

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park on **Tuesday 13th November 2012** commencing at **7.10pm**

Present: Councillors M. Sands (Chair), B. Armstrong, J. Carr, M. Gordon, A. Harling, K. Heartfield, S. Maddison, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, M. Renneberg and S. Rothwell

Also Present: County Councillor J. Armstrong and G.F. Smith (Clerk) and Mr W Quinn (Resident)

Apologies: Councillors: R. Partridge

177/12 Declaration of Interest
Councillors M. Gordon and K. Heartfield – agenda item 10: – Allotments.

178/12 Representation by Resident
Mr W. Quinn raised the following matters:-

- Problems with the drains (under access road and heavy vehicles are causing Damage and blockages).
- Problems in Allotment site belonging to DCC
- Side road is unadopted and in a very poor state of repair
- Inadequate car park sign
- Cars parking in front of his house, on the pavement
- Uneven paving slabs
- Old brick built bus shelter

County Councillor Armstrong requested the Chair to send him an e-mail detailing all Mr Quinn's concerns.

179/12 Police Report
Clerk to email all Councillors with a copy of the PACT report dated 6th November 2012.

180/12 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held 9th October 2012
AMENDMENT – Page 1; minute 164/12 Allotments
"Remove Councillor A. Mollon from those present at the Special meeting of Allotments Working Party".
Subject to the above the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

181/12 Matters Arising
Page 1 - Minute 161/12 Letter to Councillor Berry – Chair to arrange
Page 3 – Minute 165/12 Working Party Recommendations
Councillor Armstrong raised the question of reports sent to all Councillors at least three clear days before each Council or Committee meeting to allow Councillors to understand the subject under discussion. It is unlawful to make a decision, especially a decision to spend money without sufficient warning (three clear days). Agenda items should be clear and specify the exact business to be discussed.
The Clerk responded that he had taken advice and would take further advice and would advise members at the next Parish Council meeting.
Councillor Renneberg circulated a copy of page 34 from the book "Being a good Councillor Guide"

- 182/12 Councillor Vacancy**
The closing date for requesting an election is 15th November 2012. Item to be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 183/12 Council Tax Support Scheme and Council Tax Base 2013/14**
Members noted the contents of the letter dated 11th October 2012 received from DCC (Paul Darby).
Final details should be published on 5th December 2012
- 184/12 Town/Parish Councils Event held on 29th October at Bowburn**
Councillor Rothwell and the Clerk updated the meeting on the following items:-
- Community Building Project (Coxhoe)
 - Working together (Parish/County Council)
 - County Durham Partnership
 - Localism and Parish Councils
 - Neighbourhood Planning (Councillor B Armstrong raised the matter of the Parish Plan Working Party (minute 068/12) which had failed to meet. The Chair agreed to check this and respond to all Councillors via e-mail.
- 185/12 Funding Opportunities**
The Clerk reported to an email sent by Steve Ragg, CDALC on 31st October 2012 which was sent to all Councillors by email on 1st November 2012 (For information). The Clerk/Deputy Clerk would research the various funding streams and prepare a report for consideration by Members as soon as possible.
- 164/12 Allotments**
A) Management Agreement
Members agreed to adopt the document which was signed by Councillors P. Mollon, M. Sands and S. Rothwell and four Committee members of Langley Park Allotment Association. Clerk to arrange hand over details.
- B) Tenancy Agreement
Members agreed the new Tenancy Agreement between the Langley Park Allotment Association and the Tenants.
- 165/12 Reports**
A) Parish
Outstanding Item:-
i) Railway Path Master Plan - ongoing
New Items:-
ii) Dispensations:- Parish Councillors to seek dispensations from their Council (via Clerk) to be granted before the Council discuss or sets its Precept to enable Councillors to Legally set the Precept.
Members agreed for the Clerk to prepare a letter for all Councillors to sign at the next Parish Council meeting and place the letter on the agenda for the dispensation to be resolved.

iii) Langley Park and Esh Employment Hub
Copy of report dated 11th November 2012 was circulated for information.
Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

B) County Council

County Councillor J. Armstrong reported on the following:-

- i) Community garden at Railway Street
- ii) Parking bollards outside Porkies shop, Front Street, Langley Park
- iii) Fencing Esh Hillside
- iv) Kingsway Nursing Home
- v) E-Tape Cycle Ride (feedback)
- vi) Works at Stringer Terrace, Langley Park
- vii) Aged Miners Homes, Langley Park
- viii) Woodview Community Centre, Langley Park
- ix) All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park
- x) AAP Funding
- xi) Contractors Parking at Kingsway (Councillor P Mollon)
- xii) Contractors Parking at East Clare (Councillor Carr)
- xiii) Old Fire Station, Langley Park (Councillor Renneberg)
- xiv) War Memorial, Langley Park (Restoration)

C) Chair's

- i) Letter of resignation from Councillor Bloor, Chair to write to Chris thanking him for his service to the Community.
- ii) Meeting Minutes
- iii) Environment WP – only one response received (Councillor Renneberg)
- iv) Neighbourhood Planning – Agenda for December meeting
- v) Winter Salting Routes (DCC) copies available from the Clerk
- vi) Attendance at AAP Forum Meeting (encourage other Councillors to attend) 14th November 2012 at Brandon Primary School.
- vii) Walkabout at Langley Park on Wednesday 21st November 2012 starting from St. Andrews at 1.00pm.
- viii) Thanks to Councillor Renneberg to attend the Medium and Small Councils Forum (substituting for the Chair)

D) Members

Outstanding items:-

- I. Renew lock/key at Esh Notice Board - work complete
- II. E-Tape Cycle Ride (responses)
- III. Damage to the Weir at Browney/Wallnook Lane – letter sent to the environment agency.

New Items:-

- iv) Sir Bobby Robson Park – proposal by Langley Park Environment Group (Councillor Renneberg)

Report circulated at the meeting, Members agreed with the proposals to:-

Remove dead trees and shrubs

Cut overgrown areas

Recycle unwanted dead trees and branches

Clear and prepare the areas

Creating flower beds around the trees

- v) Police/DCC Caravan at Langley Park (Councillor Renneberg) on 20th November 2012

vi) Agendas for Working Parties (Councillor Renneberg)

Following a frank exchange of ideas it was proposed (Councillor P. Mollon) and seconded (Councillor B Armstrong) to abandon the Committee/Working Party systems with immediate effect.

Members voted as follows:-

6 For, 1 against and 4 abstentions

vii) Youth Provision in Langley Park

Councillor B Armstrong updated the meeting on the situation regarding this project (Woodview double booked on a Friday evening, meet with Head Teacher at Langley Park Primary School about possible use of the gymnasium).

188/12 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement and for Vouchers 103 to 120 should be paid, copy of the report attached to these minutes.

Councillor B. Armstrong raised the following Financial concerns:-

- Cost of delivering Parish Newsletter – Clerk to produce a report for the Parish Council
- Staffing Costs

189/12 Correspondence

Items for information:-

- i. Campaign to Protect Rural England Newsletter; Autumn 2012
- ii. DCC Warm Home Campaign poster for Notice Board
- iii. BDO (External Auditor) – Changes to extranet for Local Councils
- iv. HMRC – getting ready for PAYE real time information from April 2013
- v. War Memorials Trust Newsletter; November 2012
- vi. Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine; November 2012
- vii. Local Councils Update; November 2012

190/12 Finance and General Purposes Working Party

Minutes of a meeting held on 6th November 2012 were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members agreed to accept the recommendations to donate £20 per Wreath (3) to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Power LGA1972 section 137)

191/12 Community Partnership (EQUaL) Working Party

No Report

192/12 Environment Working Party

No report.

193/12 Planning Working Party

Planning Applications were received for the following:-

A) 1/2012/0564/DMFP by Ms K. Jackson Erection of First Floor and Ground floor rear extensions and create vehicular access to front at 78 Davis Crescent, Langley Park. **Decision – No Objections**

B) 1)2012/0565/DMFP by Mr C Wilkinson Felling of one wild Cherry tree at 17 Willow Park, Langley - **Decision** – No arboriculture report, no legible plan of site, therefore object to the proposal

C) 1/2012/0408/DMFP by Mr I Shringley use of land for Industrial purposes and erection of one Industrial building for Workshop/Storage at land West of Esh Winning Industrial Estate. **Decision – No Objections**

194/12 Publicity Working Party
No Report

195/12 Personnel Committee
Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2012 were circulated prior to the meeting

196/12 The Tute Working Party
Councillor Armstrong updated the meeting on the following:-
A) CISWO will not rewrite the lease – agenda for next meeting
B) Funding refused by Big Lottery
c)Needs Survey carried out in 2012 now out of date, documents to be updated/rewritten, obtain grant from AAP.
d)Funding through a Management Group of 4 Councillors and 4 Residents, set up a constitution and Bank Account.
E)Carry Out Consultation – Public meeting in January 2013 (St Josephs Church Hall – possible venue)
f)Carry out a survey in the next edition of the Parish Newsletter (Chair to discuss with Councillor Armstrong).

197/12 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee/Medium and Small Councils Forum
Next AAP Forum meeting 14th November 2012 at Brandon Community School (6pm)
Next PCC meeting: - 17thNovember 2012 at Brandon &Byshottles Parish Council’s Office, Langley Moor (10am)
Next MSCF meeting 16th November 2012 at Spennymoor (2pm)

198/12 Date and Time of the Next Meeting
The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday **11th December** 2012 at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm

The meeting finished at 9.35 pm