

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 9th June 2009 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors A. Harling (Chairman) B. Armstrong, R. Bowyer, A. Hiles, L. Looby P. Mollon, S. Rothwell, M. Sands and M Tyler.

Apologies: Councillors C. Bloor, G. Coulson, H. Guildford, A. Mollon, County Councillor J. Armstrong

Also Present: G.F. Smith (Clerk) and L Rowland (Assistant Clerk). Colin Burton Lanchester Parish Council, Norman Peacock and Natalie Armstrong Residents

The Chairman and members allowed Mr Peacock to address the meeting regarding a letter he had sent to the Parish Council (dated 6th June 2009); regarding the provision of a football field for the Rams Head over 40s football team.

Members agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting (14th July 2009).

073/09 Declaration of Interest

None given

074/09 Police Report

Report was circulated but no Police were present

075/09 Reports

A) EQUaL Partnership

No report was given apart from the AGM to be held in July 2009

B) Parish

i) Hanging Baskets Members agreed for the hanging baskets to be displayed throughout the Parish and to be maintained (ie watered by Mr P. Snowdon).

ii) Langley Park Primary School Summer Fayre Saturday 18th July 2009 the Parent and Teachers Association had requested the Parish Council to make a Financial Contribution Members discussed this matter and suggested that the Contribution could be a Hamper for them to raffle it was agreed for the Clerk to contact the three primary schools in the Parish area regarding the donation of a hamper and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

C) County Council

No report

076/09 Minutes of the AGM held on 12th May 2009

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

077/09 Matters Arising

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Signed by the Chairman.....Page 1

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AGM 04/09 Cheque Signatories

c) Standard Life

The Clerk had written to Standard Life to change the number of Cheque Signatories (Increase the number of Councillors). Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

AGM 07/09 Review of Standard Orders

An up to date copy had been sent to all Councillors and had also been placed on the Councils Web site.

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AGM 08/09 Review of Financial Regulations

An up to date copy had been sent to all Councillors and had also been placed on the Councils Web site.

AGM 10/09 Annual Assessment Statement 2009/10

The Statement was agreed at the Parish Council Meeting dated 10th March 2009 (Minutes 042/09) a copy of which attached to these minutes and has also been placed on the Councils Web site and in the Auditor files.

AGM 11/09 Asset Register of Council property

An up to date copy had been sent to all Councillors and had also been placed on the Councils Web site.

AGM 13/09 Donations 2008/09

A copy is to be placed on the Councils Web site, Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

077/09 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 12th May 2009

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

078/09 Matters Arising

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Minute 046/09 Police report

All Saints Youth Centre Members noted that following the PACT meeting which was held prior to this meeting that arrangements were in hand to board up the All Saints Youth Centre building item to be placed on the Agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.

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047/09 Report – b) Parish

Cross Fell Allotments and Earl of Durham sites

Letters have been sent to Allotment holders requesting them to tidy up their sites. The Clerk had arranged for the rubble to be removed from the track at the Cross fell site (near the School fence), this work is now complete. The Clerk will contact Councillor Armstrong regarding road planings for the Earl of Durham Allotment site to fill in the pot holes.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

068/09 Report – b) Parish

1)EDF Energy Wind farm – Three Parish Councils meetings

The Clerk to arrange a meeting as soon as possible and to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

134/08 Planning Matters

Land at Quebec the Clerk had received a response from the Enforcement Officer of Durham County Council stating that investigations are continuing and would keep the Parish Council informed. Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

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019/09 Reports – b) Parish

2) Boulders at the Recreation Ground

The boulders have now been placed on site. It was agreed to place the Recreation Ground on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

3) Trim Allotment Paths

The work has now been completed

021/09 Correspondence

a) Dog Fouling at Langley Park Clerk to provide an updated report at the next Parish Council meeting

d) Steps detached Youth Project members agreed to invite Louise Wilson to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the work of the project. Members were made aware of the £5,000.00 which was ring-fenced for detached youth work in Langley Park had been transferred to the Steps Youth Project. Louise Wilson had also visited the Harry Guildford Centre regarding possible office accommodation but had not let the Clerk know if it was suitable this could also be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

032/09 Reports – b) Parish

i) Power of Well Being – Councillors training the Clerk was awaiting a date for the training from Steve Ragg of the County Association. Clerk to inform all Councillors who did not attend the training of the date and venue once it is arranged.

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034/09 Correspondence

c) Litter problem on the Lanchester/Langley Park Railway Walk Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting

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064/09 Resignation of Councillor Wallace Tyrie

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting (Clerk to provide a draft resignation letter for Councillor Tyrie).

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066/09 Planning Matters

c) GB/1/2009/0219/DMFP- 8 Hilltop, Esh

Clerk had not received any further details but had been informed that discussions were still ongoing with the Applicant and Planning Officer.

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066/09 Planning Matters

MH/1/2009/0133/DMFP – Land to the south of Wood view Community Centre, Langley Park the location had now been changed to the South of The Harry Guildford Centre.

Detailed drawings were circulated at the meeting (following a site visit) it was agreed to raise no objections to this development subject to Local occupiers being consulted and to their concerns (if any) been taken into consideration when making a decision on this application.

067/09 Correspondence

a) Parish Councils Committee (AAP) the Clerk reported that the Chairman (C Bloor), Vice Chairman (A. Harling) and himself would be attending the meeting and that Councillor C. Bloor had been voted as Chairman of this Committee. The Clerk had also been voted as Secretary of the Committee. The next meeting was Saturday 20th June 2009 at the Council Offices of Brandon & Byshottles Parish Council. Councillor Colin Burton introduced himself to the members as the Parish Council representative on the AAP Board a general discussion took place on the roles & responsibilities of the Parish Councils Committee and Esh Parish Council looked forward to working with Councillor Burton in the future.

b)DDC Insurance Officer – Esh play area The Clerk had instructed the contractor (Jeremy Cassidy) to treat the areas of rust on the play equipment. Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

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067/09 Correspondence

l) PACT meeting 9th June 2009 the meeting took place at Wood View Community Centre commencing at 5pm. Councillors B. Armstrong, P. Mollon and M Sands updated Members on the meeting. Members agreed to discuss the possibility of a Community Speed Watch scheme for the Parish and to place this item on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting.

m) Karen Gibson – erection of fencing at the Sir Bobby Robson Park, the work has now been completed.

s) Mr K. Turnbull 14 Springwell Avenue, Langley Park – request for funding. Awaiting financial information, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

068/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Agenda item no 13

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070/09 Area Action Partnership

Agenda item no 15

079/09 Financial Statement

Members agreed the details of the financial statement (voucher 34 to 57) and they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk action in issuing cheque in advance of the meeting. The Clerk/Assistant Clerk are to produce an updated income/expenditure/budget statement for the financial year 2009/10 period ending 31st May 2009.

080(1)/09 Planning Matters

A

No. MH/1/2009/0252/DMVP (RESUBMISSION)

APPLICANT MR. S. GHAFOR

PROPOSED APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 2 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 1/2006/0178 TO NOT COMPLY WITH CONDITION OF PREVIOUS APPLICATION FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS AND ERECTION OF 8 FLATS AND 1 OFFICE

AT FORMER HIPPODROME BUILDING, HEDLEY TERRACE, LANGLEY PARK

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

080(2)/09 Correspondence

Items for discussion:-

a) Mrs Amanda Hurworth, 75 The Crescent, Langley Park – Application for funding for the Goodwill Association. A letter with a copy Bank Statement had been received to apply for funding towards the trip for senior citizens on 3rd August 2009.

Members agreed to await a copy of the income/expenditure/balance sheet for the organisation before making a decision on the application.

b) Browell Smith & Co Solicitors – Claim for noise induced hearing loss; Mr Thomas Huscroft.

Members agreed for the necessary paperwork to be sent to the Councils Insurers (Zurich) and for a note to be added on the covering letter stating that the Council do not accept any liability for this claim. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

c) CDALC – Double taxation grant for 2010/2011; collection of data.

Members agreed for the Clerk to respond to this request and provide the necessary data/costs of budgets to the appropriate service delivery headings.

Items for information:-

d) AMC Bank Ltd – Lloyds Bank Group; latest developments

e) CE Electric UK – Priority treatment during a power cut (information leaflet).

f) Local Councils update – June 2009; issue no 116

g) The Derwentside Partnership – Legacy document

h) Butterwick Hospice Newsletter; spring/summer 2009

i) CDALC – Durham Association Newsletter; May 2009; issue no 25

081/09 Annual Audit 2008/09

a) Statement of Accounts

Members agreed the figures showing on the statement of accounts for year ending 31st March 2009 (including the income & expenditure statements and the Bank balances report) and for the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to sign the necessary documents.

b) Annual Governance Statement

Members agreed to answer all questions with a yes and for the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer to sign the necessary document.

c) Report of Internal Auditor

Members agreed to accept the report of the Internal Auditor.

082/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The Clerk presented to members a suggested trail period for opening/closing of the gates at the Sir Bobby Robson Park. The gates would be locked at 9pm each night on a Friday Saturday and Sunday by Mr Jeremy Cassidy the gates would be opened at 8am on the morning of Saturday Sunday and Monday by Mr David Rider. The gates would remain open (24 hours) for the remainder of the week. This work would be carried out on a voluntary basis, Members agreed to a trail period of 6 months and for the Clerk to produce a report for member's consideration. Members also agreed for the grass cutting in the park area to be given to the present Council's grass cutting contractor (Wharton Landscape) and for the grass to be cut in line with other play areas within the Parish (ie once a fortnight).

Members also agreed for the litter picking contract to be given to Durham County Council to litter pick and empty the litter bins on a weekly basis and that Mr Jeremy Cassidy be retained to do an ad-hoc litter pick on a weekly basis as and when required.

Members also agreed for EQUaL to provide a Financial Statement for the organisation in particular the Income/Expenditure for the Sir Bobby Robson Park. Also, to let the Clerk know of any funding remaining in the accounts that could be used for ongoing maintenance/repairs at the play area.

083/09 Langley Park Library

No update/report at the meeting, this item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.

084/09 Area Action Partnership (AAP)

The next meeting of the Parish Councils Committee is 20th June 2009; no further details have been received from Durham County Council regarding the next Board meeting of the Area Action Partnership.

Concerns were raised on the timescale for the publication of the agenda (it may be only 5 days notice) of the Board meeting. Further discussions are to take place with County Council Officers. This item is to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

085/09 Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 14th July 2009 at Ushaw College commencing at 7pm.

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 8.30pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 7