

## ESH PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009 commencing at 7.00pm**

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

**Apologies:** Councillors L.Looby, M .Tyler, PC J. Laws, PCSO A. Joyce

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

**Members, Officers and County Councillors observed one minute's silence in respect of Councillor Harry Guildford.**

#### **163/09 Declaration of Interest**

None received.

#### **164/09 Police Report**

Report was circulated at the meeting.

#### **165/09 Reports**

##### **1. Parish Report**

No report

##### **2) County Council**

**County Councillor J. Armstrong reported on the following:-**

- i) Additional 3 litter bins for the Parish
- ii) Quebec Play Area – works almost complete (road markings to do).
- iii) Land at Quebec – appeal dismissed.
- iv) Planning approval for building works at the Sports & Social Club, Langley Park.
- v) Youth provision in Langley Park.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman instructed the Clerk to read out a letter received from Keegan Harris, 84 Hilltop View, Langley Park.

**Members agreed for the Chairman and Clerk to meet and send an appropriate reply to Keegan and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

Also discussed at this point was an e-mail from Councillor Barbara Armstrong relating to young people using Wood View Community Centre on Tuesday and Friday evenings. The Police had secured funding of £1000 to pay for the hire of a room in the hall two nights a week until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.

The Police had stated that a PCSO would be available on a Friday night to assist with supervisory functions.

Equipment would be required (television, wii, dvd and other equipment) at an estimated cost of £2000.

County Councillor Joe Armstrong suggested a Partnership arrangement to pay for the equipment. (County, Parish and EQUaL).

**Members agreed to match fund the offer of County Councillor Armstrong's £750. Councillors Bowyer and Hiles proposed to offer £500 from the EQUaL Partnership Fund, therefore raising the required amount to purchase the equipment required for use at Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park.**

**County Councillor Campbell reported on the following:-**

- i) Funding Issues
- ii) Litter Bins
- iii) Consett Sports Centre
- iv) Land at Quebec
- v) Holocaust Day (27<sup>th</sup> January 2010)
- vi) Future of the Civil Centre at Consett

**166/09 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

Amendment Page 5 minute 152/09

**A) Damage to Interpartion Board should read A) Damage to Interpretation Board.**

Amendment Page 6 minute 158/09

**Councillor Bowyer should read Councillor Bowyer.**

Subject to the above amendment the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**167/09 Clerk's Report**

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**145/09 Report – 1.Parish**

Chairman of the Parish Council

Councillor Allan Harling signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman, countersigned by the Clerk and Proper Officer and accepted by Members of the Parish Council.

Vacancy for Vice Chairman

Agenda Item No.7

Parish Walk

The provisional date fixed for this event was Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. Clerk to confirm details with Councillor Bloor and to let all Members know of the arrangements.

Community Engagement – Statement of Intent

Agenda Item No.9

Village Green at Esh

The Clerk reported that he had received three quotations for this work.

Members agreed to accept the quotations from Charleton Fencing (£15.82 per metre) and for the Clerk to arrange for the work to be carried out as soon as possible.

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**128/09 Report – A) Parish**

1) Allotment condition of tenancy.

**Clerk to contact other Parish Councils and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

2) The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park.

Awaiting response from Derwentside Homes, **Clerk to chase this up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

5) Christmas Celebration Event.

Councillor Hiles reported that the organiser was ill and unable to make any further arrangement, it had been agreed to cancel the event.

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**088/09 Rams Head over 40's Football Team**

Copies of the latest Bank Statement and Income/Expenditure Account for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009 were circulated at the meeting.

Members agreed to donate £100 (under power – section 19 Local Government (Miscellaneous provisions) Act 1976

**AGM 04/09 Cheque Signatories – Standard Life**

Form has been received from Standard Life and Mr M.Ackroyd (Assistant Clerk) was sorting this out.

As Mr Ackroyd was retiring on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 Members agreed that his name should be removed from any authorised signatory with the following financial institutions:-

Co-operative Bank Plc.

AMC Bank.

Standard Life.

Clerk/cheque signatories to make the necessary arrangements.

**047/09 Reports – B) Parish**

Earl of Durham allotments – security gates

**Clerk to chase up this outstanding work with NJC Wrought Iron and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

**067/09 Correspondence**

B) DCC – Insurance Officer – play equipment at Esh

**Clerk to chase up this outstanding work with NJC Wrought Iron and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

**080/09 Planning Matters**

Former Hippodrome building at Langley Park.

Clerk reported that the application had agreed by Officer Delegation.

**It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain details from the Planning Officer and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

**115/09 Planning Matters**

C) MH/1/2009/0429/DMAD – Co-operative, Langley Park (advertising consent).

No further update, **Clerk to chase this up with the Planning Officer and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

**118/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park**

Notices

**Clerk to chase this up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

**121/09 Citizens Advice Bureau**

The Clerk had written to the CAB and had received a contact telephone number for the Manager to discuss the use of the office for outreach sessions by the organisation.

**Clerk to report any progress to the next Parish Council meeting.**

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**135/09 Correspondence**

F) CDALC – Mapping Ordnance Survey.

**Clerk to chase up response from DCC and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

G) CDYOS – Projects.

The Assistant Clerk (Lynne Rowland) had met with an Officer from the Youth Offending Service and agreed a number of areas to tidy up :-

Recreation Ground, Langley Park.

Area around the Harry Guildford Centre.

Kaysburn Road (work already commenced).

Road leading from Sir Bobby Robson Park to Earl of Durham Allotments.

Footpath from Garden Avenue to Earl of Durham Allotments.

Footpath from Cross Keys, Esh to Low Moor Road, Langley Park.

“Silly Steps” from Langley Park to Esh Hill top.

Railway Walk from Langley Park to Lanchester.

K) Durham Biodiversity Partnership.

**Clerk to chase this up (more details) and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

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**152/09 Recreation Ground Langley Park**

Agenda Item No.14

**153/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park**

Clerk to chase up materials with Wicksteads Ltd (securing bolts and treads) and for NJC Wrought Iron to complete the work as soon as possible.

**154/09 Langley Park Library**

Agenda item no.17

**155/09 Area Action Partnership**

Agenda Item No.15

**156/09 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park**

Letter to be sent to DCC/Lord Lambton Estate regarding the untidy state of the site and suggest that the Probation Service/Youth Offending Service may be able to assist with this task.

**157/09 Christmas Lights at Esh, Langley Park and Quebec**

The Clerk reported that the three trees were now on site and were fully operating.

There are however a number of problems with lighting-up times which the Clerk will discuss with the County Council.

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**158/09 Councillor Vacancies on the Parish Council**

Agenda Item No.8

**159/09 Partnership sub Committee**

Agenda Item No.18

**168/09 Appointment of Vice Chairman**

Members agreed to appoint Councillor Paula Mollon as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the remainder of this term of office (2009/10).

**169/09 Councillor Vacancies**

Members agreed to Co-opt the following candidates:-

- 1) Mr Malcolm Gordon, Craiglyne, Esh (Quebec Ward).
- 2) Mr Malcolm Berry, 4 Hazelwood Court, Langley Park (Langley Park Ward).

The above two Candidates are to be invited to the next Parish Council meeting.

Members noted the following:-

- A) There still remains a vacancy for a Councillor for Ushaw Ward.
- B) Following the death of Councillor Harry Guildford a further vacancy exists on the Parish Council for the Langley Park Ward. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact the Returning Officer (DCC) to obtain advice on this present vacancy and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**170/09 Community Engagement – Statement of Intent**

Members agreed to adopt this Policy document.

Clerk to chase up the outstanding training on the Power of Well Being with Steve Ragg (CDALC) and to contact the Councillors who require this training (Councillors Coulson, Bowyer, Looby and the new Co-opted Members) with an appropriate date in December/January.

**171/09 Allotment Rent 2011**

Members were reminder that allotment holders must receive 12 months notice of any rent increases for allotments, the present charge for 2009 was £25, the rent was agreed to be increased to £27.50 as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010.

**Members agreed to increase the rent to £30.00 per allotment plot as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011.**

Clerk to arrange to inform all allotment holders.

**172/09 Financial Statement and Report**

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 153 to 175)

And they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the next financial report for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 would be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting (12<sup>th</sup> January 2010). Each budget heading would show allocated costs (i.e. Environment would include allotment allocation costs etc) where appropriate.

**173/09 Planning Matters**

A) MS/1/ 2009/0666/DMFP – Mr A Leadbeater

Erection of two – storey rear extension at 26 Middridge Road, Langley Park.

**Decision – no objections.**

**174/09 Correspondence**

**Items for Discussion:-**

A) DCC – County of Durham School Benevolent Fund; application for funding.

The Clerk had requested financial information.

Members agreed to await the details before making any decision on funding.

B) DCC – Children and Young Peoples Services; Public consultation on admission arrangements 2011/12; response required by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010.

Clerk to copy the document and sent to all Councillors,

C) Colt Project Services Ltd – Risk Assessment Systems etc.

Clerk to file documents and discuss with the Internal Auditor.

**Items for Information:-**

D) Clerk and Councils Direct Magazine; November 2009; issue No66.

E) Local Council Review Magazine; winter 2009.

**175/09 Recreation Ground Langley Park**

Councillor Hiles update the meeting on the proposed work for the Recreation Ground, Langley Park.

Funding application were being completed for Natural England, quotations were being obtained for upgrading the football pitch, it was hoped to prepare a report for the Trustees in January 2010.

**176/09 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee**

Members were circulated a letter from Litterfree Durham CPRE regarding a project of joint working with the AAP on working together towards making streets cleaner in the area. The project would work with local Schools in the Parish.

**Members agreed to support this project.**

Members were circulated a suggested method of contribution towards the cost of purchasing speed visors (by the AAP) £2500 by the ten Parish Councils in the Mid Durham Rural West AAP.

Members agreed to support the electorates band method.

The Chairman updated Members on the work of the PCC and that the next meeting would be held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 10.00am in the Village Hall, New Brancepeth.

The next board meeting for the AAP as following:-

20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 commencing 6.30pm

24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 commencing 6.30pm

17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 commencing 6.30pm

21<sup>st</sup> April 2010 commencing 6.30pm

19<sup>th</sup> May 2010 commencing 6.30pm

**177/09 All Saints Youth Centre Langley park**

Demolition of the centre building is scheduled for March 2010

**178/09 Library at Langley Park**

Work in ongoing and the building is scheduled to open in January 2010

**179/09 Partnership Sub Committee**

Awaiting financial details from the EQUaL Partnership (Councillor Bowyer).

**180/09 Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010

In the Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park, Commencing 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  
DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.**

The meeting finished at 8.45 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page7