

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held in the **PARISH ROOM, LANGLEY PARK** on Tuesday 12th October 2004 commencing at 7.00pm

Present Councillors:- A. Mollon, (Chairman), C. Bloor, G. Coulson, F. Crow, A. Harling (after the Police report), A. Hiles, S. Rothwell, M. Sands, M. Tyler and W. Tyrie

Apologies:- Councillors R. A. Bowyer, H. Guildford and H. Tyler

Also in attendance:- M. G. Ackroyd (Clerk), G. F. Smith (Clerk Designate) and Co Cllr J. Armstrong

Before opening the Meeting the Chairman asked the Council to join him in observing one minutes silence in memory of the late Doreen Cummings.

110/04 POLICE REPORT

PC Christopher Dover introduced himself as the new beat officer for Langley Park. 94 incidents have taken place since the last meeting, a number of incidents of attempted thefts from sheds, damage to property and concerns raised regarding incidents of youth disorder.

Particular incidents included:

Langley Park

Damage to headstones in the cemetery, Stringer Terrace.

Theft from North East Co-op (CCTV footage available), enquiries continuing.

Arrest in George Street, quantity of drugs seized.

Theft from motor vehicle at Durham Street.

Theft of lawn mower from Davis Crescent.

Criminal damage to fire station building (CCTV footage available), enquiries continuing.

Five complaints received regarding a tent that had been erected to the rear of school premises, two persons detained, following enquiries they have been moved on.

Ushaw College

Suspicious vehicle in the grounds, following a search of the area no trace of the vehicle.

Esh

Bogus official caller at a property in Hillcrest, ongoing enquiries.

Quebec

Burglary (property taken) at Greenland Farm, ongoing enquiries.

111/04 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2004

Agreed as a true record signed by the Chairman.

112/04 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING OBSERVATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS TO THE MINUTES

091/04 Police Report – Speeding

Letter sent to the Chief Constable re ongoing problem with speeding. Response awaited.

082/04 Proposed MUGA at Esh C of E School

Discussions ongoing between Durham County Council and others re possible refinements to the scheme reported at the July 2004 Meeting.

064/03 Noticeboard for Langley Park

The Clerk advised that a final draft of the map board was awaited from the County Council.

111/03 Commuted Sum for erection of 25 dwellings at Woodside Farm, Woodside Terrace Langley Park

The Clerk advised that he had placed an item on the agenda for the next meeting of the District Council Parish Liaison Meeting on 13th October 2004.

033/04 Seats on Esh Village Green

Instructions awaited from Mrs Williams re attachment of plaques to the seats.

042e/04 Training Seminar for all Councillors

7.00pm Tuesday 26th October 2004 at the Parish Room.

057/04 Hanging Baskets

Now removed from the brackets.

058/04 Unaudited Accounts for 2003/04

Accounts now submitted to the external Auditor.

059a/04 Reports

(ii) Esh Leaves

Next edition due out in mid November. Delivery arrangements still under consideration.

Cllr Guildford had written an article on Doreen Cummings for the newsletter.

080/04 Correspondence

m) Deborah Events - donation to be made to the Esh Treat Fund

081/04 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk advised the Council that an election had been called with a provisional election date of Thursday 9th December 2004.

083/04 Reports

b) Parish

(i) Seat opposite the Quebec play area

Insurance claim form completed. Awaiting response from Zurich Municipal regarding the replacement of the Wickstead wooden slatted bench type seat with a BPI Recycled seat manufactured by BPI Recycled Products. The seat was insured for a sum of £330 less £100 claim excess. Clerk Designate to update at the next meeting.

086/04 Offering www services to other Parish Councils

The Clerk advised that he was still in the process of discussing a possible service with the Clerks of Bearpark and Witton Gilbert Parish Councils. Clerk to update at the next meeting.

094a/04 DEFRA Grant form

The grant form has been completed and returned to DEFRA.

094t/04 Parish Liaison Meeting 13th October 2004

The Clerk advised that he had requested 4 items to be placed on the agenda a) Commuted Sums b) the Parish Precept c) Planning decisions d) Disability Discrimination Act 1995 – October 2004 provisions re Outdoor Play Areas.

095/04 Planning Applications

Erection of 21 dwellings – Bob Smith Travel

The Clerk advised that he had written to the Director of Environment and Technical Services (Highway Authority) as per the Council decision.

Other

The Clerk advised the Council that despite its objection the District Council had resolved at its Development Control Meeting on 7th October 2004 to grant planning permission for the proposed conservatory at the front of 24 D'arcy Street, Langley Park.

098/04 Annual Pantomime

Further details on the availability of productions were awaited from Pantomime Companies including costings. Clerk Designate to update at the next meeting.

099/04 Dropped Kerbs

The Clerk advised the Council that he had thanked Councillor Armstrong for arranging the dropped kerbs at various locations throughout the Parish.

101/04 Derwentside District Council Annual Contribution 2005/06

Letter sent to the Financial Officer at Derwentside District Council and item placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the District Parish Councils Liaison Group. Response received from the Chief Executive offering to meet the Clerk.

103/04 Lap Top Computer

Clerk awaiting quotations from various suppliers. Update at the next meeting .

106/04 Funding for the Intermediate Labour Market

The Clerk has arranged a meeting with Derwentside District Council and Langley Park Community Association to discuss the possibility of submitting an application for funding from the County Durham Foundation to cover David Rider's wages and costs on the CIP for the year 2005/06. Clerk to update at the next meeting.

107/04 Garage rent

Clerk advised that the occupier had agreed a 2½% increase on the current fee.

108/04 Garage roof

Awaiting quotations from roofing contractors for the repairs to the garage roof. Clerk Designate to update at the next meeting.

113/04 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils

- a) Model Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees
- b) Executive Committee Wednesday 1st September 2004

b) Durham County Council

- c) National Tree Week 2004 – Growing Together
- d) Development of a Charter with Durham County Council
- e) Environment Operational Plan 2004/05 – Summary
- f) 40 years of Reclamation in County Durham

c) Derwentside District Council

- g) Parish Liaison Meeting 13th October 2004
- h) Development Control Committee 7th October 2004
- i) Derwentside Community Safety Forum Friday 15th October 2004 Council Chamber, Consett
- j) Agenda for Derwentside Parish Liaison Meeting Wednesday 13th October 2004
- k) Letter from Chief Executive, Derwentside District Council re Precept.

d) Other

- l) County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership Half Day events on the Local Council's Role in Planning Matters
- m) NTSTPC - Training Update. Report from the Clerk Designate
- n) National Coalfield Conference 8th – 10th November 2004 – Matlock
- o) Mineral Valleys Project Newsletter Issue 2
- p) Details of Casual Vacancy

114/04 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors Coulson declared an interest in this item and took no further part in the subsequent debate.

Applications made to Derwentside District Council.

No CS/1/2004/0796/DCFP
Applicant J. Turnock
Proposed Conservatory
At 12 Netherton Close, Langley Park

No SL/1/2004/0807/DMFP
Applicant Mr and Mrs H. Trotter
Proposed Conservatory to rear
At 6 Eldon Close, Langley Park

No SL/1/2004/0844/DMFP
Applicant D. Franks
Proposed Erection of single storey rear extensions
At Hill Top Stables, Hill Top, Esh

No SL/1/2004/0858/DCOP
Applicant Mr Tom Baker
Proposed Erection of two storey office block with car parking beneath, nine factory units, creation of new entrances and car parking (outline)
At Creative Christmas Company, Riverside Industrial Estate, Langley Park

No objections subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their views being taken into consideration by the District Council.

The following application had been withdrawn.

No SL/1/2004/0861
Applicant Mr Tom Baker
Proposed Erection of single storey extension
At Creative Christmas Company, Riverside Industrial Estate, Langley Park

085/04 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The lights at Langley Park will be switched on at 4.30 pm 25th November 2004 by members of the cast of Snow White (who are appearing at the Gala Theatre Durham). It is also intended for the cast to visit Langley Park and possibly the Esh schools during their time in the area.

115/04 DOREEN CUMMINGS – DONATION IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

Members agreed to:-

- a) Donate £50 in lieu of flowers to the McMillan Nursing Services
- b) Arrange for a plaque to be placed on the seat at the top of the Silly Steps, subject to the seat being in a reasonable state of repair. Clerk to report further at the next meeting.

116/04 REQUEST TO TRANSFER THE TENANCY OF ED 66

A letter has been received from Mr T E Foster, 1 Davis Crescent, Langley Park (tenant of allotment ED66) to request the transfer of the tenancy of this allotment to Mr K Greenwell, 14 Lambton Street, Langley Park. Members agreed for the transfer to take place.

117/04 DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT 1995 – OCTOBER 2004 PROVISIONS FOR PLAY AREAS

The Clerk advised that the implementation of these provisions with effect from 1st October 2004 could have serious implications re the introduction of reasonable adjustments to the physical features of its play areas to enable better access for the disabled. Advice was to be sought from the District Council and a copy of the information received from Wicksteeds had been passed onto EQUaL.

118/04 REPORTS

a) EQUaL Partnership

A fun day held on the cricket field, Langley Park, raised £550, over 300 children attended the event. It had been agreed to appoint a fund raising group and the partnership had produced a business plan.

b) Parish

i) Allotment inspection

Letters have been sent out to the six allotment holders. Clerk Designate to arrange follow up inspections.

ii) Remembrance Day – Sunday 14th November 2004

Parish Council to be represented at the ceremonies at Langley Park (Cllr Guildford), Esh (Cllr Sands) and Quebec (Cllr Crow or the Clerk).

iii) Winter walk – Sunday 2nd January 2005

The route will start at Langley Park, along railway line to Witton Station, Hilltop onto Ushaw College, to Quebec returning to Langley Park. The planned route will commence at 12.45pm and will be between 4 – 5 miles long.

c) Development Charter Meeting with Durham County Council

A further meeting has been arranged for 22nd November 2004 at 2.00 pm, County Hall Durham. Clerk Designate to attend and report to the December meeting.

d) District

Cllr Coulson reported on the following:-

i) Visit to Lord Gort Estate in Derwentside.

ii) Spice bus to visit Langley Park Youth Centre in November.

iii) Scrutiny boards – possible reduction in numbers (from 6 – 4)

iv) New funding streams – Coalfield Regeneration Fund and Big Lottery Fund

Cllr Tyrie reported on the following:-

i) Presentation by three developers for the Stanley bus station site.

ii) Consett sports hall provision-including facilities, partners, timetable and costs.

iii) CCTV provision to nine wards, target date still March 2005.

iv) Council stock transfer.

v) ASBO – publication of photographs.

vi) Freedom of Information Act – Timetable

e) County

Cllr Armstrong reported on the following :-

i) MUGA - subject to negotiations, hopeful to bring scheme up to the original proposed size.

ii) New Library provision – public exhibition to be held on 25th November from 1.30 – 7.30 pm at Wood View Community Centre, followed by meeting to decide on the final preferred option at 7.30pm.

Proposed timescale – commence March / April 2005, completion by end of 2005.

iii) Proposed temporary Library provision – Derwentside College Building, awaiting Legal advice, may include an area for a small police office.

iv) Provision of double yellow parking lines to be installed on Front Street Langley Park.

v) Upgrading of bus stops for disabled access.

vi) Traffic calming for Langley Park – awaiting funding availability.

119/04 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT

After receiving details of the financial statements (V139 - 161) should be paid and, where appropriate, confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action for issuing any cheques in advance of the Meeting.

120/04 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To be held at the Parish Room, Langley Park on Tuesday 9th November 2004 at Quebec Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm.

105/04 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO RAISE MATTERS OF INTEREST

There being no Members of the Public present the Chairman moved onto the next item on the Agenda

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded for the remainder of the Meeting during consideration of the items listed below on the grounds that if they are present during the discussion of these items there could be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Section 10.

No confidential items raised on the agenda

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm.