

# EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 102

APRIL 2024



### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Assembly will be held on Thursday 25th April 2024 at 7.30pm in Egglecliffe Community Centre, Durham Lane, Eaglescliffe TS16 0EH

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. The winner of the 2023 Community Award will be invited along to receive their award and Egglecliffe Village and Eliff's Mill allotment awards for 2023 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. 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.

#### A 'Hello' from the Chair, Councillor Marc de Launay.

It is Spring at last! So hopefully we can all look forward to the brighter days coming. As a Parish Council, our Councillors endeavour to make a positive difference within our local communities and I want to thank them for that. We keep the Parish Council a politically neutral body and have a wonderfully rich and varied mix of people who have a great sense of community responsibility within our ranks, all with the same goal of delivering real outcomes for our parish residents, within our financial framework. (More on that later!)

We see how the current climate has affected many volunteering and third sector areas and how people tend to focus more inwards in times of difficulty, however we would ask everyone to consider what small things they may do for their community, even becoming a Parish Councillor as we are actively wanting more to join us!

So do please get in touch for a chat if you are thinking of doing a wee bit more within the community.

#### And the Money Side of Things...Council Tax Okay...financials...wake up at the back !

Ultimately, as a council we follow an agreed framework that allows for the best value for money we can deliver for the Parish, within the parameters and responsibilities we have; so with that in mind your Parish Council's outlook (planning-wise) has been neither to charge more tax than is necessary, nor to borrow money and to strive to have a robust fiscal system. In the early months of the calendar year, Local Authorities fix their budgets for the forthcoming financial year, which is the 12 months beginning on April 1st. Your Parish Council works out how much money it will need out of the Council Tax, less amounts already in hand. This amount forms a very small amount from your Council Tax, which is then collected from households in Egglecliffe Parish on the same bill as tax for the Borough Council, the Police, and the Fire Service. The Parish Council receives nothing from business rates and only a fixed grant of £5446 from the Government. As in past years, the Parish Council has demanded for the year ending 31st March 2025 no more than is needed and is neither building up general reserves nor borrowing. The result is that the Parish element of Council Tax has decreased by 10.6% and is £18.83 (about 36p per week) for a Band D dwelling. More details are available at the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting or from the Clerk or Councillors.



#### CHANGING THE WORLD BEGAN HERE!



The opening of the Stockton & Darlington Railway, in 1825, is generally regarded as the birth of public railways. Nationally and locally, plans are being made for celebrations in less than two years' time. Parish councillors feel that Egglecliffe's railway history should be marked for posterity where it happened, e.g., by plaques. **Please let us know of any other ideas you may have!**

#### Did you know :

- Trains have used the same route between Urray Nook and Eaglescliffe South Junction since 1825?
- Victoria Park (a.k.a. Titty-bottle Park) was formed across the original route of the 1825 railway?
- The street names on the housing estate north-east of Allen's West Crossing all have a railway theme?
- The first and second stations called "Yarm" were actually in Egglecliffe Parish?
- Burnmoor Drive was built where there used to be a railway line from Bells Bridge to Allen's West?

## PLAY AREA INVESTMENT

### St Margaret's Play Area – Outdoor Gym Equipment

We are excited to announce the arrival of the outdoor gym equipment we've been considering for some time at St Margaret's Play Area. This initiative is part of our ongoing efforts to encourage a healthier lifestyle for all, especially our older children and adults. As highlighted in our April 2023 Newsletter, St Margaret's was identified as the likely location for this new addition. Let us know what you think!



### Improving the Recreation Equipment at Amberley Way Play Area

In our commitment to providing our community with accessible and inclusive spaces, we are currently exploring ways to improve the recreation equipment at Amberley Way Play Area. The play area is a popular spot for families and children from our community, and we want to ensure that it is a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone.

We are particularly interested in adding more inclusive equipment to the play area, such as wheelchair-accessible roundabout. We are currently in the early stages of planning, and we will be sharing more information about the project in the coming weeks.

Although we would love to complete our vision for the financial year 24/25, we recognise that recreation equipment is very expensive, and we may need to carry some work over to the financial year 25/26.

We value your opinion and encourage you to complete our digital survey using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/py7gSzxR2L>

Your feedback is crucial to us. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions regarding these important initiatives. Together, we can create a healthier and more inclusive community. You can find more information on our website:

<http://www.egglescliffeandegglescliffe-pc.org.uk/>



### Exciting Partnership Announcement with Eggescliffe Community Litter Project



We are thrilled to announce a new partnership with Eggescliffe Community Litter Project, our local volunteer community litter-picking group. This collaboration is a testament to our commitment to supporting initiatives that not only enhance our local environment but also foster a valuable community spirit.

The partnership will enable Eggescliffe Community Litter Project to be covered by the Council's liability insurance, providing an extra layer of protection for our dedicated volunteers. In addition, the Council will be supplying much-needed resources to aid the group in their commendable efforts.

The group are hoping to recruit more volunteers, with most litter picks taking place on evenings and weekends. All ages can get involved (children must be supervised), and the group can also support and verify Duke of Edinburgh students looking for volunteering opportunities. Please email [egglescliffeclp@gmail.com](mailto:egglescliffeclp@gmail.com) or if you would like to get involved please join their Facebook group.

Together, we can make Eggescliffe and Eggescliffe a cleaner and more vibrant place to live. Let's continue to work hand in hand for the betterment of our community.

## SUMMER FETE 2024 - UPDATE

After much discussion and appeals for volunteers, it can be confirmed that the Eggescliffe Village Summer Fete will not be held during July 2024, however the Eggescliffe Area Residents Association (EARA) with the support of Eggescliffe & Eggescliffe Council are looking at logistics of holding an Autumn Fete later in the year.

Plans are also ongoing for Stockton to Darlington Railway Bicentenary celebrations including an event on the Village Green in 2025.



## ROAD SAFETY UPDATE IN EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE

As part of our ongoing commitment to community safety, Egglecliffe and Eaglescliffe Parish Council has been actively addressing road safety concerns within our area. In this update, we highlight our recent efforts, achievements, and plans for the future.

Over the past few months, we have organised several **Speed Watch events** in collaboration with the local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). These events involve volunteer Councillors monitoring vehicle speeds, using radar devices, at key locations within our parish. Our Parish Councillors have generously volunteered their time to participate in these events. Their presence on the roads serves as a visible reminder to motorists to adhere to speed limits. During these Speed Watch events, drivers identified as exceeding the designated speed limits are issued letters of notification and education by Cleveland Police.

As we move forward, Egglecliffe and Eaglescliffe Parish Council, with other partners, remain dedicated to creating safer roads for our community.

For more information and to stay updated on our road safety initiatives, please visit our website [www.egglecliffeand eaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](http://www.egglecliffeand eaglescliffe-pc.org.uk), in addition if you have 5 minutes please take time to complete our Road Safety Survey via the website of the following QR Code



Remember: Safe roads save lives!



## COMMUNITY AWARDS



Our Parish Council Community Award is given every year to individuals and/or groups who have made a worthwhile contribution to our life within the Parish Community.

We are delighted to announce this year's winner for the Community Award is **Rebecca Hassack**, founder of the Eaglescliffe Community Litter Project for her dedication to the local community. Thank you!

Congratulations and we will award this formally at our annual meeting!

Anyone nominated for the award doesn't necessarily have to be resident or based in the Parish. They simply need to meet at least one of the following criteria:

- to have achieved something particularly noteworthy within the Parish
- to have enhanced the reputation of the parish – physically or metaphorically;
- to have made a significant contribution to the conservation and protection of the natural environment of the Parish.

### **Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) : Advocating for a Safer Community**

The Parish Council arranged a meeting on the 21/02/24 with our Ward Councillors representing both the East and West Sides of Eaglescliffe as well as the local SBC Enforcement Manager and Cleveland Police Representative in an initiative to proactively tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in our area.

As we approach the warmer months, incidents of ASB in the community tend to rise. In our discussions, a recurring theme emerged... People often don't report issues to the appropriate channels, instead turning to social media and other platforms, but in reality Authorities rely on reported incidents to drive data and address problems effectively. Highlighting resource gaps and hot spot areas is crucial.



You can report issues via

**Civic Enforcement Service** Tel: 01642 607943

Email [civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk)

If you prefer to use an app, try the COPA (Cleveland Online Policing App) App—a powerful tool developed by Cleveland Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner. **Download and learn more about COPA:** <https://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk/how-can-we-help/copa-cleveland-online-policing-app/>



The Enforcement Teams and Police can provide the platform, but we must step up, report, and engage.

## CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

### Chairman:

Cllr Marc de Launay ☎07974 565085 ✉: [marcdelaunay@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](mailto:marcdelaunay@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk)  
Cllr John Fletcher ☎01642 786456 ✉: [johnfletcher@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](mailto:johnfletcher@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk)  
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Cllr Tony Collier ☎01642 791726 ✉: [tonycollier@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](mailto:tonycollier@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk)  
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Cllr Kath Roebuck ☎01642 089232 ✉: [cllrkroebuck@yahoo.com](mailto:cllrkroebuck@yahoo.com)  
Clerk to the Council ☎01642 785951 ✉: [Clerk@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk)

Council meetings are usually held on the first Thursday each month at All Saints Church, Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe. These meetings are open to the public and press. If there's something you want to discuss with your Councillors, please come along, you are welcome to observe from 7pm and there are opportunities at 8pm to speak at the meeting.

Forthcoming meetings are :- 9th May, 6th June, 4th July, 5th September & 3rd October 2024

Check our website <http://www.egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk> for full meeting details, including the dates of committee meetings.

**There are currently vacancies on the Council**, for further information or if interested to join the council please **contact the Clerk**.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**Anti-social Behaviour:** If you are experiencing anti-social behaviour in your area, contact the Civic Enforcement Service or use the COPA app.

**In an emergency contact the police.**



**Civic Enforcement Service** Tel: 01642 607943 *Email: [civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk)*

Your concerns will be passed on to a dedicated officer for that area who will be able to offer advice and information, and take action where necessary.

**Neighbourhood Policing** Call 101.

**In an emergency or if a crime is actually taking place, ring 999**

**Care For Your Area** Tel. 01642 391959 *Email: [careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk)*

Refuse collection, street cleansing, kerbside recycling, horticultural services, highways maintenance, fly-tipping (removal), etc.

**Street Lighting Tel. 01642 391959** 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 116123** Free any time from any phone. Local branch **01642 217777** (charges apply)

## 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!) or on any items in this newsletter.



COMMENT:

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Please print your details to enable us to respond: your details will be used only for the purposes of responding to your comments and will not be shared with any third party without your prior consent.

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

EMAIL ADDRESS: .....

Please return to: Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council, The Old Offices, Urlay Nook, Eaglescliffe TS16 0LA  
Or email your comments to: [clerk@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@egglescliffeandeaglescliffe-pc.org.uk)