggescliffe Parish Hall and we would be pleased to see other groups contributing to the festive appearance of our area.



## 2014 SUMMER FETE

Members of the parish council and representatives from Eggescliffe Area Residents Association met

recently to begin planning this year's summer fete which is to be held on  
**The Green, Eggescliffe on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July from 1.30pm to 6.00pm.**



A band has been provisionally booked and we are hoping to have more stalls than in previous years including craft stalls. There will also be a fun sports competition, face painting, tombola etc., if you would like to donate a prize for the tombola, please get in touch! Once again any funds raised by the parish council will be donated to a charity of the Chairman's choice; last year's fete raised over £216 for the Alzheimer's Society.



Refreshments will be available on The Green, including a licensed bar, and teas and coffees will be served in the Parish Hall.



Further details and a full programme coming nearer the time; keep an eye on the parish council notice boards and web site, [www.eggescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](http://www.eggescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk), and at [www.eggescliffeara.org.uk](http://www.eggescliffeara.org.uk)



### WELCOME

The parish of St John the Baptist, Eggescliffe have a new Priest in Charge, following the retirement of Canon Tim Ollier last year. Rev Sylvia Wilson has moved from All Saints at Preston, just a short distance down the road, and was licensed on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### PLANNING UPDATE

Eggescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council has the right to comment on planning applications, and does so where appropriate. However, the decision rests with Stockton Borough Council's Planning Committee, or, on an appeal against a refusal, by a Planning Inspector appointed by a Government minister.

Amid controversy, Stockton Council approved the second outline application for housing on land off **Urley Nook Road** (opposite Grassholme Way). At the time of writing, the developer is consulting about proposals for the details. There will then be an opportunity to comment to Stockton Council on them, but not about the principle of building houses there.

The application for a car park and houses on the Tannery site on **Aislaby Road** was withdrawn.

Stockton Council want to turn the former haulage yard at the foot of "Stoney Bank" into a public long-stay car park to serve Yarm. Eggescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council has written about its concerns about traffic entering and leaving **Yarm Road**.



### TO JUNCTION FARM SCHOOL

Eggescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council is pleased to announce that Junction Farm Primary School in Butterfield Drive has recently been judged by Ofsted to be 'Outstanding'.

At 4-00pm on the 4th of March the school received a telephone call to say that Ofsted Inspectors would arrive in school at 8-00am the following morning. They stayed for two days, observing lessons and play times and listening to staff, governors and pupils. At the end of the inspection the informal feedback was very complimentary but they had to wait over a fortnight to have their judgement confirmed in all areas.

E&EC would like to say "Well done" to everyone. The school will now be a beacon for all other schools in the borough of Stockton

### A POST OFFICE FOR EAGLESCLIFFE

When Orchard shops re-open they will include a Post Office Local giving us post office facilities there for the first time in over 5years. Paul Burrell of Eaglescliffe Pharmacy has agreed to have the Post Office in his premises so we will be able to buy stamps, post parcels and so on without needing to travel to Yarm or Stockton. We are very grateful to Paul for providing this community asset in his premises. The shops should start to open in early summer and will include a butcher, a baker, a betting shop, Indian, Italian and Chinese take-aways as well as the pharmacy with post office and of course Sainsbury's.





## PARKING ON EGGLESLIFFE VILLAGE GREEN

In the past few months the parish council has received several complaints about vehicles parked fully on the Village Green; not only is this unsightly, it can damage the green itself and cause problems for grass cutting contractors. There is also a genuine concern that when pay parking is introduced in Yarm, if drivers looking to avoid charges see vehicles parked on The Green it could encourage them to do the same.

We need to work together to avoid our Village Green being used as a car park; it is an exceptionally attractive feature and the parish council asks for your co-operation and assistance in helping to protect and preserve it for future generations.

### LOCAL BUS SERVICES

Since the last *Newsletter* there has been mixed news about our local bus services. *Arriva*, who operate the daytime weekday service between *Kingsmead*, Orchard, Egglecliffe School, Yarm, Ingleby Barwick and Middlesbrough has reduced the frequency for most of the day to hourly. This is their decision on a commercial basis. Stockton Council withdrew all subsidies from bus services from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. We are pleased that Leven Valley is continuing to run an hourly service in the evenings between Stockton, Yarm Road, *Kingsmead*, Orchard and Yarm. However, they will do this only so long as it is profitable – the message is “use it or lose it!” Your council cannot see any current prospect of re-instating the through daytime service on weekdays between Durham Lane and Stockton – this could happen only if an operator felt it would be profitable to do so.



### LEVEN CLOSE PLAY AREA

The play equipment on this little area is suitable for young children only.

Over the years since the housing was built car use has increased so as part of the refurbishment of the play area it was decided to install a low fence to help keep small children safe, and to remind dog owners that the grass there is not designated as a dog toilet. Tristar Homes made a grant towards the fencing and HMP Kirklevington inmates were commissioned to make the panels as part of their training for release. Delays beyond the control of the parish council have meant that only now is the fencing being erected, but by the time you read this it should be securely in place and painted.

### PLAYSCHEME

Owing to difficulties obtaining suitable venues and staffing arrangements, including the unavailability of our usual Playscheme Organiser, the Parish Council has decided not to have a 2014 Playscheme.

There is however some money set aside to provide an alternative for the young people of the Parish and the Council would like to hear from you if you have any ideas or suggestions that might be appropriate e.g. a play bus, magic show, etc.; you can send your ideas by completing the comments sheet on the back page of this newsletter.



The decision to have a 2015 Playscheme will be reviewed later this year

### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Work on the production of a Neighbourhood plan is continuing. There will be a questionnaire arriving in every house at some point in the near future and we hope that everyone will take the opportunity to complete it and make your views known. There will be opportunities for helping with the plan which don't involve coming to a lot of meetings.

For example:

- Helping to remind residents to complete their questionnaire
  - Offering assistance in completing the questionnaire if, for example, writing is difficult for someone.
  - Finding out about the architecture or history of a part of the parish, or the railway heritage, and sharing what you find with the steering group
  - Looking at the gaps in our cycle ways and pedestrian footpaths and marking them on a map, perhaps suggesting ways to fill the gaps
  - contacting local businesses to see what they think is important in the area
- Do get in touch if you can help in any way.

# Problem! Who Do I Call?

<b>In an emergency:</b> The 999 service should only be used to report an urgent incident which is happening now or one which has just occurred needing an emergency response	Police- <b>999</b> or 112 also Fire, Ambulance or Coastguard
If you wish to report a crime or other non-urgent incident, contact your nearest Police Station	Stockton-607114 M'Bro HQ-326326
Vandalism, threats, harassment, graffiti, street drinking etc.	ASB Team-607943
Railway vandalism	British Transport Police-0800 405040
Medical queries	NHS Direct-0845 4647
Gas emergency	0800 111999
Victim Support	01642 297000
Childline	0800 1111
Flood alerts and warnings	Floodline 0845 9881188

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Residents are welcome at Council meetings, these are held in Egglecliffe School on Urlay Nook Road, commencing at 7pm. You are welcome to observe from 7pm-8pm and at 8pm you are welcome to speak. So, if you have something you want to discuss with **YOUR COUNCILLORS** please come along.

### Forthcoming meeting dates:

<b>MAY</b>	<b>1st &amp; 15th</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>5th &amp; 19th</b>
<b>JULY</b>	<b>3rd &amp; 17th</b>

Please note that these dates are provisional and subject to change to allow for holidays, quorum problems etc.

## COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Chairman:</b>	Cllr Maureen Rigg	782009
<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	Cllr Alex Lamond	652293
	Cllr John Atkinson	652493
	Cllr Geoff Colling	648470
	Cllr John Fletcher	786456
	Cllr Alan Lewis	784910
	Cllr George Perrie	652498
	Cllr Rose Reynolds	781978
	Cllr Mike Richards	648354
	Cllr Shane Sellers	785325
	Cllr Geoff Turner	652081
	Cllr John Walker	651286
	Cllr Alan Wilbert	652207
	Clerk to the Council	785951
	Email: <a href="mailto:egglescliffepc@btconnect.com">egglescliffepc@btconnect.com</a>	

## COMMENT SHEET

You are invited to complete and return this section with any comments, suggestions or complaints about anything happening in the Parish (or even anything not happening!)

COMMENT: .....

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Please print your details to enable us to respond:

NAME: ..... ADDRESS:.....

EMAIL ADDRESS:.....

Please return to: Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council, The Old Offices, Urlay Nook, Eaglescliffe TS16 0LA  
Or email your comments to: [egglescliffepc@btconnect.com](mailto:egglescliffepc@btconnect.com)