



EGGLESCLIFFE & EAGLESCLIFFE COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM A MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE, COMMENCING AT 7.00pm TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AT THE COUNCIL OFFICE

PRESENT: Cllrs R Richardson (Chair), T Collier, K Roebuck & Dr J Ramsay
N Ironside – Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES Cllrs & M de Launay & A Marsden

MINUTE:

41/25 MINUTES OF 13th OCTOBER 2025 MEETING

Approved and signed by the Chair

42/25 PLAY AREAS

a) AMBERLEY WAY PLAY AREA

The final section of play equipment at Amberley way is now installed, there was an issue whilst the clerk was on leave regarding the skyrail. A complaint was received by SBC stating the skyrail handle was set too high. Cllr Richardson liaised with SBC who reacted by removing the handle until details known. Cllr Richardson confirmed details with Proludic and SBC and he handle reinstated and a sketch received of the measurements. Clerk to send this to Proludic along with a comment that the installation team on site appeared to be using the original draft plan to situate item 2 of the new play equipment. Cllr Richardson advised the team and the rocker installed in the correct position. Invoice received and signed by Cllr Richardson and Roebuck however Clerk to wait for response about Skyrail before making staged payments w/c 17th November. This will be the final investment works to Amberley Way at present.

b) ST MARGARETS PLAY AREA

Clerk has contacted SBC re the drainage investigation works flooding issues due to being more widespread onsite awaiting response. Clerk to chase again. Continue to review the timber equipment. To consider for 2026/27 precept. As with Leven Close, Clerk to ask the four play equipment suppliers if they can visit site and advise replacements either gradually or as a scheme or if a change of design would be best. The bench seats and picnic table have not been sanded and stained by the Community Payback team as scheduled so will need adding to the maintenance list. Although may not be owned by EEC.

c) LEVEN CLOSE PLAY AREA

No safety issues but Cllr Collier feels this area needs to be updated due to the number of residents it serves. The swing seats have been replaced/cleaned 2025, however the other 3 pieces of equipment may be best updated. See above re further advice and costing

d) KINGMEAD

Discussion of the safamat below the equipment on open grassed area, to continue to monitor over winter.

Cllr Ramsay commented that antisocial behaviour on play areas needs to be addressed by either contacting parents or visiting schools.

Cllr Collier raised the issue of the insuring of play equipment in the annual insurance against damage vandalism as well as currently insured for public liability. Clerk had carried out a comprehensive valuation of the four play areas with the original suppliers, Council meeting March 2025, refer 25/25 item7, "That the annual insurance premium be paid whilst a valuation exercise is carried out to all insurable play area equipment with a view to consider insuring the equipment against damage, vandalism or theft.

Budget to propose £12,000 for inspections/maintenance and £20,000 for improvements 2026/27 whilst the underspend currently at £15,000 2025/26 be added to the £9,600 reserves for such future improvement planning.

RESOLVED: Formulate a future improvement plan and recommended the above budget for 2026/27 precept.

43/25 TREES (CYCLICAL SURVEYS)

Tree works done at Eliffs Mill 5th November at a cost of £1400, invoice signed by Cllrs Richardson and Roebuck.

Tree survey confirmed with arborist to start inspections January 2026, Clerk confirmed to Cllr Ramsay and new Clerk that there was a file with 2024 survey including site plans with trees numbered and a corresponding safety description, tree types and recommendations.

Budget 2026/27: all agreed a robust budget as part of the open space maintenance budget and propose £10,000.

44/25 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

SBC have provided estimated replacement costs and descriptions of the current string lights installed to three trees in the parish and following testing from the 2024 removal expect them to be fit for use 2025. Cllr Roebuck proposed further decorations to light columns Would like estimated costs for budget purposes. However, some lighting to the new estates may not be adopted yet.

Cllr Collier mentioned that EARA were planning to install a Christmas tree outside of the Eggescliffe Parish Hall, it was suggested and agreed that EARA use the battery operated lights previously used for the QEII gardens tree now stored at the EEC office.

Budget proposal 2026/27 £1500 and if the current budgeted £1500 remains unspent to add to reserves.

45/25 WAR MEMORIAL INSPECTIONS AND WORKS

Ward Cllr Taylor has organised jet washing and cleaning of the signatures on the Victoria Park war memorial though these works were informal. Eggescliffe War Memorial to be inspected and recommendations for works. It is expected these works will be carried out by approved contractors. Clerk to approach SBC to see who they use and also ask the local rep for the Royal British Legion for war memorial works.

QEII gardens is part of a current budget of £4142 for memorial gardens including Victoria Park and Eggescliffe Memorial Park. EEC is awaiting an update response from Network Rail regarding the tunnel below and if any alteration works are to be proposed following the investigation works 2024. Cllr Collier would like to see the front planted with bulbs. The information board installed 2022/23 needs updating, Cllr Collier suggested that a PC noticeboard be installed here as it is a popular route for pedestrians.

RESOLVED: Budget proposal: £5,000 for War Memorial works/£4,000 for maintenance.

46/25 ANY OTHER RECREATION BUSINESS

Orchard shops raised beds and rat problem - Cllr Collier raised the recent works at Orchard shops by their management company to cut back shrubs in the raised beds due to treat the rat infestation and that the beds were looking shabby and could any planting be put in. Cllr Collier to send the Clerk photos and Clerk to contact the shops management company to ask what their plans are with these beds.

Public Footpaths – discussion on the public right of way and Cllr Ramsay mentioned if the Urray Nook Road access be left open after development for public access. To look at the Taylor Wimpey/Storey development plans and also prepare and collate information for the new SBC new PROW Officer when they put together the next PROW Improvement Plan. Clerk suggested this needs its own agenda item at full council as there are ongoing requests for a public footpath from Urray Nook crossing to Coatham woods, this length is part EEC and part Long Newton parish Council, also issues with Teesdale way and the path from Lune Road to Aislaby Road. Cllr Ramsay suggested walking these paths and asking residents to join in to raise awareness as she currently traverses these routes as part of the Eaglescliffe Litter Volunteers.

BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR 2026/27

	Estimate	Actual	Estimate	Actual	PROPOSED
<u>PAYMENTS (excl VAT)</u>	Y/E 31.03.25	31.03.25	Y/E 31.03.26	5.11.25	2026/27
PLAY AREAS MAINT/INSP	5,000.00	5,666.64	10,000.00	5,938.41	12,000.00
PLAY AREAS IMPROVEMENTS	25,000.00	35,750.00	35,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
WAR MEMORIALS (EXC. PARKS)			2,500.00	0.00	5,000.00
MEMORIAL GARDENS (X2) + QEII			4,142.72	1,045.00	4,000.00
SEATS & NTCE BD M/TCE	1,200.00	438.80	1,000.00	399.56	1,000.00
SEATS/NTCE BD/BINS			4,521.00	0.00	4,500.00
REPLACEMENT			100.00	145.96	0.00
TELEPHONE KIOSK	100.00	0.00	100.00	145.96	0.00
DEFIBRILLATOR MAINT.			300.00	74.94	300.00
SUMMER PLANTING	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
OPEN SPACE/TREES MAINTENANCE	2,900.00	5,274.04	7,000.00	3,139.89	10,000.00
CHRISTMAS EXPENDITURE	1,300.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.01pm

Signed P. J. R. Lewis Committee Chairman

Date 1/4/26