

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 8th September 2009 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors C. Bloor (Chairman) B. Armstrong, G. Coulson, H. Guildford, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, S. Rothwell, M. Sands,

Apologies: Councillors A.Harling, L.Looby, County Councillor Campbell, PCSO Pearsall.

Also Present: County Councillor Joe Armstrong, G.F.Smith (Clerk) and L. Rowland (Assistant Clerk). Louise Wilson, (Steps Detached Youth Worker) and Kegan Harris, Kristin Shale, Malcolm Berry. (Residents)

Members, Officers and members of the public observed one minute's silence in respect of Sir Bobby Robson who died recently.

106/09 Matters raised by a resident

Mr Malcolm Berry raised the following concerns:-

A) Road markings at the zebra crossings in Langley Park have not be replaced following the laying of an Anti-Skid surface. County Councillor Armstrong would contact the DCC Officer.

B) State of the bus shelters in Langley Park. The survey had been completed and a copy of the report is available in the Parish's Office. County Councillor Armstrong informed the meeting that the works were to commence soon.

107/09 Presentation to the Parish Council by Louise Wilson, Steps Detached Youth Project, Esh Ward.

Louise informed the meeting of the work she and the young people were carrying out in the Parish area. Members raised concerns as to the £5200 that the County Council had ring-fenced for youth work in Langley Park following closure of the Youth Centre. Louise would take this matter up with her manager and County Councillor Armstrong would discuss this with the County Officer. (Dave Emmerson)

Kegan Harris handed a letter to the Chairman regarding an application for funding for a project he was involved in. Members agreed for the application to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting. Suggest he applies to County Durham Foundation.

108/09 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Bloor Agenda item 5B (c) – Inspection of allotment sites.

Councillor Sands Agenda item 10 (d) – Planning matters

109/09 Police Report

No report received

110/09 Reports

A) EQUaL Partnership Meetings

The Partnership hope to become part of the Parish Council's Partnership Sub-Committee.

B) Parish

i) Future of Esh Leaves

Item to be discussed at a special meeting to be held on 13th October 2009 commencing at 6.30pm in the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park.

ii) Proposed Publication of Book “Bobby Robson – The Langley Park Years”

Members agreed not to publish the book (questions were raised as to this not being a core business of the Parish Council).

iii) Inspection of Allotments

Members agreed to meet on Saturday 3rd October 2009 commencing at 10am (meeting point The Harry Guildford Centre).

C) County

County Councillor Armstrong reported on the following:-

i) Quebec Play Area – Car Parking

Estimated costs £42,000 funding allocated £38,000

Members agreed to donate £4,000 towards this project subject to there being no ongoing revenue cost for the Parish Council.

ii) Langley Park needs survey (including the “Tute”)

iii) Footpath at Esh Laude (commencing October)

iv) CCTV at Sir Bobby Robson Park.

v) Football coaching scheme at the Sports&Social Club, Langley Park.

Equipment costs £610 (Councillor Armstrong donated £300).

vi) Dog Fouling.

vii) All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park – awaiting result of bat survey.

111/09 Minutes of the ordinary Meeting held on 14th July 2009

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

112/09Matters arising

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088/09 Rams Head Over 40's football team

The Clerk reported:-

A) That the football pitch at the Recreation Ground, Langley Park could not be repaired in time for use in the 2009/10 season. Clerk to report costs to the next Parish Council meeting.

B) That the football team had booked a football pitch at Ushaw Moor (costing £600 and County Councillor Armstrong had donated £300).

Members agreed for the request for funding to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting (Clerk to produce an updated report on donations).

089/09 Langley Park Sports&Social football team

The Clerk reported that the team had booked a football pitch at Bearpark. Members agreed for the Clerk to release the cheque (£500) to the football team.

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092/09 Reports – A) EQUaL Partnership

Agenda Item No.18

092/09 Reports – B) Parish

i) Summer holiday activities – awaiting report from Simply Sport Ltd, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting

ii) Esh Leaves – Agenda Item no. 17

Page 3**092/09 Reports – B) Parish**

vii) Planning Matters – Meeting arranged for Thursday 17TH September 2009 at the Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm

Viii) Citizens Advice Bureau – Agenda Item No.16

AGM 04/09 Cheque Signatories

Awaiting details from Standard Life, Clerk to chase this up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

047/09 Reports – B) Parish

Earl of Durham Allotments – Security gates

Contractor awaiting delivery of padlocks and keys, Clerk to chase this up and report to the next Parish Council meeting

Page 4**068/09 Reports – B) Parish**

1) EDF Energy Wind Farm – three Parish Council meeting, Clerk awaiting response from Burnhope and Lanchester Parish Councils.

021/09 Correspondence

A) Dog fouling at Langley Park – Doggie Bags issued from the office and DCC had placed a number of warning notices though out the Parish.

B) Steps Detached Youth Project – Agenda Item No.2

034/09 Correspondence

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

Following the article in Esh Leaves only one volunteer had been received (Councillor Bloor).The Meeting had been informed of a sponsored litter pick being organised by young people in Langley Park (Kegan Harris).

064/09 Resignation of Councillor Tyrrie

The Clerk was awaiting details from Durham County Council, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

066/09 Planning Matters – GB/1/2009/0219/DMFP – (8 Hill Top, Esh)

Clerk reported that the application had been approved under Officer Delegated Powers

067/09 Correspondence

B) DCC; Insurance Officer, Play Equipment at Esh

The Clerk reported that in order to carry out the work the contractor needed to close the Play Area for two days. Members agreed that the Play Area could be closed for two days and relevant notices to be displayed.

080/09 Planning Matters – MN/1/2009/0252/DMFP (Former Hippodrome Building, Hedley Terrace, Langley Park)

No further details received, Clerk to chase this up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Page 5**080/09 (1) Correspondence**

Goodwill Associations, Langley Park – Application for funding.

The Clerk had met with the organiser and discussed the Association's income and expenditure. Members agreed to donate £200 (under powers section 137 Local Government Act 1972).

B) Browell Smith & Co Solicitors

Agenda item No. 21

081/09 Annual Audit Report 2008/09

Agenda Item No.9

096/09 Income/Expenditure Statements

Problems within the computer program are being attended to. Statements will be sent to Members as soon as possible. A statement for the end of September will be produced for the Parish Council meeting in October.

Page6**Page7****098/09 Correspondence**

B) CDALC – Grant Scheme from Northern Gas Networks for Environmental Projects. Clerk to meet with Councillor Hiles and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

D) Application for funding for Langley Park WMC football club

Financial information was circulated at the meeting; it was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Treasurer of the football club and to report to the next Parish Council meeting. Clerk to produce a report on donations agreed for 2009/10.

Page8**098/09 Correspondence**

I)DCC (Asset Management) – Disposal of allotment sites owned by DCC.

A meeting has been arranged for Friday 9th October 2009 at 10.00am in the Harry Guildford Centre. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

099/09 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Agenda Item No.12

100/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Agenda Item No.13

101/09 Langley Park Library

Agenda Item No.14

102/09 Area Action Partnership

Agenda Item No.15

Page 9**113/09 Financial Statement and report**

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (Voucher Nos 77 to 111) and they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheque in advance of the meeting.

114/09 Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2009.

Members received a copy of the External Auditor's report and noted the comment "The Council made a payment that they did not have the Power to authorise; this payment is therefore Ultra Vires."Members also noted that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been on display on the Council's notice boards for 14 days from 11th August 2009.

The members agreed to:-

- A) Accept the External Auditor's comment and to introduce a grants policy which would maintain compliance with statutory regulations regarding payment of gifts to individuals.
- B) Implement the grant's policy circulated at the meeting, copy to place on the Council Policy file, Auditors file and the Web site.

115/09 Planning Matters

1. Applications already dealt with under delegated powers.

A) GB/1/2009/0415/DMFP – Mr L Ballantine

Erection of single storey front extension at 2 Eppleton Close, Langley Park.

Decision – no objections.

B) GB/1/2009/0360/DMFP – Mr A Smith

Erection of two storey rear extension and first floor side extension at the Old Police House, Front Street, Esh.

Decision no objections.

2 Applications considered by the Parish Council.

C) MH/1/2009/0429/DMAD – Orchid Food Programme Delivery.

Advertising consent for the erection of 2 illuminated fascia signs and 1 illuminated projecting sign at the Co-operative, Front Street, Langley Park,

Decision: Members requested further information on the projecting sign, Clerk to contact the Planning Officer and inform Council Members of the details.

D) GB/1/2009/0466/DMFP – Mrs P Griggs

Erection of replacement two storey rear extension at 1 Green Court, Esh.

Decision: no objections

116/09 Correspondence**Items for discussion:-**

A) Mr K Turnbull, 14 Springwell Avenue, Langley Park – Confirmation of pitch at Bearpark Colliery Welfare Ground for the Langley Park Sports & Social Football Club.

Decision: Members noted that the Football Club had obtained a pitch at Bearpark Colliery Welfare Ground. Members agreed for the Clerk to release the cheque (£500) to the Langley Park Sports and Social Football Club.

B) Children in the way, St Paul's, Waterhouses with Esh Winning Methodist Church (Jackie Turnbull, 41 Barrasford Road, Durham) – Application for funding.

Decision: as the application was for the activities of a Religious Organisation the Council could not fund this request.

C) Witton Gilbert Parish Council – Renewable Energy Services for Community Group Meeting at Cooper Hall, Witton Gilbert on 5th October 2009 at 7pm.

Decision: Members to contact the Clerk if they wished to attend this meeting.

D) County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership – Training update – August 2009; Training sessions for Clerk's and Councillors for September/October; cost £27 per person per module.

Decision: Members to contact the Clerk if they wished to attend the training sessions.

E) CDALC – Nominations for positions on the Executive Committee; closing date 25th September 2009. **Decision: Members agreed to support Councillor Terry Batson as a candidate for Vice President of the Association.**

F) DCC/Golders Associates – Durham County Strategic Flood Risk Assessment; highlight incidents/problems aware of on enclosed map. **Decision: the Clerk noted details from Members and would respond to this request for information.**

G) NHS County Durham Stakeholder Events- Durham 28th September 2009 at the Auditorium, The Durham Centre; Belmont Industrial Estate from 12.45 to 4pm (lunch prior to event). **Decision: Members to contact the Clerk if they wished to attend this meeting.**

H) DCC; Chairman – Attendance at Public Events. **Decision: Members noted the contents of the letter.**

I) DCC – Quotation for Christmas Lighting Works; Esh £498.00 + VAT; Quebec £498.00 + VAT and Langley Park £1458.00 plus VAT. **Decision: Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.**

J) CDALC – More Power for Parish/Town Councils; Campaign by Local Work for an amendment bill to the Sustainable Communities Act; Action – your help needed.

Decision: Members agreed to respond to the request.

2 Item for information:-

K) CDALC – Local Government Review update (AAP’S; charter; devolution of services; Winter Maintenance Strategy and Service; Double Taxation and potential allowance rates for Local Councillors).

L) N-Power – Electricity Contract Extension and price review (Christmas Lighting).

M) DCC, Children & Young People Services – Adjudicators Decision regarding Community Secondary School Admission criteria for 2010 and beyond.

N) AMC Bank – Payment Services Regulations.

O) Co-operative Financial Services – Merger with Britannia on 1st August 2009.

P) Derwentside Homes – Moving to Greengate House, Amos Drive, Greencroft Industrial Estate, Stanley County Durham DH9 7YE. Telephone number remains the same (08458 505 600).

Q) The Rt Hon. Hillary Armstrong MP – Protecting Local Council Investments in Icelandic Banks.

R) The County Durham Sustainability and Environment Partnership Newsletter; September 2009; issue no. 41.

S) The Link Newsletter; June 2009; issue no.3

T) Local Council Update; August 2009; issue no.118

U) Local Council Update; September 2009; issue no.119

V) Durham Association Newsletter; July 2009; issue no.26

W) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine; September 2009; issue no.65

X) Samaritans of Central Durham – AGM Thursday 8th October 2009 at 7.30pm Rugby Club, Durham City.

117/09 Recreation Ground Langley Park

Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Councillor Hiles reported that the footpaths clearance was still outstanding and a number of compliments had been received about the information boards.

118/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The Clerk reported that he had received a number of complaints regarding a quad bike driving in the park area and a tent pitched on the ground outside the park (on Parish Council land). Members requested the Clerk to:-

A) Write to the Police informing them that the Council do not allow the above two incidents on Parish Council land and for them to take the necessary action to stop it happening again.

B) Arrange signs to be erected at the park “no quad bikes allowed on this area” and “no camping allowed on this area.”

119/09 Langley Park Library

Repairs to the building have been completed and are subject to an inspection by County Council Officers. The Library is expected to be furnished and operational by Christmas 2009.

120/09 Area Action Partnerships

Next meeting of the AAP Board is 9th September 2009. Next meeting of the Parish Councils Committee (PCC) is 19th September 2009.

121/09 Citizens Advice Bureau

Members agreed for the Clerk to contact the CAB to offer an area within the Parish Office for them to hold information sessions for residents of the Parish.

122/09 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

Durham County Council were awaiting the results of the recent bat survey carried out on the premises, once complete work can commence on the demolition.

123/09 Partnership Sub- Committee

Clerk to contact members of the EQUaL Partnership (Richard Bowyer, Alison Hiles, Michelle Lindfield and Michael Peers) and Members of the Partnership Sub-Committee to set-up an initial meeting to discuss the way forward.

124/09 Date and time of meeting

The next meeting of the Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 13th October 2009 in The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park, commencing at 7.00pm.

Meeting finished at 9.20pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 7