

Esh Parish Council

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 14th February 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors A Mollon (Chairman), C Bloor, R Bowyer, F Crow, G Coulson, A Christie, H Guildford, A Harling, M Tyler and W Tyrie.

Apologies: Councillors A Hiles, S Rothwell, M Sands and H Tyler.

Also in attendance: County Councillor J Armstrong, P.C. Dover, P.C.S.O. Brown and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

014/06 Declaration of Interest.

Councillors Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in Item 7 – Planning Matters - They took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Blow declared an interest in Item 7c – Planning Matters. He took no part in the debate.

Councillor Christie declared an interest in Item 7d – Planning Matters. She took no part in the debate.

015/06 Police Report

P.C. Dover and P.C.S.O. Brown gave a comprehensive report on incidents within the Parish (copy attached to the minutes), followed by a question and answer session.

016/06 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th January 2006.

Agreed as true record, signed by the Chairman.

017/06 Clerks Report including Observations from Councillors to the minutes.

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020/05 Footpath at the Recreation Ground

Agenda item No. 14.

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148/05 Complaints Procedure Policy

Clerk awaiting further information, report to be prepared for the next Parish Council Meeting.

005/06 Correspondence

e) Erection of a Memorial (Mining Industry)

It was agreed:-

- i) Place details in the next edition of Esh Leaves.
- ii) Arrange a public meeting to discuss the Proposal of the Memorial, date be fixed at the next Parish Council meeting.

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007/06 Reports

Quebec, Esh and Langley Park play areas.
Agenda Item No.10 (B) – Parish Report.

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009/06 Setting the Precept for 2006/07

Agenda Item No.12.

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012/06 Earl of Durham Allotments

Agenda Item No. 18.

018/06 Minutes of a special meeting held on 24th January 2006

- a) Agreed as true record.
- b) Matters arising.
 - i) Councillor Coulson had contacted Nick Wiggins (Derwentside District Council) who would be prepared to attend a meeting, it was agreed to invite him to the next Special Meeting to be held on Tuesday 7th March 2006.
 - ii) Councillor Tyler informed the meeting of new Lottery Funding for young people and also funding from the Youth Hostel Association “Do It For Real”.
 - iii) The Spice Bus has commenced visiting Langley Park.
 - iv) The proposed disco may possibly be held in WoodView Community Centre (this was to be discussed at a future meeting of the management committee).

019/06 Correspondence

Derwentside District Council

- a) Large Scale Voluntary Transfer – Information leaflets and brochures.
- b) Draft Statement of Community Involvement (Planning Matters).
- c) Charity Concert – 25th March 2006 at the Civic Hall, Consett.

Durham Association of Parish & Town Councils

d) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties.

It was agreed to nominate the Chairman (and his wife) for attendance at the Royal Garden Party to be held on 18th July 2006.

e) Registration of land owned by Parish and Town Councils – presentation by the Land Registry.

It was agreed:-

- i) For the Clerk to check all the Parish Council Land Holdings (i.e. Title Deeds) and prepare a report for the next Parish Council Meeting.
- ii) For the Clerk to inform the DAPTC of the interest in attending a presentation by the Land Registry.

- f) Newsletter – Spring 2006
- g) District Council Representation on the County Durham Association of Local Councils Executive Committee – representative required (Councillor).

It was agreed to discuss this at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Others

h) Meikles Solicitors – Estimate for cost of acting on behalf of the Parish Council in connection with two Leases.

It was agreed to accept the estimate of between £1000 and £1200 plus VAT and disbursements for acting on behalf of the Parish Council in connection with two leases, one from Derwentside District Council and one from Langley Park Sports and Social Club.

- i) EQUaL – Meeting of the Friends of Sir Bobby Robson Park Steering Group on Wednesday 15th February 2006 in Church Street Community Centre at 7.00pm.
- j) One Voice Network Newsletter – Spring 2006;Issue 5
- k) Mineral Valleys Project Newsletter – Spring 2006;Issue 5
- l) Parish Paths Partnership Newsletter – Winter 2005/06; Issue 21
- m) Petition letter dated 9th February 2006 re free travel for pensioners in Langley Park.

It was agreed:-

- i) To write a letter to the local Members of Parliament to take this matter up with the appropriate Minister about Cross District travel and Transferability of tickets (Integrated Public Transport).
- iii) To write a letter to Derwentside District Council, Durham County Council and Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils on similar lines to the above letter.

020/06 Planning Matters

A	
No.	TOC/1/2006/0012/DMFP
APPLICANT	MR D PICKERING
PROPOSED	ERECTION OF TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION, CONSERVATORY TO FRONT
AT	24 LANGLEY STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

B
No. CS/1/2006/0013/DMFP
APPLICANT MRS E BALDWIN
PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGE AND
OUTBUILDING AND ERECTION OF ONE
DWELLING
AT STAPLEFIELD, HALL ROAD, ESH

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

C
No. TOC/1/2006/0019/DMFP
APPLICANT MR E L STONES
PROPOSED ERECTION OF TWO DWELLINGS
AT LAND TO THE SOUTH OF 21 IVY TERRACE
LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development. Members raised concerns on the possible road traffic hazard on the public highway around the area of the development (Clerk to contact the Planning Officer to obtain further details).

D
No CC/1/2006/0041/DMFP
APPLICANT KEN BRADSHAW & AUDREY CHRISTIE
PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR
EXTENSION
AT 22 LANGLEY STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

a) EQUaL Partnership Meeting.

Funding has been received to employ a Community Capacity Workers for 12.5 hours per week until March 2008. The job will be advertised locally.

a) Parish

Quebec

Play area will be closed for two weeks for ground works to be completed.

It was agreed to accept the quotation from Wharton Landscapes for turfing the infill play area at the cost of £655.50 + VAT and for the work to be carried out as soon as possible (this will result in the play area being closed for a further two weeks to allow for the turf to bed in).

Meeting with sign maker scheduled for 21st February 2006.

Esh

Entrance gate ordered, awaiting installation by contractor, footpath will be laid after the gate is finished.

Grass matting, awaiting start date from Contractor.

Meeting with sign maker scheduled for 21st February 2006.

Langley Park

Solicitor has been instructed to act on behalf of the Parish Council.

National Probation Service – Community Payback Scheme

The new scheme was operational, it was agreed for the following works to be carried out:-

- a) Recreation Ground – general tidy up.
- b) Cross Fell Allotments - general tidy up, two allotments require attention.
- c) Earl of Durham Allotments - general tidy up, removal of graffiti from the garage wall and litter pick on footpaths leading into the site.

C) District

Councillor Coulson reported:-

- i) Demolition of Hilltop View to commence 20th February 2006.
- ii) Use of new library facilities by Community Association.
- iii) Meeting with Snooker Club.
- iv) Presentation by Fire and Rescue Service.

Councillor Guildford reported:-

- i) Enforcement Notice Complaints.

Councillor Tyrie reported:-

- i) Council Tax Base – setting of Council Tax for 2006/07.
- ii) Housing Management and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- ii) External lighting at Rutherford Court.
- iii) Langley Park Cemetery, 699 inspections, 288 memorials unsafe.

D) County

Councillor Armstrong reported:-

- i) Urban Renaissance – to commence in March 2006.
- ii) Temporary Library – awaiting relevant parties to sign documents.
- iii) Permanent Library – update on meetings.

- iv) Road crossing at Esh.(Plans later)
- v) Use of temporary/permanent Library by Parish Council.
- vi) Steps outside Londus shop (to discuss with DCC Officer).
- vii) Storm water drainage problems/road damage at Hawthorn Terrace area (to discuss with DCC Officer).
- viii) Street lighting at Woodlands not working (to discuss with DCC Officer).
- ix) Wagons damaging lay by opposite Kingsway (to discuss with DCC Officer).

022/06 Financial Statement and Reports

Members agreed that the members allowance budget be credited with a further amount of £100.00 out of the Councils Contingency Budget (re. Voucher 241) Subject to the above amendment members agreed the financial details (V265 – V286) should be paid and where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

023/06 Setting the Precept for 2006/07

Following careful consideration of the options tabled it was proposed and seconded that the Parish Council should increase the precept from £23,668 to £26,035 (10%).

024/06 Grass Cutting contract 2006

Three tenders have been received (all exclusive of VAT):-

Contractor A	£8547.00
Contractor B	£5440.52
Contractor C	£5135.00

It was agreed to award the contract to Contractor C (Wharton Landscapes) subject to:-

- i) The number of grass cutting occasion's being monitored throughout the year.
- ii) The contractor to commence in March 2006.
- iii) The usual clearances being carried out with Durham County Council and the Councils Insurers.

025/06 Drainage/Footpaths at the Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Five tenders have been received (all exclusive of VAT)

Contractor A	£10416.07
Contractor B	£6750.00
Contractor C	£5578.00
Contractor D	£4921.20
Contractor E	£4658.00

It was agreed to award the contract to Contractor E (Derwentside District Council) subject to:-

- i) Initial sites visit with the contractor and representatives from the Parish Council.
- ii) The contract to commence immediately.
- iii) The usual clearances being carried out with Durham County Council and the Councils Insurers.

026/06 NPFA Deed of Dedication – guaranteed future of Playing Field

It was agreed to defer this item until the next Parish Council meeting.

027/06 Date and Time of the next Meeting

To be held on 14th March 2006 at 7pm at the Village Hall, Quebec.

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 ITEM LISTED BELOW ON THE GROUNDS THAT IF THEY ARE PRESENT DURING DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS THERE COULD BE DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.