

EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

Issue Number 85

May 2015



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year the Annual Meeting of the Parish Assembly will be held on Thursday 28th May at 7.30pm in Egglecliffe 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.

There will be a presentation on Stockton Council's Information Directory which includes information on services, support, organisations and activities. This will be followed by presentation of Egglecliffe Village and Eliff's Mill allotment awards for 2014 and for the first time our own community awards. Congratulations to Egglecliffe Pharmacy, winners in the business category. The person chosen by your Council to receive the personal award does not desire any recognition or publicity.



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 ELECTIONS

As you will see from the list of councillors on the back page, only nine candidates were nominated by the cut off date and so there will be no election for the parish council on 7th May. As the maximum number of Councillors in Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe parish is thirteen, the new council, at its first meeting after 7th May, will decide whether it wishes to co-opt up to four new Councillors.

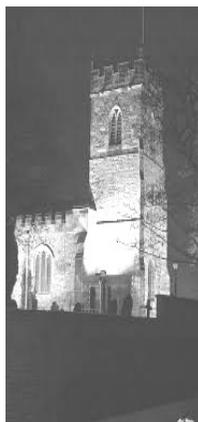
If you are interested in the possibility of becoming a Councillor, then please write to or email the Clerk to the Council by midnight on 31st May for the new Council to consider should it take the decision to co-opt; contact details can be found on the back page of this newsletter. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and must appear on the current Register of Electors for an address in this civil parish or for the whole of the last twelve months have resided in or within three miles of the parish or had their principal place of work in the parish or occupied property in the parish. Applicants must not be debarred from standing as a Councillor

At this time Egglecliffe & Eaglescliffe Council would like to thank the Councillors who have decided, for various reasons, to retire from the Council. Their sterling work on behalf of the Parish is much appreciated.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

For many years the Parish Council has traditionally looked after the church floodlights, paying for repairs, maintenance and the electricity bills. This financial year the Council has started setting money aside to upgrade the lighting system to more energy efficient LED lights, which although pricey to install will save money in the long term.

However, there is a fault on the lights at present and they have had to be turned off as a safety measure; we hope that as the nights are getting lighter they will not be missed too badly for the time being. Rather than waste money on repairing them, the Council is looking into obtaining funding to carry out the upgrade sooner than planned.



PLANNING

Since the last newsletter Stockton Council's planning committee has given permission for the car park at the foot of Stoney Bank and work has commenced. We have suggested that it should be named 'Stoney Bank Car Park'. More recently, the application for housing at West Acres, near Allens West Station, has been approved.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Thank you to everyone who completed a questionnaire. Thanks also to Robert Lilly who analysed the results and put them into a format which is easily read and understood. The next event will be a further consultation evening on some of the options that were suggested so watch out for the details being publicised after the election.

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Over the past few months, your Councillors have been increasingly concerned about the changes to community policing which have led to a lack of police presence in our area. They met recently with a senior Police Officer to discuss the issue; he explained that there has been a cut in the number of officers he has to cover the Thornaby area which includes Eaglescliffe, Yarm, Ingleby Barwick and Thornaby. Staff numbers are less than a year ago and he is just managing to cover the shift patterns with the Police Officers and PCSO's available. In addition to reduced officer numbers the Neighbourhood Policing team is now dealing with assault and domestic incidents. If there is an incident with suspects to arrest it can take up four or five of the officers available at any time and there are times when the team can provide response only policing to deal firstly with 999 calls then anything else. Councillors expressed their concern that the resources taken from the neighbourhood and the lack of a uniformed presence, particularly a PCSO with local knowledge, had led to an increase ASB and crime. The Officer explained that the neighbourhood policing is still a priority; people can now usually get an appointment with officers to discuss incidents; however it is difficult to give the same effective results with less resources and the extra workload.

Your Councillors were dismayed to hear about the withdrawal of the Police helicopter service from Durham Tees Valley Airport and wrote to the National Police Air Service (NPAS) to express their concern that Cleveland taxpayers who contribute to funding the helicopter service will no longer have the effective service that they are paying for. The response indicated that the NPAS governing board has sought to meet the needs of all communities within the challenging financial constraints which would be even more difficult following the government public spending cuts announced in the recent budget. In February 2014 every Chief Constable across the country was asked for their views of where air support can assist in delivering the most protection to communities; their judgement was then utilised to map the needs of every police force in England and Wales. In December 2014 the NPAS board considered several operating options which had the potential to deliver between 7-28% savings within the next three years. Since then a model has been adopted that provides sufficient cover to respond effectively to calls for service across the country with a 14% cost saving. This model will be implemented across the country in the next three years and importantly sees the introduction over that period of fixed wing aircraft for the first time into a mixed fleet. These Measures will be subject to review in April 2016, 12months into the programme.

By the time this Newsletter is circulated, your Councillors will have met with Barry Coppinger, Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, for further discussion on these issues.



COMMUNITY CLOCK

The Parish Council will be looking at a proposal for a community clock, to be located near Orchard shops.

We would welcome any views or suggestions from residents regarding the proposal.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It's a bit early to be thinking about Christmas when summer hasn't got started yet!

However, we have some very positive feedback about the festive display at Christmas 2014 and hope to add more lights this year.



NO COUNCIL TAX INCREASE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL!

Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council, when fixing its budget in advance of each year ending 31st March, aims to collect no more from local residents than is needed. Equally, it does not borrow money, so there will be no debt to pay off in future years. For the year ending 31st March 2016 a Band D household will pay 6p less than in the previous year. £18.21 will be paid, which is 35p per week.

For the third year running, Council tax for the Parish is less than it was in any of the years 2008-09 to 2012-13.

Every year Stockton Council is obliged to collect through Council Tax (in addition to what is charged for the Borough Council, Cleveland Police and the Fire Authority) from the householders of Egglescliffe Civil Parish the amount which Egglescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council decides it needs. This covers maintenance/improvement of play areas, war memorials, Egglescliffe village green, Christmas lights, etc., together with administrative overheads. Nearly all income is from Council Tax. Apart from a fixed grant to represent the Parish's share of Council Tax Reduction, no Government money is received – no grant was offered in return for not increasing Council Tax.

Full details of the budget etc. are available from the office or at the Annual Parish Meeting, at which local electors can ask questions. It is hoped also to present accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 then.

2015 SUMMER FÊTE is on Egglescliffe Green, Sunday 12th July from 1pm til 6pm

On the Green there will be lots of different stalls, hot food, a licensed bar, children's games, tombola, magician, Axioms football cage and there is going to be some great live music which will include The Kings Project Prestonwood Student Worship Choir from the USA. Residents may meet some of the 300 members of the choir while they are helping out in the Parish. There will be face painting in the Parish Hall where tea and coffee will be available; outside the hall children will be able to have a look at a fire engine with the fire brigade. Contributions of tombola prizes are very welcome and can be dropped off at the council office or at Councillors houses.

Watch out for further details on the Council website and notice boards nearer the time

QUEEN ELIZABETH II GARDEN

This plot on Urray Nook Rd has been cleared and the paths laid by the Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation scheme. We had hoped that they would be able to do the planting also, but that has not proved possible. We are very grateful to Wilkinsons Landscapes Ltd who are providing the plants and planting them at a discount rate. They will be planted over the next few weeks and should be completed by the time you read this.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

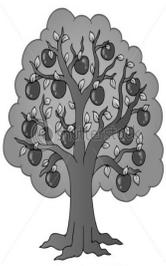
The area of garden and grass near the war memorial at Egglescliffe village is dedicated to the memory of those from the area whose lives were taken in wartime. Most residents respect that and use it as an area for quiet reflection. The planting and care of the garden has been done partly by HMP Kirklevington and partly by members of the EARA garden gang in recent years, and the council is very grateful for their work. Occasionally there is evidence of dogs being allowed to trample plants or foul on the grass and some plants have been stolen. Please help us to keep the area as pleasant as possible in memory of those who are commemorated there.

The council and the church are commemorating the death of each person named on the memorial by laying a wreath on the 100th anniversary of their death.

GREENFIELD DRIVE ROUNDABOUT

The Parish council is negotiating with Stockton Council to see what can be done to landscape the roundabout. The proposed design, which has an orchard theme, is currently being checked by Road Safety Officers.

We hope to soon be in a position to consult with residents of nearby properties.



Lest We Forget

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS & MEETINGS

Chairman:	Cllr Alex Lamond	01642 652293	Email: alex.lamond@ntlworld.com
Vice-Chairman:	Cllr John Fletcher	01642 786456	Email: johnfletcher851@googlemail.com
	Cllr Jim Clarke	01642 645821	Email: jimclarke2018@gmail.com
	Cllr Geoff Colling	01642 648470	Email: geoffrey@synergybroadband.co.uk
	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 Geoff Turner	01642 652081	Email: alonturner@btinternet.com
	Clerk to the Council	01642 785951	Email: egglescliffepc@btconnect.com

Residents are welcome at Council meetings, these are held in Room 45, Eggescliffe School, Urlay Nook Road on the first and third Thursdays each month except during school holidays.

Forthcoming dates: June 4th & 18th : July 2nd & 16th

You are welcome to observe from 7pm and at 8pm you are welcome to speak.
So, if you have something you want to discuss with **YOUR COUNCILLORS** please come along.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Neighbourhood Enforcement Service 01642 528439

Open 7:30 am –midnight , 7 days a week. NES tackles a wide range of nuisance and environmental crime
This will include, fly tipping investigation, littering, graffiti, abandoned vehicles,
dog fouling & noise nuisance

Anti Social Behaviour 24 hour Reporting Hotline 01642 607943

If you are experiencing anti-social behaviour in your area, contact the Anti-Social Behaviour Team or in an emergency contact the police.

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

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 - **Call 101**

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 Email: street.lighting@stockton.gov.uk
Damaged or defective street lights - quote the column number from the yellow panel and the nearest address

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: Eggescliffe & Eaglescliffe Council, The Old Offices, Urlay Nook, Eaglescliffe TS16 0LA
Or email your comments to: egglescliffepc@btconnect.com