

EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 89 April 2017



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Assembly will be held on Thursday 27th April at 7.30pm in Egglecliffe Community Centre on Durham Lane.



Your Councillors will report on the work of the Council during the past year and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and air your views on any topic which concerns you. If you haven't been before why not make it a first this year and find out what's happening and what's not in your community.

The winners of the 2016 Community Awards will be coming along to receive their awards and Egglecliffe Village and Eliff's Mill allotment awards for 2016 will also 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

This year's guest speakers are from the Great North Air Ambulance Service: Deborah Lewis-Bynoe, Director of Charity Services and Clive James, Head of I.T., will be talking about the Centre of Excellence proposed for the Elementis site.

VANDALISM HAS COST US ALL MONEY

Your Council Tax bill for the year ending 31st March 2018 from Stockton Borough Council will show a large percentage increase on last year's level of tax for Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council's work. However, in cash terms, a Band D household will pay only 9p per week more for this than in 2016-17.



In 2016 play equipment at St Margaret's Play Area (between Grisedale Crescent and Dunbar Drive) suffered two arson attacks, As reported in the last issue of this *Newsletter*, it was decided to replace the damaged structure and to provide CCTV cover; these have come at a cost. It is impractical to obtain insurance cover for fire, vandalism etc. for this equipment – although we hasten to add that full cover for public liability is in place. The cost of vandalism is therefore borne by the council-taxpayers of the Civil Parish of Egglecliffe, as is the cost of CCTV to deter a repeat (apart from a contribution of Stockton Council money from our ward councillors' budget).

The October 2016 *Newsletter* explained how money already held by Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council was temporarily re-allocated to meet this large item of unexpected expenditure. In deciding on the 2017-18 budget this council carefully reviewed what expenditure was needed and what resources were available. Councillors concluded that there was no alternative but to increase the "precept". This is the amount demanded from Stockton Council, which in turn passes on the burden to the council-taxpayers of this civil parish. £22.52 (i.e. 43p per week) will therefore be payable by each Band D household, with larger or smaller amounts for dwellings with higher or lower tax valuations. Please note that Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council: Receives no Government grant (apart from a fixed £5446 per year) and nothing from business rates; Has no say in the budgets of the Borough Council, the Police or the Fire Authority (and *vice versa*); Is still costing you less than it did up to 2012-13; Budgets for no more than it can foresee as needed each year; and By not borrowing has not committed council-taxpayers to the cost of future years' repayments. There's space here for no more than a summary. If you have any queries or would like more detail of the work done by councillors and the Clerk on financial matters, please contact her or come to the Parish Meeting.

PLANNING

- At the time of writing, there is no decision by Stockton Council about Yarm School's proposal for a foot- and cycle-bridge across the **River Tees** (October *Newsletter*). In the meantime, Stockton Council
- planners have consulted on the draft Local Plan, which includes a bridge somewhere over the River to provide a cycle route alternative to Yarm Bridge. The Plan says that a route has been identified, but does not say where. Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council has objected, because the proposal cannot be evaluated properly without this information.
- Stockton Council Planning Committee have approved the new application for 1 **Abbeyfield Drive**.
- Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council supported the planning application for improvements to **Egglecliffe Parish Hall, Butts Lane**, which was granted by Stockton planners.

Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council is now a Fairtrade Council. The council agreed unanimously to support some of the poorest farmers in the world by only using Fairtrade certified tea, coffee and sugar at meetings. Fairtrade certification ensures a fair price for the produce and a premium for the community to invest in projects to improve life for the community - often this is clean drinking water or better health care or access to education for their children. Stockton Fairtrade Borough Partnership presented the council with a certificate recognising their commitment.

Congratulations 2016 COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS.

The group award for 2016 goes to Egglecliffe Area Residents Association for their work in planting and maintaining Egglecliffe Memorial Garden and also planting on Egglecliffe Green on behalf of the parish council. The individual award goes to Katherine Webster who has worked on tidying and planting at Tittybottle Park War Memorial and has kindly offered to supply new planters this year. The awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April.

Is there an individual or groups that you know of who makes a difference to peoples lives and to the area where we live? Do you think their efforts should be recognised? Then why not nominate them for a Community Award?

We will be asking for nominations in the autumn *Newsletter* and the closing date for 2017 nominations is 31st December; so please give a thought over the year to anyone you think is deserving of recognition for their efforts and let us know later in the year. There are two awards, one to an individual and the second to a group/organisation. The person or group need not be resident or based in the Parish, but must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Achieved something particularly noteworthy within the Parish
- Enhanced the reputation of the Parish
- Made a significant contribution to the conservation and protection of the natural environment of the Parish

EGGLESCLIFFE COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS & EVENTS

Broadband & Biscuits - All welcome, 3rd Monday of the month 1.30 – 3.30pm.
Enquiries 01642 767795 or 01642 652420.

Silver Surfers - Have you got a Kindle, tablet, computer or laptop and want to learn how to use or get the best out of it? Wi-Fi is now available and sessions take place on the second Thursday of the month commencing at 7.30pm. Contact Peter Brown on 01642 652420.

Easter Coffee Morning with Easter egg raffle, tombola and card stall on Wednesday 12 April from 10am - noon. Free admission, proceeds to a local Alzheimer's Society charity. If you would like to donate Easter eggs please bring them along on Saturday mornings from 10am 'til noon.

New Library Area - Volunteers are needed to help supervise this area in the Community Centre after the closure of Egglecliffe Library. Contact Ray Paris on 07702 068074.

Social Group - All welcome, first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

Charity Evening in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance 4th May - entertainment by the Seasonal Singers.

EAGLESCLIFFE STATION

In our *Newsletters* for both October 2015 & 2016 we asked for a notice allowing free parking for short periods to buy tickets in advance or meet someone off a train. Northern Railway have refused such a notice and Stockton council officers feel that there is enough short-term parking on nearby streets.



PLAY AREAS AND OPEN SPACES

Every cloud has a silver lining! Following the shocking arson attacks on St Margaret's Play area a group of residents have formed The Friends of St Margaret's Play Area. They are raising funds to ensure that the CCTV which the council has installed will be able to continue to be monitored after the current budget allocation has been used. Their first donation from a Christmas fair in November was passed to the council before Christmas. They are now planning to have a stall at the Summer Fête on the Green. You can follow them on Facebook (look for Friends of St Margaret's Play Area) and join in the activities or help to organise them.

Further good news - the tree is at long last planted on the roundabout at Greenfield Drive. The interpretation board will be planned and positioned in the next few months. We want to be sure that people moving into the area know why it's called Orchard Estate, and a little about the history.

The less good news is that the play equipment for very young children at Kingsmead play area is rapidly approaching the end of its useful life. The council is planning to budget for replacement equipment over the next couple of years.

PARKING !!!!

We have received lots of complaints regarding inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking throughout the parish particularly around the Links School and Orchard shops. With this in mind we have contacted Stockton Council's enforcement team who will be carrying out spot checks at different times of the day to try to eradicate this problem. If you do see any vehicle parked either on a grassed verge or any other area where parking is prohibited please report the offending vehicle to the enforcement team:

enforcement.dispatch@stockton.gov.uk
Tel 01642 528439

We need the help of everyone within the parish to stop this before someone is seriously injured.

EAGLESCLIFFE MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP AND GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Egglescliffe and Egglescliffe Council sets aside a small amount each year for the purpose of awarding grants at its discretion to community organisations to provide financial support to provide benefit to the Parish. In November a grant of £400 was awarded to Egglescliffe Medical Practice Patient Participation Group to help with the purchase of an ambulatory blood pressure machine.

In December a grant of £100 was awarded to the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS) and shortly after that we heard of their planning application to provide an operations base with a helipad and hangar building at the former Elementis site. At the front of the Elementis office building there is a War Memorial, cared for by Elementis and commemorating past employees who lost their lives in WW1. The Parish Council lays a wreath there in November each year and will liaise with GNAAS and Elementis to ensure the memorial continues to be looked after, whatever happens to the site. If you would like to know more about GNAAS plans or have any questions then why not come to the Parish Meeting (see front page for details).



WE HAVE MOVED

Over the last few years, especially since we started accumulating equipment for the summer fête, the working space in the parish council office has become more and more cramped. So in January this year we moved into two rooms at the same premises (The Old Offices on Urray Nook Road). The parish council office is now in Studio 10B and Studio 10C provides dedicated storage space. We did look at moving to more spacious and central premises on Yarm Road just inside the parish boundary. However it was found that the rent and utility costs would have been too big a burden on council tax.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Parish Council hopes everyone enjoyed the festive lights again this year. It was unfortunate that the tree used on the green space at Orchard shops came down in high winds so there were no lights. However, there was lots of praise for the Christmas tree and the event for turning on the lights at the Community Centre. Both Durham Lane and Junction Farm School Choirs sang at the event. Thanks to all who organised and the choirs for a great start to the Christmas festivities.



SUMMER FÊTE

A reminder to add the Summer Fête to your calendar
16th July 2017 1.30 - 5.30pm

This year we have music from Los Capitanes, magic, Punch and Judy and much more. Families will be able to compete in the fun sports and wellie throwing. There will also be food and a licensed bar, stalls, coconut shy, tombola and children's games.

Come and join in the Fun on the Green at Egglescliffe.

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS & MEETINGS

Chairman:	Cllr John Fletcher	01642 786456	Email: johnfletcher851@googlemail.com
Vice-Chairman:	Cllr Maureen Milburn	01642 894353	Email: maureen.milburn@ntlworld.com
	Cllr Jim Clarke	01642 645821	Email: jimclarke2018@gmail.com
	Cllr Geoff Colling	01642 648470	Email: geoffrey@synergybroadband.co.uk
	Cllr Alex Lamond	01642 652293	Email: alex.lamond@ntlworld.com
	Cllr John Milburn	01642 894353	Email: johnmilburn1619@gmail.com
	Cllr George Perrie	01642 652498	Email: g.perrie@ntlworld.com
	Cllr Rose Reynolds	01642 781978	Email: roserenolds2@virginmedia.com
	Cllr Maureen Rigg	01642 782009	Email: maureen.rigg@googlemail.com
	Cllr Reg Rowlinson	01642 787660	Email: rowlinson_r@sky.com
	Cllr Michael Snaith	01642 988155	Email: m.snaith@ntlworld.com
	Cllr Geoff Turner	01642 652081	Email: alonturner@btinternet.com
	Cllr Felicity Wray	07734 275612	Email: felicity.wray@northumbria.ac.uk
	Clerk to the Council	01642 785951	Email: egglescliffepc@btconnect.com

Residents are welcome at Council meetings, these are held in Egglecliffe School, Urlay Nook Road on the first and third Thursdays each month except during school holidays.
Forthcoming dates: May 4th & 18th; June 15th; July 6th & 20th

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Enforcement Dispatch Service, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year round 01642 528439
The Neighbourhood Enforcement Service responds to complaints of nuisance and environmental issues, and delivers educational and preventative measures to stop problems occurring in the first place.

Anti Social Behaviour 01642 607943 Email: ASBTeam@stockton.gov.uk
The Anti-Social Behaviour Team is a multi-agency team that deals with serious and persistent anti-social behaviour issues across all housing tenures. Based in Stockton Police Station, the team includes two seconded Police Officers and a Fire Officer.

Neighbourhood Policing Call 101 Issues investigated by your Neighbourhood Policing Team include: drug misuse & drug dealing, off-road motorbikes, drunken people causing a nuisance and crimes in your area **In an emergency** or if a crime is actually taking place, **ring 999**

Care For Your Area 01642 391959 Email: careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk
Refuse collection, street cleansing, kerbside recycling, horticultural services, highways maintenance, fly-tipping (removal) etc.

Street Lighting 01642 526769 Damaged or defective street lights - quote the identification number from the light, bollard or sign and the address of the closest building or road name

Samaritans Helpline for emotional support **National 08457 909090** Local branch **01642 217777**

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