

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Village Hall, Quebec on Tuesday 14th April 2009 commencing at 7.05pm

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

Apologies: Councillors R. Bowyer, H. Guildford, L. Looby and S. Rothwell also PcsO Pearsall (Durham Police).

Also Present: County Councillors J. Armstrong and M Campbell, G.F. Smith (Clerk) and L Rowland (Assistant Clerk).

045/09 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Bloor declared an interest in item 4b – Parish Report (1 and 2), he took no part in the discussion.

Councillor Hiles declared an interest in item 10 – Sir Bobby Robson Park, she took no part in the discussion other than to clarify any matters of fact.

046/09 Police Report

PcsO Pearsall was unable to attend the meeting (due to having to attend to an emergency prior to the meeting). The report was circulated at the meeting. Members raised concerns at the lack of security (boarding – up) of the All Saints Youth Centre building at Langley Park. Clerk to speak to PcsO Pearsall, County Councillor Armstrong would also speak to the Reverend Michael Pears. Also County Councillor Armstrong raised the following concerns:-

- i) Padlock at entrance gate onto the Lanchester Railway walk from Railway Street.
- ii) Horses passing through the Cemetery at Langley Park.

047/09 Reports

A) EQUaL Partnership

- i) Meeting next week
- ii) Only one person has shown an interest in becoming a Trustee, EQUaL may fold
- iii) The Partnership is proposing to transfer any funding in the accounts to go towards the proposed MUGA at the Sports & Social Club, Langley Park (Mr A. Cassidy).

B) Parish

- i) Earl of Durham Allotments – security gates

Members agreed to accept the quotation from NJC Wrought Iron to repair and alter the gate at the bottom of the allotments, provide a new post to lock the gate at a cost of £225.00. To alter the gate at the top of the allotments (garage area) and add panel to stop motorcycles at a cost of £220.00 To supply and fit new gate (no pedestrian access) above the area occupied by Northumbrian Water at a cost of £305.00.

ii) Allotment Inspection

Members agreed to inspect the allotments on Saturday 25th April 2009 commencing at 10.00am (meeting point will be the Sports & Social Club).

iii) Statement of Community Engagement

Members agreed to accept the recommendations of the Clerk (examples of the types of information to be included in the statement). Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

iv) IT Centre – Publicity

Members agreed to host a coffee morning on Friday 15th May 2009 (9.30 to 12.30) and for the Clerk to:-

- a) arrange for poster advertising the event to be circulated around the Parish
- b) Arrange for refreshments to be provided (Councillor P Mollon).

C) County

Councillor Campbell reported:-

- a) Planning Matters (Membership)
- b) Boundary Committee
- c) Speeding Vehicles

Councillor Armstrong reported:

- a) Proposed works at Quebec (car parking), estimated cost around £30,000. Funding required from various sources.
- b) Access road to the Fold, Quebec (unadopted road). Members agreed to discuss this at the next Parish Council meeting.
- c) Path at Esh Laude – further funding required
- d) Needs survey at Langley Park - £5000 allocated by DCC
- e) Library at Langley Park – problems with floor
- f) Fly tipping at Quebec
- g) Surgery items – Esh Urban Renaissance, street cleaning at Langley Park (londis area), flower beds, garage rents.
- h) Redevelopment at Langley Park Health Surgery (opposed to lifting the covenant on the Ex-fire station building for Derwentside College)
- i) Councillor Tyler raised concerns regarding the bus services at Langley Park (Go North East) Councillor Armstrong required Councillor Tyler to e-mail the concerns to him and he will arrange a meeting with the Bus Company representative.

048/09 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th March 2009

Members agreed that the Minutes were a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

049/09 Clerk's Report

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011/08 Reports – b) Parish

2) Esh Village Green

Clerk awaiting price of guard rail from DCC Service Direct. Clerk to chase this matter up and report the next Parish Council meeting.

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068/09 Reports – b) Parish

1) EDF Energy Wind Farm – 3 Parish Councils Meeting

Clerk awaiting response from EDF and Durham Foundation. Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2) Litter Bin – Donation by Langley Park Primary School

Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Head Mistress and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

131/08 Reports – b) Parish

ii) Winter Gritting

The Clerk reported on the meeting with DCC Officer and Councillor J. Armstrong on proposed levels of snow/ice clearing of roads and footpaths.

Members agreed to wait the report from Durham County Council.

134/08 Planning Matters

b) SCA/1/2008/0806/DMFP – Land to the North of the Aged Miners Homes at Quebec.

The Clerk reported that the Application has been refused. Members requested the Clerk to write to the Area Planning Officer regarding four containers in the field at the entrance to Quebec. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

019/09 Reports – b) Parish

1) Pathway to the Allotments

Clerk awaiting response from Groundwork Trust. Clerk to chase up the matter and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2) Boulders at the Recreation Ground

Awaiting delivery from the Contractor. Clerk to arrange the siting of the boulders with Councillor Hiles (to avoid Public Footpath) and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

3) Trim Allotment Path

Members agreed to accept the quotation from NJC Wrought Iron to carry out grass cutting to paths and other areas at the Earl of Durham site twice yearly, the cost was £200.00 for both visits.

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021/09 Correspondence

a) Dog Fouling at Langley Park

The Clerk reported on an article in Esh Leaves and the increase in the number of residents coming into the Office requesting “doggie bags”. He was awaiting a response from Lynne Copeland regarding further notices, increasing the number of dog waste bins, increasing the number of outlets for supplying “doggie bags” and also the possibility of extra surveillance in Langley Park. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

b) UK On Line Centre

Members had previously agreed to holding a coffee morning at the Centre

d) Steps Detached Youth Project

Clerk awaiting response from Louise Wilson and Dave Emmerson (DCC). Clerk to chase up the matter and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

023/09 Car Parking at Quebec Play Area

Item discussed in Agenda item 4 – County Councillor Report

032/09 Reports – b) Parish

i) Power of Well Being – c) Training

The Clerk reported that two dates had been arranged and the Council would be sharing the costs with Brandon & Byshottles and Lanchester Parish Councils and also Tow Law Town Council, both events would be held at the Village Hall, Quebec commencing at 7pm.

The Event on 28th April would be attended by Councillor Armstrong, Harling and Hiles, and the event on 5th May by Councillors A. Mollon, P. Mollon, Coulson and Sands.

The Chairman reminded members that at least 80% of the Council must attend at least one of the training events to enable the Council to use the Power of Well Being.

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034/09 Correspondence

a) Langley Park Angling Association – Application for Funding

A copy of the Associations latest Bank Statement was circulated to Members prior to the meeting. Members agreed that they required a copy of the latest balance sheet and further details before making a decision on this Application.

b) Meeting with Lynne Copeland (DCC) Re Dog Fouling

Clerk to arrange the meeting and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

c) Litter problems on the Lanchester/Langley Park Railway Walk

Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Countryside Rangers (DCC) and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

e) UK On-Line Centre – Publicity

Members had previously agreed to holding a coffee morning at the Centre

f) DCC – Parish Paths Partnership Applications 2009

Clerk to arrange to discuss with Councillors Bloor and Hiles and report to the next Parish Council Meeting.

032/09 Reports – D) County

State of Bus Stop Sign at Esh Laude

Councillor Hiles and Sands raised again their concerns on the state of the sign. Clerk to chase this matter up and to make arrangements for the remaining post to be made safe

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034/09 Correspondence

r)CDALC – Special AGM 4th April 2009

The Clerk reported that the meeting had agreed to re-organise the membership to re-align with the new Area Action Partnerships.

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035/09 Planning Matters

B)GB/1/2009/0108/DMFP – Land to the West of Wilks Hill, Quebec

Members were circulated copies of the proposed development. It was agreed to accept the Application.

036/09 Car Parking at Quebec Play Area

Item discussed under agenda item 4c – County Council

037/09 Langley Park Library

Agenda item no 11

038/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Agenda item no 10

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039/09 Area Action Partnership

Agenda item no 12

041/09 Policies

The Clerk reported that all Policies had been placed on the Council’s Web Site and also formed part of the Audit File.

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042/09 Risk Assessment Statement 2008/09

The Clerk reported that the Statement will be placed on the Council’s Web Site as soon as possible and a copy has been placed on the Audit File.

050/09 Financial Statement

Vouchers 303 (2008/09) budget allocation should be £55 to Play Area and £45 to Office, subject to the above members agreed the details of the Financial Statement for 2008/09 (vouchers 290 – 309) and to the Financial Statement for 2009/10 (vouchers 1 – 16) Members agreed they should be paid and where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk’s action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

051/09 Planning Matters

A

NO.	MH/1/2009/0117/DMFP
APPLICANT	MRS CUTTS
PROPOSED	TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND FRONT PORCH
AT	7 ELEMORE 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.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 5

B

NO. MH/1/2009/0129/DMAD

APPLICANT ORCHID GROUP

PROPOSED ADVERTISING CONSENT FOR THE ERECTION OF ONE ILLUMINATED FASCIA SIGN

AT 38 QUEBEC STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Members agreed to request further details/information on this Application before making a decision. Clerk to make necessary arrangements with the Area Planning Officer and copy the details to all Councillors.

052/09 Correspondence

Items for discussion:-

a)Miss Emily Forsyth, 2 Kingswood, Langley Park – Application for Funding towards gymnastics training (G B National Squad).

Members agreed to donate £200 (Under powers section 137LGA 1972).

b)DCC – Statutory consultation on Fouling by dogs (County Durham) order 2009, consultation period ends 22nd April 2009.

Members noted the contents and that the notice had been placed on the Council’s Noticeboards.

c)The Boundary Committee for England – Electoral Review of the New County Durham Unitary Authority. Decision on number of elected members (126). Next phase of consultation on electoral arrangements ends on 8th June 2009.

Members agreed to make no comments.

d)County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership – training up-date number 3. Members noted the contents and await further dates for Councillor training.

e)NALC – networking lunch Friday 1st may 2009 – No response.

f)Durham Police Authority – Police Community Consultative Group, next meeting 20th May 2009 at County Hall, Durham commencing at 7.00pm.

Members noted the contents and that the notice had been placed on the Council’s Noticeboards.

g)Commission for Rural Communities – Rural Advocate re: Upland Communities (Not Relevant)

Items for Information:-

- h) Groundwork West Durham & Darlington – Family Learning Project unsuccessful bid, looking to other funding opportunities.
- i) Derwentside District Council – Lease of Land at Springwell Avenue, Langley Park confirmation of acceptance of notice to terminate.
- j) Information Commissioner’s Office – Freedom of Information Act (DVD)
- k) Durham Association News; March 2009; issue 24
- l) Local Council’s update; March 2009; issue 113
- m) Local Council’s update; April 2009; issue 114
- n) Campaign to Protect Rural England; Spring 2009
- o) Allotments Regeneration Initiative Newsletter; Spring 2009
- p) E-mail from Mavis Dixon – Railway Line Walk at Langley Park re incident on 7th April 2009 (contents noted).
- q) E-mail from Lesley Hunter, Rutherford House Surgery – Patient Participation Group meeting on 22nd April 2009 at 6.00pm re: Surgery Redevelopment. Members agreed to attend this meeting and report to the next Parish Council meeting.
- r) SLCC-Regional Conference on 9th June 2009 at Shotton Hall, Peterlee from 10.00am to 3.45pm. The cost is £49 + vat (Member) and £64 + vat (Non Member). Members agreed for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk (Mrs L Rowland) to attend the Conference.
- s) Lesley Davis, Durham County Council (Monitoring Officer) – Members are advised to continue to use Ashley Rocks – Menon (01207 218390) as their area Monitoring Officer.

053/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The Clerk had been unable to contact Mr A Cassidy (Langley Park Sports & Social Club) due to him being away on business, he was due to return on 15th April 2009.

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Mr Cassidy as soon as possible and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk also reported on the amount of litter being left in the Park, Members agreed for the Clerk to produce a poster expressing the concerns of the Council on the litter problem at the site and arrange for the posters to be placed in local shops, Council noticeboards and deliver to local residents (Lambton, D’arcy and Dale Street).

Members also requested the Clerk to contact the County Council regarding the cctv camera and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Members agreed the Chairman/Clerk’s action in employing Jeremy Cassidy to tidy the site (litter, cans and glass) on a regular basis.

054/09 Langley Park Library

No further update

055/09 Area Action Partnerships

Members had been circulated with a letter from Durham County Council regarding a launch event of the Mid Durham Rural West AAP on Wednesday 13th May 2009 at the Community Business College, Sir Bobby Robson Centre, Ushaw Moor commencing at 5.30pm. **Members were reminded to register for this event.**

056/09 Annual Audit for the Year Ended 31st March 2009

Members agreed the timetable for the Year Ended 31st March 2009:-

Date of meeting to approve section one (Annual Return)	9 th June 2009
Date of meeting to approve section two (Annual Return)	9 th June 2009
Date of meeting to approve Internal Audit Report	9 th June 2009
Display notice on electors rights from	4 th May to 17 th May 2009
Make records available from	18 th May to 15 th June 2009
Send Annual Return to External Auditor by	19 th June 2009
Publication of Audited Accounts	30 th September 2009

Members also agreed for the copy of the timetable to be sent to the Council's Internal Auditor (Mr Stuart Harris).

057/09 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 12th May 2009 at the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park immediately following the Annual General Meeting which commences at 7.00pm.

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 DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS THERE COULD BE DISCLOURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The Meeting finished at 8.50pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 8



DURHAM CONSTABULARY



POLICE REPORT

ESH PARISH WARD

This Month In Summary

01/04/09 to 30/04/09

- **April** has seen another increase in the number of calls received to the area, the majority of calls received related to anti-social behaviour caused by young people in the village particularly around the Wood View Community Centre. For those of you familiar with the area, the manager of the Community Centre has always been very open to allowing young people to use the yard for games. However recently there has been some damage caused and a large number of complaints received from local residents and the management have decided to stop the older ones using the yard because of this.
- I have received a number of complaints relating to older teens using the All Saints Community Centre for drug use and anti-social behaviour. We have previously had this building secured twice however persons unknown managed to break down a brick wall twice without anyone hearing or seeing anything. We now have steel shutters installed around the building which should stop anyone entering. We are conducting a leaflet drop along streets that view the community centre asking anyone to call in should they witness any use of the centre.
- In line with the new 'Policing Pledge' given by Durham Constabulary we are providing the community with a statement of what we are doing and what people can expect from us as we go about our day to day business. A copy of this pledge is attached for the attention of the Parish Councillors which you can take with you. The next PACT meeting for Langley Park is 09 June 2009 at 18:00.

Statistics

Total Calls to the area...	112
Compared to... Last Month...	092 - 20 more
Compared to... Leadgate...	122 - 10 less
Community Related Calls...	023
Calls regarding... Bogus Callers	000
Calls regarding... Vehicle Nuis	002

Other Comments / Actions

- No other comments or actions.

North Area Local Policing Pledge

Our policing pledge is about delivering effective valuable policing, working with partners and communities to improve our service and your quality of life.

Our Pledge to you:

We will:

1. Always treat you fairly with dignity and respect ensuring you have fair access to our services at a time that is reasonable and suitable for you.

This is at the heart of everything we are trying to achieve within the North Area BCU, linking into our Neighbourhoods Policing Model, our Citizen Focus, and ultimately the vision, to provide the best possible policing service for the North area community.

2. Provide you with information so you know who your dedicated Neighbourhood Policing Team is, where they are based, how to contact them and how to work with them.

This is a key part of our delivery of our Neighbourhood Policing model - the way we conduct our core business. Neighbourhood teams across the North Area will use posters to assist in the publication of the work they do supported by our web site that provides details on the teams and other information that the you may need.

3. Ensure your Neighbourhood Policing Team and other police patrols are visible and on your patch at times when they will be most effective and when you tell us you most need them. We will ensure your team are not taken away from neighbourhood business more than is absolutely necessary. They will spend at least 80% of their time visibly working in your neighbourhood, tackling your priorities. Staff turnover will be minimised.

Neighbourhood Policing within the North area is well developed, with a 'whole team' approach across the area working towards the priorities identified by you alongside the key crime reduction issues identified through intelligence gathering and information provided by the community. This means the focus of all our efforts is to deal with the issues that matter to you. Abstractions of officers on these teams is being kept to a minimum.

4. Respond to every message directed to our Neighbourhood Policing Teams within 24 hours and, where necessary, provide a more detailed response as soon as we can.

Working with our HQ communications staff we seek to have appropriate processes in place to make sure that our Neighbourhood Teams can be contacted and that they will respond promptly to your request.

5. Aim to answer 999 calls within 10 seconds, deploying to emergencies immediately giving an estimated time of arrival, getting to you safely, and as quickly as possible. In urban areas, we will aim to get to you within 15 minutes and in rural areas within 20 minutes.

This is a current performance indicator for the force. The control room constantly monitor their performance in this area and are working with staff from the North area to ensure that we seek to deliver these standards consistently.

6. Attend (when needed) any incident relating to a priority or if you are vulnerable or upset within 60 minutes.

We are implementing a new call handling system which identifies local priorities to our call centre staff, ensuring that these are dealt with within the required period, and providing them with additional information regarding that issue. Where appropriate we will also be happy to arrange appointments following the initial call. If you are vulnerable or upset, our staff are being trained to identify this, and to deal with you appropriately.

7. Arrange regular public meetings to agree your priorities, at least once a month, giving you a chance to meet your local team with other members of your community. These will include opportunities such as surgeries, street briefings which will be arranged to meet

local needs and requirements.

Each of the North Area Neighbourhood Teams hold regular public meetings. These are usually held in conjunction with our partners. These will be advertised through local media and posters, details can also be found on this website. Where, following specific incidents a need is identified to hold a public meeting this will be responded to promptly.

8. Provide monthly updates on progress, and on local crime and policing issues. This will include the provision of crime maps, information on specific crimes and what happened to those brought to justice, details of what action we and our partners are taking to make your neighbourhood safer and information on how your force is performing.

Monthly updates and information about what has happened to those brought to justice and what we are doing to make the area where you live even safer are a standard feature of public meetings held by the Neighbourhoods teams, and are provided verbally, through posters and via the website. The media is also used to help publicise these messages at a local level.

Durham Constabulary will publicise our crime maps on this website which we will also use to provide information on our activities within the North Area.

(Please note that as Durham County is one of the safest places in England, there can be very little deviation in some of the low crime levels around the county. Small fluctuations in actual crime numbers of crimes can therefore result in high swings in the percentage changes.)

9. If you have been a victim of crime agree with you how often you would like to be kept informed of progress in your case and for how long. You have the right to be kept informed at least every month if you wish and for as long as is reasonable.

Ensuring user satisfaction and "follow up" satisfaction has recently been set as a measure of our success for 2009/10. We will strive to improve our performance in this area and will look closely at the process we utilise to see where improvements can be made.

10. Acknowledge any dissatisfaction with the service you have received within 24 hours of reporting it to us. To help us fully resolve the matter, discuss with you how it will be handled, give you an opportunity to talk in person to someone about your concerns and agree with you what will be done about them and how quickly.

This approach should already be taken by all managers within Durham Constabulary and the North Area when receiving a complaint from a member of the public regarding the service they have received.

What can you do?

You can help us improve your neighbourhood by volunteering some of your time as a Community Volunteer, as a Special Police Constable, by joining a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or by attending and participating in the Partnership and Community Together (PACT) meetings.