

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The New Parish Hall, Front Street, Esh on Tuesday 14th June 2011 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors A. Mollon (Chair), M. Berry, M. Gordon, K. Heartfield, A. Hiles, S. Maddison, P. Mollon, M. Renneberg, S. Rothwell and M. Sands.

Apologies: County Councillor J. Armstrong, Councillors B. Armstrong, C. Bloor, R. Bowyer, A. Harling, R. Partridge, Mrs M.L.Rowland (Deputy Clerk) Miss P.J. Graham (Assistant Clerk).

Also Present: County Councillor M. Campbell and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

099/11 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Gordon and Heartfield declared an interest in agenda item 8A (2)

100/11 Police Report

Outstanding item:-

i) Letter to Inspector Turner

County Councillor Armstrong had met with Inspector Turner and discussed the following concerns:-

A) No Neighbourhood Policing Team Officers attending PACT meeting – this would be corrected and implemented immediately.

B) Police not attending Parish Council meeting – this was a decision taken by senior officers at Police Headquarters (Inspector Turner would be attending the next Parish Council meeting in July).

New Item:-

i) No report received for the meeting (copy received after the meeting and is attached to these minutes)

ii) PACT meeting 7th July 2011 – Councillor Renneberg updated the meeting (30 residents had attended the meeting). Anti-Social Behaviour would be a priority of the PACT meeting.

101/11 Minutes of AGM held 10th May 2011

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

102/11 Matters Arising

Page 1

Page 2

Forward Plan 2011 to 2015 (AGM 14/11)

Councillors Gordon and Sands would assist the Clerk to help produce this report for September's meeting.

103/11 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held 10th May 2011

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

104/11 Matters Arising (non agenda items)

Page 1

Title of Dignitary – procedure (054/11)

Clerk had no response from Lady Robson and was still trying to obtain alternative prices for the Freedom Scroll. Clerk to chase both matters up and report to the next Parish Council meeting (July).

All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park (078/11)

No further update from Terry Coult (DCC).

Page 2**Page 3****Page 4****105/11 Reports****A) Parish****Outstanding items:-**

i) Council owned garage – repairs/replace door

Work is now complete.

New Items:-

1) Parish Walk – Sunday 29th May 2011

The Clerk reported that 18 walkers took part, lead by Councillor Bloor, refreshments were provided at Quebec Village Hall (by the Clerk and his wife).

2) Allotments – Earl of Durham plot 55

The present allotment holder (Mr M Saville) wished to work in partnership with Mr T Maycock, 15 Quebec Street (on the waiting list).

Members agreed to this request, Clerk to amend the allotment ledger/file.

3) Project specification for youth provision in Langley Park and surrounding area.

Details of specification was available from the Clerk.

This document will be used by the Mid Durham AAP to obtain prices from local organisations for the provision of a one night a week drop in / outreach session for the young people of Langley Park and surrounding villages of Esh and Quebec utilising the various venues and facilities available to them in these villages.

The scheme would work on 42 week per year over a three year period.

It is hoped to start in September/October 2011, any responses by Monday 20th June 2011.

4) Langley Park Goodwill Association – Application for funding

The Clerk reported that the Association had received £400 (AAP small grants fund) £200 County Councillor Armstrong (Member Initiative Fund), leaving a short fall of £200 for the hiring of four coaches for the trip on 1st August 2011.

Members agreed to donate £100 towards the cost of hiring coaches.

Clerk to write to the Association explaining the financial situation of the Parish Council and other possible funding sources for next year.

5) Grass Cutting Contract 2011 – Durham County Council

The Clerk had circulated an e-mail (from Steven Craig) dated 18th May 2011 listing additional costs. Members agreed to monitor the grass cutting contract (as only one cut by DCC had been carried out recently), Clerk to report to the next meeting of the Environment Committee.

Members also agreed for DCC to carry out strimming around seats on 8 occasions per season at a cost of £29.28 per seat (approx 20 seats).

6) Highway Issue – response by DCC

The Clerk had circulated an e-mail (from Phil Stannard) dated 13th June 2011. Members noted the position of each scheme and for the editor (Councillor Gordon) of Esh Leaves Newsletter to place this item in the next edition. Councillor Berry updated Members of a meeting with Gordon Wingrove (DCC) on parking on grassed verges in Langley Park. Members agreed for the Clerk to obtain prices/designs for “No Parking Signs” from NJC Wrought Iron and report to the next meeting of the Environment Committee.

7) List of Councillors for 2007/2013

Copy of the updated list circulated at the meeting. Members agreed the format and ward representation and for this document to be included in the Council’s Annual Report for 2010/11 and to be placed on the Council’s web-site/notice boards.

8) P J Graham (Assistant Clerk) – Examination Success

The Clerk reported that Miss Graham had been successful in passing the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

Members wished to congratulate her on this achievement.

9) Citizen's Advice Bureau – Extension of time

The CAB hold a 1 hour session in the Parish Council's office on the second Wednesday of each month, The present arrangement is due to finish in June. Members agreed for this service to continue for a further six months and for the editor (Councillor Gordon) of Esh Leaves Newsletter to place this item in each edition (including details of the service provision).

B) County Council

County Councillor J. Armstrong - no report

County Councillor M. Campbell reported on:-

i) Boundary Commission Proposal on the New Electoral Arrangements (DCC)

ii) White lining in Langley Park (question from Councillor Berry)

C) Members Report

Outstanding Items: -

i) Parking Sign at Quebec Play Area

Awaiting prices for repairs to fencing (signs to be fixed this week)

ii) Damage to play area at Esh (Councillor Gordon)

Awaiting prices from local contractors

iii) Fencing at the Village Green, Esh (Councillor Gordon)

Part fencing had been removed / replaced

iv) Browney Court, Langley Park – Anti-Social Behaviour (Councillor Heartfield)

Details passed onto PCSO Liddle

v) New bungalow development at Langley Park (Councillor Heartfield)

See agenda item 11a – correspondence; site drawing had been received from the Planning Officer.

New items:-

1) Setting up a Parish Council Forum (Councillor Sands)

Report "small is beautiful – but bigger could be better" was circulated at the meeting.

Members agreed to support the report and for it to be referred to the Parish Councils Committee meeting on Saturday 18th June 2011.

2) Rubbish at the Riverside Industrial Estate near Diggerland/River Browney

(Councillor Maddison) the area was outside the Parish Boundary but within the Boundary of Lanchester Parish Council, the Clerk to report the litter problem to Lanchester Parish Council (The Clerk).

106/11 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 25 to 51) and that they should be paid;

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

Copy of the schedule attached to these minutes.

107/11 Planning Matters

A) SF/1/2011/0228/DMFP – Mr R Harrison for installation of 16 ground mounted photo voltaic panels at 9 Hill Top, Esh

Decision – Agreed

B) GB/1/2011/0225/DMFP – Green Thumb Lawn Treatment for change of use of property to include business premises (office room within existing property), Proposed portal frame building within existing garden and associated hard standing area.

Decision – Agreed.

108/11 Correspondence**Items for Discussion:-**

A) Dr Tina Cook, 25 Railway Street – Removal of wall at Railway Street area/ new development on the St Michael's Church site.

Members looked at the drawing provided by the Planning Officer and agreed to support the disappointment in not being informed of the removal of part of the wall and replaced with a wooden fence.

Chairman was to visit the site within the next few days. Clerk to send a letter of support to Dr Cook.

B) Steps Detached Project – Application for Funding

The group were trying to raise funds to visit Laser Wars North East (total cost £750).

Members agreed to donate £50 towards the cost of the visit. Clerk to write to the group explaining the financial position of the Parish Council and other possible funding sources.

Items for Information:-

C) DCC – Overview and Scrutiny review of AAP – response by 30th June 2011

D) Steps Detached Youth Project – end of year report (Langley Park)

E) Communities.gov.uk – update on new community right to build proposal

F) Link County Durham Newsletter; issue 9; April 2011

G) Clerks and Council Direct Magazine; issue 75; May 2011

H) Local Councils update Newsletter; issue 139; May 2011

I) Local Councils update Newsletter; issue 140; June 2011

109/11 Committee - Constitution / Updates

The Clerk circulated a report on the Committee Structure and Membership:-

Community Partnership – 7 Members

Environment – 7 Members

Finance – 5 Members

Planning – 3 Members

Publicity – 3 Members

Councillor Armstrong – 2 Committees

Councillor Berry – 2 Committees

Councillor Bloor – 3 Committees

Councillor Bowyer – 3 Committees

Councillor Gordon – 2 Committees

Councillor Harling – 1 Committee

Councillor Heartfield – 1 Committee

Councillor Hiles – 3 Committees

Councillor Maddison – 2 Committees

Councillor A. Mollon – Chairman (ex – officio)

Councillor P. Mollon – 2 Committees

Councillor Partridge – 2 Committees

Councillor Renneberg – 2 Committees

Councillor Rothwell – 1 Committee

Councillor Sands – Vice Chair (ex – officio)

Councillor Spencer – No Committees

Amendments:-

Councillor Hiles came off the Publicity Committee; Councillor P. Mollon came off the Environment Committee.

Clerk to contact all Councillors regarding Committee Membership (five committee Members and one Councillor can only sit on up to two Committees).

110/11 Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2011

Members agreed to approve the following:-

A) Section 1 – Accounting Statement

Balance as at 31st March 2011 £9951

Fixed Assets £17134

Trust Fund answer yes (Council acts as Sole Trustee)

B) Section 2 – Annual Governance Statement

Answer yes to questions 1 to 9

C) Section 4 – Internal Audit Report (Stuart Harris)

Members also agreed for the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer to sign the document.

111/11 Report by Boundary Commission on the new Electoral arrangements for Durham County Council (dated May 2011)

It was agreed to defer this matter until a special Council meeting (mid July) date to be agreed with Chairman/Vice Chair and Clerk.

112/11 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee

Dates of next AAP Board meeting:-

13th July 2011 – Venue to be arranged

14th September 2011 – Venue to be arranged

16th November 2011 – Venue to be arranged

11th January 2012 – Venue to be arranged

14th March 2012 – Venue to be arranged

16th May 2012 – Venue to be arranged

Date of the PCC meeting:-

Saturday 18th June at Lanchester (Presentation on the County Durham Plan).

113/11 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 12th July 2011 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 8.55 pm