

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Quebec on Tuesday 12th February 2008 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors A. Mollon (Chairman), B. Armstrong, C. Bloor, R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, A. Harling, A. Hiles, P. Mollon, S. Rothwell, and M. Sands

Apologies: Councillors H. Guildford, L. Looby and M. Tyler

Also in Attendance: County Councillor J. Armstrong, G.F. Smith (Clerk) and Mr C. Wayman

015/08 Declaration Of Interest

Councillor Coulson and Rothwell declared an interest in item 10 – Planning Matters; they took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Bloor declared an interest in item 11b (4) – Parish Report (Earl of Durham Allotments), He took no part in the debate.

Councillor A. Mollon and P. Mollon declared an interest in item 11D (Application SW1/2007/1073/DMFP), They took no part in the debate.

016/08 Police Report

No report

017/08 Mr C. Wayman

The Clerk introduced Mr C Wayman who wished to study for the CILCA (Clerk's Qualification) portfolio, mentored by the Clerk. Members agreed to support Mr Wayman and wished him success with the portfolio.

018/09 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th January 2008

The Minutes of the Meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

019/08 Clerk's Report including observations from Councillors to the Minutes

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132/07 Report – b) Parish

Langley Park Recreation Ground

Awaiting quotations, Clerk to arrange a Meeting with Councillor Hiles and inform the Trustees as to the position of the quotations/Tender as the work must be completed as a matter of urgency (Timescale for the funding bodies). Clerk to report to the Trustees and the next Parish Council Meeting.

169/07 Correspondence

a) Parish Paths Partnership 2007

Erection of new notice board at Langley Park

Lock had now been fixed and the notice board was now in use.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 1

170/07 Parish Garage

An offer had been received from Mr D. Sheldon, 44 Front Street, Langley Park. Members agreed to place the advert in the Esh Leaves extra edition, also for the Clerk to contact Mr Sheldon informing him that his offer will be considered with other applications following the advert in Esh Leaves Extra.

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200/07 Correspondence

Others

L) Meikles Solicitors – lease of land at Langley Park

Agenda Item 9 L – Correspondence

230/07 Correspondence

e) National Tree Week

Applications received after Closing Date

241/07 Correspondence

a) Registration of Financial and other Interests Form

The Clerk had sent out the forms to each Councillor and was awaiting them to be returned to him so he could forward them onto the Monitoring Officer at Derwentside District Council.

b) Disposal of Garage and Allotments Sites owned by DCC

The Clerk informed the Members of the Meeting with Mr Don Hutchinson at County Hall on Monday 28th January 2008.

The Land at Esh Winning was on the outer boundaries of the Parish at Esh Winning. Members agreed that this piece of land should be offered to Cornsay Parish or Brandon and Byshottles Parish Councils.

The land at Quebec was to be sold Freehold and with the benefit of vacant possession accepting the following Territories:-

Allotments – 17 available; 13 let at a rent of £15 p/a each

Garage Sites - 16 available; 8 let at a rent of £25 p/a each

Total Item £410

The Public open space is subject to a number of Grass Cutting Sessions costing in the region of £2000 + per Annum

There would be no transfer of budget (re running costs) transferred from the County Council to the Parish.

Members agreed to defer a decision on the area of land at Quebec until the new unitary Authority was in place and in a position to re – Negotiate.

005/08 Draft Budget 2008/09

Agenda Item no 6

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008/08 Langley Park Neighbourhood Office

Agenda Item No 8

009/08 Correspondence

c) DDC Environment - Parish Paths Partnership Applications 2008. A meeting had been arranged for Monday 18th February at 10.00am Wood View Community centre to meet with Elaine Field (Councillors Bloor and Hiles to attend and the Clerk) to discuss the proposed/suggested works to the Paths in the Parish.

e) Andrew McConnell, Neighbourhood Inspector – Area Consultation Meetings. The Clerk had spoken to Inspector McConnell and he agreed to commence the area Consultation Meeting at 6.00pm prior to the Parish Council Meeting in May and December 2008.

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011/08 Reports –b) Parish

2) Esh Village Green

Site visit to arrange (Councillors Hiles, A. Mollon, Sands, Tyrie and County Councillor Armstrong and the Clerk to attend; following the Meeting it was agreed to hold the Meeting on Tuesday 26th February 2008 at 10.00am).

011/08 Reports – c) District

1) Councillors Initiative Fund

A Meeting was held on Monday 11th February 2008 to discuss a number of Capital Projects to meet the criteria and expenditure (£60,000) to be agreed prior to 31st March 2008.

The most popular project was the replacing of the fencing around the Sports and Social Club at Langley Park. A major problem was the ownership of the playing Fields area and the taken over of the Sports and Social Club by the Scottish and Newcastle Brewery. Further Meetings were planned to try and resolve these problems. A second project (costing around £32,000) was work to Quebec Village Hall, further work was required to see if the project fitted into the required criteria.

The District Councillors will update the Parish Council as negotiations continue. Members agreed to discuss this item at the next Parish Council Meeting.

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014/08 Staffing Matters – Mr M Ackroyd, Assistant Clerk

Agenda Item no 14

020/08 Draft Budget 2008/09

Members agreed to accept the Report of the Assistant Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer and to:-

a) Increase the budget for the new office accommodation from £2800 to £4500 and that administration budget be reduced by the sum of £800.

b) Increase the play area budget with the sum of £3500 allocated from the special AMC Bank Account and also up to £1000 out of the Council's Reserves.

c) Increase the uncommitted Reserves by the sum of £750.

d) To publish the Esh Leaves Extra (subject to some minor changes of wording) as the draft sample attached to the report.

021/08 Financial Statement

After receiving details of all Financial Statements for 2007/08 (vouchers v292 to v318) Members agreed they should be paid and where appropriate confirm the Chairman / Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the Meeting.

022/08 Langley Park Neighbourhood Office

The Clerk updated members on his Meeting with Derwentside Homes.

It was agreed to:-

- a) Accept the offer from Derwentside Homes of a Two year Rent free agreement.
- b) To transfer staff (The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and IT Officer) into the Neighbourhood office.
- c) To negotiate the transfer of the Equal Partnership Development Worker (Karen Gibson) from Church Street Community Centre to the Neighbourhood Office.
- d) To hold Future Parish Council Meeting in the Neighbourhood Office.
- e) To discuss the future use of the Office by other Organisations once the building has been occupied.

023/08 Correspondence

Durham County Council

- a) Environment – field boundary restoration grant scheme 2003 – 04, Kaysburn Road, Langley Park – Inspection.

It was agreed for the Clerk to arrange a site Meeting and for the work to be carried out before the end of March 2008. Members of the group to include the Chairman, Councillor Hiles, the clerk – Assistant Clerk and invite Mr. Simon Chivers, Landscape Clerk of works (SCC).

- b) Social Inclusion Service – Community Engagement Advisory Group.
- c) Environment – summary of the rights of way improvement Plan for County Durham 2007 – 2011.

Derwentside District Council

- d) bio diversity Project Officer tree preservation order review.

Members agreed to invite the Officer to the next Parish Council Meeting.

- e) Regeneration Officer successful Application to the Grants for Groups Funds, £900.00 towards the costs of producing a leaflet.

Others

- f) Department for Communities and Local Government – Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to conduct of Local Authority Members in England.
- g) County Durham Association of Local Councils – Newsletter February 2008: issue 17
- h) Campaign to protect Rural England – Newsletter Spring 2008.
- i) Allotments regeneration initiative – Newsletter Winter 2007 – 08.
- j) Audit Commission – Appointment of External Auditors for a 5 year period: BDO Stoy Hayward: scale of fees for 2008 – 09 £50,001 to £100,000 basic charge £400. Members agreed to accept the charges.

Item

- k) Butterwick Hospice care – Application for Funding.
- l) Meikles Solicitors – update on the leases of Land at Langley Park and Solicitors cost of £1200 + vat + land registry fee of £40.00 each Lease.
Members agreed to accept the charges.
- m) Government Office for the North East – NE Regional Spatial Strategy further proposed changes: response by 2nd April 2008.
- n) Local Council Update – Complimentary Copy: Monthly print addition £65 per year.
Members agreed to subscribe to the Local Council Update for 1year (at £65).
- o) County Durham Sustainability & Environment Partnership Newsletter Spring 2008; Issue 36.
- p) Electoral Commission – Local Election Timetable 2008 (Polling Day 1st may).
- q) Karen Gibson (Equal – problems at the Recreation Ground Langley Park.
Members agreed:-
 - i) For the Clerk to arrange for a Padlock to be fitted to the gate
 - ii) To explore the costs of placing Boulders on the site (Top entrance at the Football field site and report to the next Parish Council Meeting).

County Durham Association of Local Councils

- r) Freedom of Information – New Model Publication Scheme.
Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council Meeting.
- s) Possible Devolved Services – response by 20th February 2008.
Clerk to circulate a copy of this report to all Councillors.
- t) Delay in implementation Order clearing Parliament.
- u) Local Petitions and Call for Action – Government Consultation.

024/08 Planning Matters

A

No.	SCA/1/2007/1041/DMFP
APPLICANT	MR P WILKES GROUP
PROPOSED	CHANGE OF USE FROM CAR SHOWROOM TO A1 (SHOP) ALTERATIONS TO FILLING AREA AND CANOPY, CREATION OF CUSTOMER PARKING AND NEW SHOP FRONTAGE
AT	RED TILES SERVICE STATION, KAYSBURN

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development.

Signed by the Chairman..... Page 5

B

No. TA/1/2007/1044/DMFP

APPLICANT MRS K REED

**PROPOSED ERECTION OF TWO STOREY SIDE
EXTENSION SINGLE STOREY REAR
EXTENSION AND DORMER WINDOW
TO REAR**

AT 23 NETHERTON CLOSE, LANGLEY PARK

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development.

C

No. TA/1/2007/1022/DMFP

APPLICANT MR M ELLISON

**PROPOSED ERECTION OF TWO STOREY SIDE AND
REAR EXTENSION PITCHED ROOF TO FRONT**

AT 7 GREEN COURT, ESH

Members requested the Clerk to contact the Planning Officer to obtain further detailed information (re Drawings) in order to make an informed decision on the development.

**The Chairman (Coun A. Mollon) stepped down as Chairman but did not leave the Meeting for the Following Agenda item.
The Vice- Chairman (Coun C. Bloor) acted as Chairman for the following Agenda Item.**

D

No. SW/1/2007/1073/DMFP

APPLICANT ZENITH DEVELOPMENT HOMES LTD

PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF DISUSED YOUTH CENTRE
AND ERECTION OF 27 DWELLINGS WITH
ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING
(RESUBMISSION)

AT ALL SAINTS YOUTH CENTRE, LANGLEY PARK

Members raised the following concerns:-

- 1) Density of the site (27 Dwelling)**
- 2) Access Road**
- 3) Fencing details**
- 4) Communal Bin Storage Areas**
- 5) Movement of the Bus Stop**
- 6) Road Safety**
- 7) Preservation of Existing Trees (TPO Possibility)**
- 8) Retention of the Artwork at the site**

The Clerk to write to the Planning Officer with the above matters of concern.

Coun A. Mollon took over again as Chairman for the remainder of the Meeting

E

No. SW/1/2008/0017/DMFP

APPLICANT MR I SHRIGLEY

PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND
ERECTION OF 8 STARTER WORKSHOPS
WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING AND
RE-LIGNMENT OF APPROVED ACCESS ROAD

AT ESH WINNING BUILDING SUPPLIES,
INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ESH WINNING

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development.

Signed by the Chairman.....page 7

F

No. BG/1/2008/0019/DMTF

APPLICANT MR A WIENCRIRRZ

PROPOSED CROWN LIFTING, THINNING AND REDUCTION OF TWO ASH TREES (TPO 17)

AT 6 STARGATE CLOSE, LANGLEY PARK

Members requested the Clerk to contact the Planning Officer to obtain further detailed information (i.e. Arborist Report) in order to make an informed decision on the development.

G

No. TA/1/2008/0027/DMFP

APPLICANT MR & MRS ROEBUCK

PROPOSED CONSERVATORY TO FRONT

AT 10 GREEN COURT, ESH

Members requested for the Clerk to contact the Planning Officer to obtain further detailed information (i.e. drawings) in order to make an informed decision on the development.

025/08 Reports

a) Equal Partnership

- i. Interpretation Boards for the Recreation ground (Ongoing).**
- ii. £4000 grant received for the Charity Group Sherburn House.**
- iii. Grant Application for Lloyds Bank has been deferred until March.**
- iv. Ongoing problems with Langley Park Sports & Social Club /Scottish and Newcastle Breweries.**

b) Parish

i) Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park

Members agreed:-

- 1) To accept the Report of the Assistant Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
- 2) To give Three Months Notice on the 1st March 2008 to vacate the Premises by 31st May 2008.
- 3) To pay £1000 to the Langley Park Community Association, being the rental charge from 1st April 2007 to 31st May 2008 for the Parish Room at Church Street Community Centre.

ii) Village Correspondence for the Durham Times

The Clerk read out an Email received from the Durham Times asking for an individual /small group to send in local news to the Durham Times. In return the newspaper would pay 10p per line published (typically 4-5 words per line) plus £5 for any picture published (contact Malcolm.warne@nne.co.uk).

iii) Pantomime 2008

Members received the Report of the Assistant Clerk/ responsible Financial Officer and noted the following:-

Cost of Pantomime	£828.72
Income	£247.96
Net Loss	£580.76

iv) Allotments

Crossfell Site

1 No. vacant plot (no 6)

Agreed to Plots 11/12 to be co-Tenanted by M. Worthingham and J. Crombie

No outstanding Rent

Earl of Durham Site

No vacant plots

Agreed to transfer the Tenancy of Plot 69 from K. Bradshaw /J. Martin to J. Martin

Agreed to plot 25 – 26 to be co-tenanted by T. Taylor D. Cuthbert.

Agreed to Plot 30 to be Co - Tenanted by J. Farrell and S. Whitton

Agreed to Plot 48 to be Co – Tenanted by C. Riley and M. Jackson

Agreed to Plot 61 to be Co – Tenanted by J. Whitfield and J. Turnbull

Agreed to Plot 74 to be Co – Tenanted by J. Galt and A. Tomlinson

Agreed to Plot 83 to be Co – Tenanted by E. Jones and R. Davison

There is three Plots with outstanding rent of £75, it is agreed for the Clerk to write/meet the Tenant to clear up the outstanding amounts.

v) Book of Photographs, words and verses for the Parish

Members agreed to accept the Report of the Assistant Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer subject to the following amendment:-

“That the book be sold for £2.99 each”

vi) Risk Management

Councilor Rothwell and the Clerk updated on the Training Courses they attended on Risk Management. It was agreed for the Clerk to present a Report to the Annual General Meeting recommending the setting up of a risk management group.

C) District

- i) Councillor Tyrie - No Report
- ii) Councillor Rothwell Reported:-
 - a) Derwentside's International Women's Day w/c 3rd March 2008 ending with a special Meeting on Friday 7th March 2008.
- iii) Councillor Coulson Reported:-
 - a) £90,000 Funding From Derwentside District Council to the Sir Bobby Robson Park
 - b) cctv in Langley Park (Update)
 - c) Councillor Initiative Fund
 - d) Heroes Award - Councillor H. Guildford

D) County

Councillor Armstrong Reported:-

- a) Finnings Street
- b) Wood View Community Centre
- c) Internet access for Parish Council at Wood View Community Centre
- d) Dropped Kerbs at Langley Park
- e) Library Service for Langley Park
- f) Tenders of Local Bus Services (Scarlet Band Motors)
- g) Unitary Council for Durham (Update)
- h) Boundary Commission
- i) Paths at Kaysburn Road, Langley Park
- j) Youth provision/ drop in centre at Langley Park

026/08 Date of the next Meeting

The Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th March 2008 commencing at 7.00pm
Venue in Langley Park (either Church Street Community centre or the New Parish Office (ex Neighbourhood Office) rear of Front Street.

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

Item

Meeting Finished at 9.30pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 11