

Esh Parish Council

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 13th June 2006 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors A Mollon (Chairman), G Coulson, A Christie, H Guildford, A Harling, A Hiles, and M Tyler.

Apologies: Councillors R Bowyer, C Bloor, F Crow, S Rothwell, H Tyler, W Tyrie and M Sands.

Also in attendance: County Councillor J Armstrong, Mrs K Gibson (EQUaL Partnership) and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

070/06 EQUaL Report

Mrs Gibson, Community Capacity worker, EQUaL Partnership introduced herself to members and presented an update report (copy attached to the minutes) on work she is involved within the Partnership.

071/06 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in Item 12 – Planning Matters, they took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

072/06 Police Report

No report. (report received after the meeting, attached to these minutes).
Members raised concerns about the none attendance at Parish Meetings, response time to reported incidents and the lack of police presence in the village. It was agreed for the Clerk to write a letter to the Divisional Commander, copy to the Chief Constable and the Local Member of Parliament regarding the items under discussion.

073/06 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9th May 2006

Agreed as true record, signed by the Chairman.

074/06 Clerks Report including Observations from Councillors to the Minutes.

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148/05 Complaints Procedure Policy

Clerk referring matter to the County Durham Association of Local Councils.

005/06 Correspondence

e) Erection of a memorial (Mining Industry)
Agenda item 7

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035/06 Matters arising from the meeting dated 7th March 2006

Funding transfer from Durham County Council to EQUaL

Agenda item 9

050/06 Correspondence

g) Street Lighting Esh/Irene Terraces

Some work had already been carried out to some street lighting columns. Further electric work to be carried out when work is carried out on the Kingsway Development (Bowey Homes).

052/06 Reports – Parish

Earl of Durham allotments

Agenda item 13b

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052/06 Reports - Parish

Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Agenda Item No 13b

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063/06 Planning Matters

21 Quebec Street, Langley Park.

A number of objections had been received by the Planning Officer regarding smells from the premises when operating as a fish and chip shop. The proposal was an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a fish and chip shop and the objections would be a matter for the Environmental Health Officer.

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064/06 Reports

Esh, Langley Park and Quebec Play Areas

Agenda item 13b

Recreation ground Langley Park.

Clerk to make arrangement to open up a bank account on behalf of the trustees, this would allow for further funding opportunities.

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064/06 Reports

Earl of Durham Allotments

The Clerk has made enquiries to Derwentside District Council regarding the ongoing problem of rabbits on the site. The response was that rabbits are not classed as pests and they therefore will not carry out any treatment work. It was agreed for the Clerk to carry out further research (including Defra Web-site) and also for him to contact Durham City Council to see how they handled the problem of rabbits at Bearpark.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council Meeting.

Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Awaiting price of boulders from Derwentside District Council.
Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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067/06 Garage Tenancy

Agenda item 16.

075/06 Minutes of a Special Meeting (Mining Memorial) held on 6th June 2006

Agreed as true record.

076/06 Minutes of a Special Meeting (Youth Issues) held on 7th June 2006

Agreed as true record.

077/06 Correspondence

Durham County Council

- a) Northern Area Office – Notification of works ordered, reconstruction of St Michaels Church access road, Esh.
- b) Chief Executive – Building schools for the future; Vision for Secondary Education.
- c) Parish Paths Partnership – Newsletter; Issue 22; Spring 2006.
- d) County Durham Local Action 21 Newsletter; Issue 31; Spring 2006.

County Durham Association of Local Councils

- e) Land Registry presentation – 10am 30th June at the Land Registry Headquarters.
- f) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 – details of a training course.
- g) Strong, Healthy and Safe Community Partnership meeting – 9am 29th June 2006 at Murton, Co. Durham.
- h) Newsletter – Issue 6; May 2006.

Others

- i) Meikles Solicitors – Lease of Land at Langley Park; cost of legal and advertising fees (copy letters circulated at the meeting).

Members agreed for the Clerk to raise a cheque for £500 + VAT £87.50 = £587.50 payable to Meikles Solicitors for the cost of the two transactions.

- j) Charter 88 – Newsletter; Empowering citizens and Local Councils.
- k) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – Local Authority Byelaws in England; A discussion paper.
- l) County Durham and Cleveland Training Partnership – Training for Chairmanship skills.

Members agreed for the Chairman (Councillor Alan Mollon) to attend the training sessions.

- m) War Memorials Trust – Grant information.
- n) OfCom – Removing Public Call boxes; A guide to the rules.

Durham County Council

- o) Environment – County Durham Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- p) Northern Area Office – Provide link footpath with drop kerbs and remove existing steps at C62 Low Moor Road, Langley Park

Derwentside District Council

- q) Derwentside Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Issues and Options.
 - r) Invitation to Veterans Day 25th June 2006 at 2.00 pm, Christ Church, Consett.
 - s) Change of contact details retirement of Jim Thompson.
- Members agreed to write to Mr Thompson thanking him for his assistance and support to Esh Parish Council and good wishes in his retirement.
- t) Draft statement of Policy and Procedures on nuisance and anti-social behaviour.

078/06 Planning Matters

A

No.	SW/1/2006/0335/DMFP
APPLICANT	MR S ROSS
PROPOSED	ERECTION OF SINGLE DWELLING
AT	GARAGE SITE, EAST OF 39 EAST CLERE, 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. LF/1/2006/0393/DMFP
APPLICANT MR AMIN & MRS MIAH
PROPOSED ERECTION OF SECOND STOREY REAR
EXTENSION AND ALTERATIONS TO SHOP
FRONTAGE
AT 34 FRONT 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.

C

No. FC/1/2006/0407/DMFP
APPLICANT MR A RAINE
PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE OF FORMER GARTH TO
GARDEN AREA, ERECTION OF DETACHED
DOUBLE GARAGE AND BOUNDARY WALL.
VARIATION OF CONDITION 11 OF PLANNING
PERMISSION 1/2002/0930

AT HADRIAN LODGE, FRONT STREET, ESH
Members raised concerns about the change of use on the paddock at the side of the house and also of any proposed building on this plot of land. Clerk to write to the Planning Officer.

D

No. LF/1/2006/0378/DMFP
APPLICANT MRS Y WHITTON
PROPOSED FELLING OF ONE TREE (TPO 17)
AT 6 PHOENIX CLOSE, LANGLEY PARK

Clerk to obtain further details from the Planning Officer regarding the reason for felling and the condition of the tree. Clerk to circulate response to all members for their consideration.

E

No. CS/1/2006/0423/DMFP

APPLICANT BOWEY HOMES

PROPOSED RESUBMISSION OF APPLICATION 1/2005/0556 TO INCLUDE SUBSTITUTION OF HOUSE TYPES AND ERECTION OF SIX ADDITIONAL DWELLINGS.

AT KINGSWAY GARAGE, LANGLEY PARK

It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the Planning Officer raising two concerns around increased traffic volume around the entrance road to the Primary School and also the highway access onto the main road from the site (i.e. the number of junctions in the area).

Subject to the above receiving satisfactory conclusions the council would raise 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 resubmission.

079/06 Reports

a) EQUaL Partnership
Agenda item No2

b) Parish

Hanging Baskets

Confirmation of the action of the Chairman/Clerk in accepting the quotation from Mr.P.Snowdon, 54 Front Street, Langley Park for providing 51 baskets at £12.50 each = £637.50 (hung/taken down free of charge). Watering of hanging baskets at £0.65 per basket per watering.

The hanging baskets were put in place on 11th June 2006.

Cross Fell Allotments – No2 Mr A Pinkney, 11 Springwell Avenue

A letter had been received from Mr Pinkney requesting that the above allotment be made a joint tenancy between Mr Pinkney and Mr B Canning, 3 Wallnook Court, Wallnook Lane, Langley Park.

Members agreed with this request.

Esh Play Area

Grass Matting Complete

Footpath – awaiting starting date from Derwentside District Council.

Sign – ordered, proof circulated at the meeting for members approval.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Quebec Play Area

Sign – ordered, proof circulated at the meeting for members approval.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Langley Park Play Area

Letter received from the Council's solicitors (agenda item 11i).

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

National Probation Service – Community Pay-Back Scheme

Awaiting update report from the Probation Service staff.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Gate has now been installed.

Earl of Durham Allotments

Gates to be installed week commencing 19th June 2006.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Parish Walk, 21st May 2006 – Use of Ushaw College

Members agreed to donate £50 to Ushaw College towards the costs of refreshments and hospitality at the above event.

C) District

Councillors Coulson and Guildford reported:-

- a) Shotley Bridge Hospital – letter to be sent to Derwentside District Council (copy to Member of Parliament) thanking them for their efforts in trying to save the temporary closure of the Day Surgery Unit.
- b) Future of South Moor Hospital.
- c) Proposed Primary Care Trust for all of County Durham.
- d) A new vision for local government “closer to people and places” produced by the Local Government Association. Copy of a summary handed to the Clerk.
- e) Diversity and Equality report.
- f) Meeting of Health Scrutiny panel.
- g) Change of bin system (one week recycling next week domestic waste).

D) County

Councillor Armstrong Reported:-

- a) Youth provision at Langley Park.
- b) Temporary Library.
- c) New library.
- d) Urban Renaissance.
- e) Loading bays.
- f) Tarmac to St Michaels and All Saints, Esh is complete.
- g) Footway link at Londis.
- h) Re-configuration of bus services (725).
- i) A691 footpath and overgrown hedgerow.
- j) Requested road sign "no through road" for Bridge Street.

080/06 Financial Statements And Report

The following amendments were agreed.

- a) Voucher 51 the cost of grass laid to Quebec Play Area £891.82 should be paid out of the Commuted Sum account.
- b) Voucher 56 the cost of laying grass matting at Esh Play Area £2350.00 should be paid out of the Commuted Sum account.
- c) Voucher 74 payment to Durham County Council should read £9.26 (not £9.18) subject to the above amendments members agreed the financial details, (vouchers 47 to 78) should be paid and where appropriate the Chairman/Clerk action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

081/06 Annual Audit 2005/06 – Explanatory Statement For The Auditor

Members agreed the statements and the signing of the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2006 by the Chairman (Councillor A. Mollon) and the Council's Responsible Financial Officer (Mr M.G Ackroyd)

082/06 Garage Tenancy

On Monday 5th June 2006 Council members (A. Mollon, H.Guildford and G. Coulson) together with the Clerk interviewed Mr N.J. Cassidy regarding the garage tenancy at the Earl of Durham allotments, Langley Park. Members confirmed the action of the above meeting in offering Mr Cassidy the tenancy from 1st July 2006 for the use of storing materials in connection with his business.

The Licence would include the following conditions:-

Mr Cassidy to:-

- a) Pay the £100 bond.
- b) Pay all electric charges.
- c) Deal with any alarm calls.
- d) Test the alarm system on a monthly basis.
- e) Allow the Parish Council a small area for storage of Christmas decorations.
- f) Pay the monthly licence fee of £120.00.

Members were informed that the second interested party withdrew due to a change in circumstances and therefore did not attend for interview.

083/06 Date and time of the next meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th July 2006 in the Conference Centre, Ushaw College commencing at 7.00pm.

No confidential items.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm.