

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The Village Hall, Quebec on Tuesday 9th November 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

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

Apologies: Councillors R. Bowyer, A. Hiles, M. Joyce S. Maddison, R. Partridge and County Councillor M. Campbell.

Also Present: County Councillors J. Armstrong, Natalie Davis (Civic Pride Officer DCC) Helen Douglas (Civic Pride Officer DCC), Ian Mourné (Resident) and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

Members, County Councillor, Visitors and Staff observed one-minute silence in respect of Councillor Gordon Coulson.

220/10 Declaration of Interest

Councillors C. Bloor and M. Gordon declared an interest in agenda item No 6A (8) Earl of Durham Allotments.

Councillors A. Harling, A. Mollon, S. Rothwell and County Councillor J. Armstrong declared an interest in agenda item 8 (B) – Land to the North West of 12 Kings Avenue, Langley Park.

221/10 Police Report

No Police presence, report circulated at the meeting. Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Chief Constable regarding the lack of Police presence at Parish Council meeting.

222/10 Presentation by Civic Pride Officers Durham County Council

Helen Douglas and Natalie Davies gave a presentation on the work of Civic Pride Officers:-

Aim – Harness the spirit and drive of residents, community groups, schools, businesses and public bodies to deliver a cleaner, safer, greener place.

How will it be delivered

What will it achieve

Education

Community involvement and participation

Linking in with external partners

Members thanked them for the presentation and asked them to become involved with the Council's Environmental Committee.

Helen and Natalie left the meeting.

223/10 Presentation by a Resident

Mr. Mourné raised the following issues: -

A) Car parking on road leading up to the fold (when football matches being played on playing field)

B) Litter bin required for car park area

C) Clearing of open drain

D) Pot holes in the road leading up to the fold

E) Cleaning out of roadside drains

County Councillor Armstrong would look at items C, D and E

It had been agreed to complete funding application for a litter bin (item B)

A parking sign had been ordered (item A)

Members asked the Clerk to obtain details on the Legal position of the Parish Council carrying out work to unadopted roads.

Mr Mournie left the meeting.

224/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14th September 2010

Amendment – Page 1

Add “ B. Armstrong” to present: Councillors

Subject to the above alteration the minute were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

225/10 Matters Arising (none agenda items)

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Clerk’s Report (044/10)

2) Containers at Quebec

No further information received from the Planning Officer (County Councillor Armstrong informed the meeting that the applicant had appealed).

Clerk’s Report (046/10)

7) Parish Paths Partnership Grant

Path at the Recreation Ground

Two dates had been agreed by the working party (8th and 12th January 2011) to carry out work at the recreation ground. A skip would be required for the first day and the group would see if a further skip would be required.

Members agreed for this work to be carried out on the above mentioned days and for the Clerk to arrange for the skip and submit an application form to cover the costs.

Litter Problems in Langley Park (104/10)

The Clerk had met with an officer from Groundwork Trust regarding the possibility of a scheme to employ a casual worker for 3 days a week for the Parish Council. Unfortunately the Parish Council does not employ a suitably qualified supervisor to carry out the required duties. Groundwork Trust were to look into the possibility of using one of their supervisors to carry out the duties, awaiting further details. Clerk to update the Council when further details are received.

Correspondence (130/10)

M) CDALC – Titles of Dignitary

Awaiting further details from national association of Local Councils. Members agreed to include Mr Jim O’Connor (for the work done on behalf of the Dorothy’s Well Project)

Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

Bus Service to Local Swimming Baths (161/10)

Work on this project is ongoing, The Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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Correspondence (184/10)

Q) Langley Park Martial Arts Club – Application for Funding

No further details have been received.

S) Rams Head Football Club – Application for Funding

A Bank statement (19th October 2010) had been received.

Members agreed not to support this application and for the Clerk to inform the organization of other possible funding organizations.

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Correspondence (207/10)

E) Broadley & Coulson – Drainage problem from the recreation Ground

No further update

226/10 Reports

A) Parish

Outstanding Items

Report (181/10)

Quebec Car Park – litter and dog bin

Funding application form to complete, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

1) It Suite, Harry Guildford Centre, Langley

Members agreed: -

i) To call the room “ The Gordon Coulson It Suite” (and for the Clerk to write to Mrs Coulson informing her of this gesture).

ii) For the Clerk to provide a report to the Finance & General purposes Committee on the IT equipment (new and old) and the financial position (i.e. insurance and fees received)

2) Rachel Davis, 27 Eppleton Close, Langley Park – application for funding.

The Clerk read out a letter received from Mr & Mrs Davies regarding funding for their daughter (Rachel).

Members agreed: -

i) For the Clerk to inform Mr & Mrs Davis of other possible funding organisation (i.e. AAP)

ii) For the Clerk to check the Legal Status of the Council in awarding a donation to an individual under the Power of Well Being.

iii) For the Clerk to write to Rachel and congratulate her on her recent achievements.

3) Mr & Mrs Rowell, 6 Maplewood Court, Langley Park

The Clerk read out a letter received from Mr & Mrs Rowell regarding litter problems in Langley Park.

Members agreed to confirm the Clerk’s action in informing them that the clearing of litter was carried out by the County Council and a copy of the letter had been passed onto the Local Neighbourhood Officer (DCC).

4) Poppy Wreaths – Donation

Members agreed to donate £20.00 per wreath (total £80.00) to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

5) Mr Wilkinson, Lamesley Cottage, Esh

The Clerk read out an e-mail received from Mr Wilkinson regarding the following: -

A) Anti-social behaviour on the village green (details passed onto Police)

B) Anti –social behaviour in St Michaels Church Yard (details passed onto Police)

C) No ball game sign to be placed on the village green (Clerk informed the meeting of the conditions for Town and Village Greens – Countryside and rights of way act 2000 “ as land or on which the inhabitants of any locality have a customary right to indulge in lawful sports and pastimes”.

Members agreed not to erect a no ball game sign).

D) Half barrel flower tubs (replacement) – Members had previously agreed not to replace some missing ones. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the contractor (Jeremy Cassidy) to inspect the state of the remaining tubs and discuss the report with local councillors (Sands, Gordon and Joyce).

E) Trees on the village green – contractor to include this matter in the above report.

F) Litter/Fly tipping on all approach banks into Esh Village – this has been reported to the County Council.

6) Langley Park Cricket Club - application for funding (including financial details)
Members agreed not to support this application and for the Clerk to inform this organisation of other possible funding applications.

7) Esh Parish Walk – January 2011

Councillor Bloor informed the meeting that the walk will be held on Friday 1st January 2011 commencing at 1.00pm from the car park near the bridge leading into Langley Park. Items to be placed in the next edition of Esh Parish Council news (December 2010) and posters to be placed on the Council's Notice boards.

8) Earl of Durham Allotments

A recent inspection of the allotments had been carried out by officers from the County Council and the area is suffering from a high level of rats. The County Council will be carrying out some form of treatment but may require the Parish Council to supply additional traps (etc). Members agreed for the Clerk to work with officers of the County Council and purchase an and purchase an traps (etc) to allow the recommended method of treatment to be administered. Clerk to report to the Environment Committee.

B) County Council

County Councillor Campbell – no report

County Councillor Joe Armstrong reported on: -

i) Record his thanks to the late Councillor Coulson for his help and support for a number of years.

ii) Langley Park Needs Survey – meeting to be arranged (ASAP)

iii) The “Tute” – making the building waterproof (repairs to roof)

iv) AAP Forum (10th November (6pm) at Ushaw College)

v) Library – opened 26th October 2010

vi) Youth Provision for Langley park – meeting arranged for Tuesday 16th November at Wood View Community Centre commencing at 4.00pm

vii) Verge Hardening – awaiting further details from Parish Council

viii) The Haven, Langley park – redevelopment

viii) Stringer Terrace, Langley Park – repair to road completed; speeding (awaiting details from Police

x) Friends of Langley Park Care Home (provision of a Christmas Hamper)

xi) Film Club, Langley Park – support for funding from AAP

xii) Spending Review 2011/12 – update

Councillor Sue Rothwell asked about the need to secure the “Tute” building (ie board up the windows). Councillor Armstrong responded that this would be looked at once the future of the building had been decided.

Councillor Paula Mollon raised concerns on the state of the footpath along Wallnock Lane (previously reported to the County Council) Councillor Armstrong asked Councillor Mollon to confirm the details to him by e-mail and he would take this matter up with the relevant officer.

C) Members Report

Outstanding Items: -

1A) Roadside litter at Esh (068/10)

Reported to County Council and awaiting response from Groundwork Trust

1B) Parking Sign at Quebec Play Area (068/10)

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

Improvement/Appearance of Langley Park (Councillor Berry) (096/10)

Awaiting prices from contractor for bus shelter/boulders/ bird mouthed fencing
Item referred to Environment Committee for further discussions.

Christmas trees and lights (127/10) – confirmation of switch on time

Clerk was awaiting details from the Head Teacher of the Primary School; (suggested 4.30pm), Clerk to inform Councillors by e-mail.

The Clerk had discussed with officers from the County Council regarding the use of the motifs on lamp posts around the Christmas tree in Front Street, Langley Park. Three of the lamp posts had failed on the Health & Safety test and two had just passed the test (County Council had some concerns of fitting the motifs). The County Council had not planned to replace these lamp posts in the near future.

Members agreed for the Clerk to try to obtain some alternative to the motifs (ie wrap around solar lights etc), in time for this year's switch –on (25th November)

Member Report (181/10)**Speed of traffic/vibration at Stringer Terrace, Langley Park**

Road repairs complete, awaiting further details from Police regarding speeding vehicles etc.

Old Tute building – removal of old notice board

Work completed.

New Item

Bus service to/from Esh (Councillor Gordon)

Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the County Council regarding the need to continue with this service

227/10 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 141 to 174) and that they should be paid;

Where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

Members agreed to accept the summary of income 1st April to 30th September 2010 as follows: -

<u>Details</u>	<u>£.P</u>
Precept	38594.00
Bank Interest	3.56
DCC Contribution	13692.00
Double Taxation	134.00
Garage Rent	720.00
Vat Refund	1522.16
Esh Leaves (adverts)	382.50
Book of Poems	56.80
Wayleave Payment	26.91
Standard Life – Interest	143.71
EQUaL Partnership	1302.47
Other	10.00
Total	56588.11

228/10 Planning Matters

A) 1/2010/0572/DMFP – erection of two storey rear extension at 47 The Crescent, Langley Park. For Mr. S.Gilchrist

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objection to this proposal

Councillor A. Mollon vacated the Chair for the next item; Councillor M. Sands chaired the meeting for the next item.

B) 1/2010/0587/DMFP (retrospective) – change of use of land to create two parking areas at land to North West of 12 Kings Avenue, Langley Park for Langley Park Labour Party

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objection to this development subject to adjacent owners being consulted and their comments are taken into consideration before making a decision.

Councillor M. Sands vacated the Chair

Councillor A. Mollon chaired the meeting for the remainder of the agenda.

229/10 Correspondence**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

A) CDALC – Precept requests (Town and Parish Council)

Following the spending review the Government is asking Parish Councils to exercise restraint when setting their Precept requests. Local Councils will not be able to access any of the funds available to assist Local Authorities provide for a nil increase in Council tax bill for residents (2011/12).

Members noted the position and for the Clerk to copy the e-mail to all Members of the finance and general purposes committee.

B) CDALC – National tree week 27th November to 5th December 2010; application forms from Durham County Council.

Clerk to circulate copy of the e-mail to all Councillors. Members to inform the Clerk of any requests and for the Clerk to complete the necessary application form.

C) CDALC – Copy letter to DCC regarding Double Taxation.

Clerk to copy e-mail to all members of finance and general purposes committee.

D) CDALC – Consultation on service delegation scheme (DCC) response by 12th January 2011.

Clerk to copy the e-mail to all Councillors for their consideration. Responses back to the Clerk for the January meeting of the Parish Council.

E) DCC – Review of speed limits; B6302 Cornsay Colliery to Durham City, details from the Clerk.

F) DCC – Public path diversion (No.56) and Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2010, details from the Clerk.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:-

G) DCC – Warm Home Campaign; posters and leaflets

H) Steps Detached Project – information leaflet

I) Local Councils update; November 2010; Issue No. 133

230/10 Report of Publicity Committee held on 14th October 2010

Copies of the minutes were circulated at the meeting.

Councillor Gordon (Chairman of the committee) presented the report for Members consideration: -

It was agreed to the following: -

- 1) To delegate power to the committee for the regular publication of the Esh Parish Council News.
- 2) Publication of Esh Leaves to be in June of each year (to incorporate the Annual Report/Statement of Accounts).
- 3) Draft of Esh Leaves would be e-mailed to all Councillors for comments a number of weeks prior to publication (consideration of format, size, typeface, articles and advertising space to be included).
- 4) That the next Newsletter would be published in December.
- 5) Newsletter items to include
 - i) Information from Schools, Churches, Committee Centres etc
 - ii) New Community Beat Officer
 - iii) Neighbourhood Wardens
 - iv) Profile on new Senior Staff at our Primary Schools
- 6) Need to emphasise editing process to contributors when asking for news, articles etc.
- 7) Request for news, articles etc to be placed on the Council's notice boards
- 8) Minutes of the Committee meeting to be e-mailed to Committee members and the Parish Clerk (to place on the Parish Council Agenda)
- 9) Clerk to obtain competitive prices for publication of the newsletter.

231/10 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

No further update

Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

232/10 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee

AAP Forum 10th November 2010 at Ushaw College commencing at 6.00pm

PPC meeting 20th November 2010 at Park House, Lanchester commencing at 10.00am

233/10 Langley Park Needs Survey

Copy of the draft final report to be circulated to all Councillors. Item to be discussed at the next Parish council meeting.

234/10 Council Committee Structure

Publicity Committee – have met

Planning Committee – to meet on the Monday prior to each Parish Council meeting.

Clerk has arranged to send details to committee Members of the weekly planning application received each Monday from the County Council.

Community Partnership (EQUaL) – details to be circulated by the Clerk week commencing 15th November 2010.

Environment Committee – details to be circulated by the Clerk week commencing 15th November 2010.

Finance and General Purposes Committee – first meeting to take place in December 2010, details to be circulated by the Clerk week commencing 13th December 2010.

235/10 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

Outstanding Items: -

Reports (068/10)

2. A) Letter to Chief Executive, DCC
- B) Letter to Inspector Turner, Durham Police
- C) Letter to Natural England
- D) Letter to Health and Safety Executive

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

236/10 Councillors Vacancy

Following the death of Councillor Coulson it will be necessary to inform the Returning Officer at Durham County Council of the resultant vacancy. Clerk to make the necessary arrangement.

There still remains a further vacancy for a Councillor (M. Tyler). Clerk to make contact with the two prospective candidates obtained at a recent Pact meeting.

237/10 Langley Park Library

Old sign should be removed from the premises near Church Street. Clerk to report (e-mail) to County Councillor Armstrong.

New sign required for the premises recently opened in Front Street. Details awaited from the County Council.

238/10 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Outstanding Items: -

Sir Bobby Robson Park (112/10)**B) Security Bolts**

Work complete, additional supplies (if required) in stock with contractor.

C) Missing Equipment

Work to be completed in week commencing 15th November 2010.

Sir Bobby Robson (166/10)

Locking/unlocking of gates

Negotiation with Alan Cassidy are still ongoing, the work to the training area/muga must be completed by 31st March 2011. Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

239/10 Parking on grassed areas in Langley Park

Outstanding Items: -

Bollard/Boulders placed on site (168/10) – suggested by PCSO A. Joyce, details awaited from contractors for estimates for the provision of boulders/bird mouth fencing to a number of areas in Langley Park.

Members agreed to defer this item to the Environment Committee for further discussion/consideration and for local residents to be kept informed of any progress/recommendations.

New Items: -

Letter received from Mr S Mann, 12 Clifford Street, regarding the grassed area outside his property, e-mail received from Mavis Dixon regarding the grassed area at Esh Terrace and Aged Miners Homes.

Both Items to be referred to the Environment Committee for their consideration.

240/10 Bus Shelters in Langley Park

Outstanding Items: -

Correspondence (099/10)

B) DCC – Ownership of Bus Shelters; meeting with Officer from DCC some estimates had been received from DCC regarding the cost of repairing/replacing the bus shelter in Front Street and provision of seats to bus shelter.

Members agreed to defer this matter to the Environment Committee for further consideration/discussion.

241/10 Youth Provision in Langley Park

Outstanding Items: -

1) Letter to YMCA

2) Letter to Inspector Turner

3) Letter to Chief Executive (DCC)

Although no response has been received from the above organisations there is a meeting to take place on Tuesday 16th November 2010 at Wood View Community Centre commencing at 4.00pm to develop a project that looks at youth work and sports development in the following villages Burnhope, Lanchester, Langley Park and Esh Winning/Hamsteels. The work has been co-ordinated by the Mid Durham AAP (activities for young people task group).

Members of the Community Partnership Committee are invited to attend.

Youth Provision in Langley Park (170/10)

Meeting of interested parties

See above report

Youth Provision in Langley Park (218/10)

Youth Provision – Volunteers

See above report, Clerk to inform the volunteers of any further developments

Youth Provision Steps Detached worker (Louise Wilson)

Invitation to attend a Parish Council meeting, awaiting details (available dates etc).

Members agreed to defer this matter to the Community Partnership (EQUaL) Committee for further consideration/discussion.

242/10 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 14th December 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 9.35 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 10