

**ESH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in, The New Parish Hall, Front Street, Esh, on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010 commencing at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors A. Mollon (Chairman), B. Armstrong, M. Berry, C. Bloor, M. Gordon, A. Harling, S. Maddison, P. Mollon, R. Partridge, S.Rothwell, M. Sands.

**Apologies:** Councillors R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, M. Tyler, County Councillor M. Campbell and PCSO Anthony Joyce.

**Also Present:** Graham Davison (DCC), Terry Coult (DCC), Kevin Elliott (Resident), Anna Pethybridge (Resident), Philip Pethybridge (Resident), County Councillors J.Armstrong and G.F Smith (Clerk)

**116/10 Declaration of Acceptance of Office (2010/2011)**

The Chairman (Councillor A. Mollon) signed The Acceptance of Office of Chairman of the Parish Council, witnessed by the Proper Officer (Parish Clerk) and accepted by all Councillors.

**117/10 Declaration of Interest**

Councillors Bloor and Gordon declared an interest in Agenda item No.12A – Clerk’s report (inspection of allotments).

**118/10 All Saints youth Centre, Langley Park**

Mr Coult (DCC) updated Members on the present situation regarding the building on the site. Bats are still in the building, a licence is required from Natural England. The owner (Langley Park Church Council) has to apply and sign the licence application. The licence will only be granted if the conditions include for a roost to be rebuilt in a suitable/local position, also this roost must be taken down immediately and restored straight away. It could take up to three months for Natural England to issue the licence.

Mr Elliott indicated that the Reverend Pears would sign the application for a licence from Natural England.

Mr Davison (DCC) was obtaining statements from Police and Fire Service regarding the building being dangerous/public concerns.

Surveyors have confirmed that the building is not unsafe and should remain secure (i.e. boarded up). The County Council have been unable to trace the original Bat Survey that was carried out prior to Planning application.

Members wished to see some sort of progress on the demolition of the building.

It was agreed that the Officers from the County Council would:-

- A) Try to locate the original Bat Survey.
- B) Work with the Church Council to complete the Licence application to Natural England.
- C) To provide an update to the Parish Council on a regular basis.

**119/10 Community Garden at Railway Street, Langley Park**

Mr Pethybridge addressed the Council on proposed renovation works to areas in and around Railway Street, Langley Park. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council did not own the land being discussed but was aware of a possible consortium of residents and other local people who formed a group some years ago. Concerns were raised on carrying out proposed works to properties without the owners consent (legal aspects i.e. trespass). It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Councillor Tyler and for them to contact Mr Pethybridge to make any progress on this matter.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**120/10 Minutes of the Annual General meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**121/10 Matters Arising (non agenda items)**

Assets register of Council property as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 (AGM 11/10)

Copy available for inspection in the Parish Office.

**122/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

**123/10 Matters Arising (non agenda items)****Page 2****Clerk's Report (044/10)**

2) Containers at Quebec

No further progress, Clerk to chase up with DCC

**Clerk's Report (046/10)****1. The Harry Guildford Centre – Re- organisation of Office****Replacement of IT Equipment.**

The Clerk reported that the IT Officer and Assistant Clerk were to complete a funding application form for new desks and IT equipment. If successful this should allow for some office re-organisation to allow the IT suite to be used for meetings.

Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

**Parish Paths Partnership Grant**

Clerk to meet Elaine Field (DCC) on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May to complete the application form. Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

**Earl of Durham Allotments – Security Gates (047/09)**

Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and report any progress to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Play Equipment at Esh – Repairs (067/09)**

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

**Page 3****Citizens Advice Bureau – Use of the Harry Guildford Centre (121/09)**

First session due to take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 10 to 11am, monthly sessions to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Clerk to provide details on a monthly basis to each Parish Council meeting.

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**Correspondence (099/10)**

A) Councillors Register of Interests (new forms)

All forms have now been sent to all Councillors. Chairman reminded Members to complete the forms and send to the Clerk as soon as possible.

C) Civil Parking Enforcement

Clerk to arrange for the Officer to attend a Parish Council meeting.

**Power of Well Being (100/10)**

Certificates of Training

The Chairman presented each Councillor with their certificate. It was agreed for the Clerk to purchase frames for the certificates and place them on a wall in the Parish Office.

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**Litter problems in Langley Park 104/10**

Clerk to chase up this matter with the Youth Engagement Service/Probation Service and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Parish Plan (106/10)**

Needs Survey

The survey was being delivered and the return date was 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Clerk to invite the consultant to the next Parish Council meeting.

**124/10 Minutes of the trustees Langley Park Miners Welfare Institute and Recreation Ground Charity meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

**125/10 Matters arising (non agenda items)**

7. Update report (revised)

Copy of the revised report circulated at the meeting and agreed by all Members present.

**126/10 Police Report**

**Traffic Calming Measures (066/10)**

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

**Police Report (095/10)**

Letter to Inspector Turner

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

**Police Report for May/June 2010**

The report prepared by PCSO Joyce was circulated at the meeting. Members hoped that the Police would attend the next Parish Council meeting.

**127/10 Reports**

**1. Litter Bin at Quebec (068/10)**

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

**3. Inspection of Allotments (068/10)**

Clerk to arrange a suitable date and inform all Councillors (Saturday 3rd July 2010 commencing at 10.00am at the Parish Office).

**5. Luncheon Club at Langley Park (068/10)**

Clerk to check with Officers of the County Council and report any progress to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Report – Parish (096/10)**

IT Equipment from DCC

Clerk to make arrangements with County Councillor Armstrong and report any progress to the next Parish Council meeting.

**A) Parish Report**

1) Seat at Kaysburn Road, Langley Park.

The present seat has been vandalised and upon inspection it was found to be unsafe. It was agreed to replace the seat, Clerk to obtain prices and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2) Flower Tubs on the Village Green at Esh.

The Clerk reported that five flower tubs were in need of replacement on the Village Green at Esh. Members agreed not to replace the damaged flower tubs.

**B) County Council**

County Councillor Campbell – no report

County Councillor Armstrong reported:-

1) Needs Survey for Langley Park

2) Sir Bobby Robson Park

3) Library – legal work ongoing

4) Spending Reviews

5) School Academies

**C) Members Reports**

**Reports (068/10)**

1a) Roadside litter at Esh

Clerk to chase this matter up with the Probation Service/Youth Engagement Service and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

1b) Parking Sign at Quebec Play Area

Clerk to chase up the sign with the supplier and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Reports (096/10)**

Improvement/Appearance of Langley Park (Councillor Berry)

Members agreed to set up a small working group to look at this suggestion and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Although the initial meeting would be considering Langley Park it would be extended throughout the Parish.

A) Rubbish at the rear of the Parish Council Office

Clerk to chase this matter up with the Probation Service/Youth Engagement Service and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

B) Graffiti on the garage door

Clerk to chase this matter up with Derwentside Homes and report to the next Parish council meeting.

**Members Report (Councillor Sands)**

## A) Christmas Trees and Lights

Members agreed for the Clerk to obtain price for supplying living trees at Esh and Quebec and also look at alternative site at Langley Park for a living tree (or alternative to be installed).

## B) Committee Meeting

Members agreed for the Clerk to consult with other Clerks to obtain how other Parish Council use the committee system and to prepare a report for the next Parish Council meeting.

**128/10 Annual Return for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010**

As the Internal Auditor was unable to complete his report until 9<sup>th</sup> June, Members agreed to defer this item to a special Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm

**129/10 Financial Statement and Report**

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 25 to 44) and that they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

**130/10 Correspondence****Items for discussion:-**

A) DCC – Parish and Town Councils Conference 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at County Hall, Durham (3 to 6pm).

Members to inform the Clerk if they wished to attend this event by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

B) DCC – Overview Scrutiny working group; reports on winter maintenance, Clerk to arrange for the reports to be sent to all Councillors via e-mail.

C) DCC –County Durham Development Plan; consultation period and drop-in road shows.

The County Council will be arranging a special event for Parish Councils through the Parish Councils Committee. Clerk to inform all Councillors when arrangements have been finalised.

D) DCC – 2010 County Durham Survey of residents; to be carried out during May/June 2010; 6500 residents.

Members noted the contents of the letter.

E) Councillor Colin Burton – feedback on AAP, details in the Parish Office.

F) Simply Soccer/Alan Cassidy – summer programme of soccer coaching in Langley Park during the school summer holidays (1 week in August).

Clerk to obtain further details including financial information and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

G) Co-operative Bank PLC – Change of Signatories

It was agreed to remove the following ex Councillors from the list of Authorise Signatories Mrs M.D.Cumming, Ms Ruth Hughes, Mr B. Barron, Mr H. Guildford, Mr N. Gregory, Mr G Blacklock and Mr M.G.Ackroyd (Assistant Clerk).

It was further agreed to add Councillor M. Berry to the list of Authorise Signatories.

The Clerk to make the necessary arrangement with the Co-operative Bank.

**Item for information:-**

- H) Natural England – advice on entry level stewardship; 15<sup>th</sup> June at Barnard Castle and 22<sup>nd</sup> June at Easington.
- I) DCC – temporary road closure; C17 Quebec to Hill Top
- J) DCC – link 2; new dial-a-ride minibus service started 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.
- K) CE Electric UK – reporting of problems to equipment etc.
- L) CDALC – free access to Ordnance Survey Maps.
- M) CDALC – Titles of Dignitary: - Local Councils may now exercise powers to confer the titles of “Honorary Freeman” or “Honorary Freewoman” to persons of distinction and those who in the Council’s opinion have rendered eminent services to the Council’s area. Clerk to obtain further information and report to the next Parish Council meeting (Members may consider Lady Robson for the title of Honary Freewoman of Esh Parish).
- N) CDALC – NALC e - bulletin (major new powers, sustainable communities act amendment bill, new body to oversee Local Government Boundaries, digital Ordnance Survey maps).
- O) Community information regarding community Speed Watch.
- P) CDALC – County Councils Definitive Map accessed.
- Q) Durham County Badger group – poster.
- R) DCC – our life magazine; June 2010; issue No.3
- S) County Durham link magazine; April 2010; issue No.6
- T) Local Councils update; June 2010; issue No.128.

**131/10 Recreation Ground, Langley Park**

No further update on the improvements to the old football pitch.  
Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

**132/10 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee**

Dates of next board meeting:-

- 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010; 6pm start
- 15<sup>th</sup> September 2010; 6pm start
- 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010; 6pm start
- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011; 6pm start
- 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011; 6pm start

Next forum event:-

- 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010; 6pm start at Lanchester Primary School.

**133/10 Langley Park Library**

Update report by County Councillor Armstrong.

**134/10 Standing Orders**

Members agreed to accept the report of the Clerk.  
Clerk to amend the document and circulate a copy to all Councillors.

**135/10 Partnership Sub-Committee**

Clerk to prepare a report for the next Parish Council meeting on:-

- A) Financial information
- B) Funding arrangements
- C) Committee structure (including the EQUaL Partnership).

**136/10 Council Vacancies**

Members agreed to invite Margaret Stables, Low Esh Farm, Esh to a special Parish Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm, questions to be the same as used at the previous interviews.

**137/10 Sir Bobby Robson Park**

**Reports (068/10)**

4. CCTV – letter to DCC

Clerk to chase up a response from Lee Spraggon and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Minute (112/10)**

B) Security Bolts

More bolts have been ordered once received the bolts will be replaced. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

C) Missing Equipment (whirlybird).

Parts to be ordered from the manufacturer (Wickstead Leisure Ltd) once received the contractor will repair/replace the equipment. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

D) Horse being “Tethered” in and around the Park. Situation being monitored by officers of DCC. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**138/10 Lanchester Railway Walk**

Meeting with Countryside Ranger arranged for 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**139/10 Parking on Grassed Areas in Langley Park**

Minute (103/10) meeting with PCSO Anthony Joyce.

The Police are taking the necessary action, problems are still being experienced with commercial vehicles. Clerk to report to PCSO Anthony Joyce.

**140/10 Bus Shelters in Langley Park**

**Correspondence (099/10)**

B) DCC – Ownership of Bus Shelters

The Clerk was awaiting a response from Andrew Bruce to attend the Parish Council meeting in July, Clerk to chase this up.

**141/10 Youth provision In Langley Park**

**Minute (107/10)**

Clerk to chase up responses to letters sent to YMCA, Inspector Turner (Durham Police) and Chief Executive (DCC) and report to the next Parish council meeting.

Councillor Armstrong reported that the sessions had now been postponed until September/October, the last session only 9 young people attended.

Members agreed for the Clerk to arrange a meeting with all interested parties to determine a way forward with this project.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

**142/10 Date and Time of the next meeting**

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 13th July 2010 at Ushaw College, 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 9.10 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 8