

## ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The Miners Institute Building, Langley Park on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014** commencing at **7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors: S. Rothwell (Chair), B. Armstrong, J. Carr, A. Hancock, G. Hawxwell, K. Heartfield, A. Mollon, R. Moralee, M. Renneberg and M. Sands

**Also Present:** G F Smith (Clerk) and D. Rider (IT Officer).

**Apologies:** Councillors: S. Bell, R. Bowyer, P. Mollon, County Councillor J. Armstrong and M. L. Rowland (Deputy Clerk)

**085/14 Declaration of Interest**  
None

**086/14 Representation by residents**  
i) Loading bay, Front Street, Langley Park.  
Clerk read out a letter from D S Armstrong, 29 Front Street  
Clerk read out a letter from A Armstrong (The Salon), 35 Front Street  
Clerk read out a letter from J Carter+ R Funnell, 30 Front Street  
Petition received from Residents of Langley Park "to ask Durham County Council to reduce the size of the loading bay on Front Street, as Businesses are losing custom."  
Members agreed to support the requests for the removal or reducing size of the loading bay at Front Street, Langley Park.  
Clerk to contact County Councillors and the relevant County Council Officer.

**087/14 Police Report**  
The next PACT meeting 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014

**088/14 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014**  
**Amendments:-**  
073/14 Reports – a) Parish  
ii) Youth village – Your view should read "Your Village – Your Voice"  
073/14 Reports – d) Members  
CCTV in the Parish Office  
Should read "switched on Monday to Friday 9.00pm to 8.30am."  
076/14 Provision of Hanging Baskets  
b) Add "– Agenda for September meeting"  
Subject to the above amendments the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**089/14 Minutes of a Special meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014**  
The above minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

**090/14 Co-option of Councillors**  
a) Julie Carr, 54 East Clere, Langley Park  
Ms Carr signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor, countersigned by the Clerk and witnessed by Councillors present at the meeting.  
b) Ruth Hughes, 25 Willow Park, Langley Park - apologies

**091/14 Reports**  
**a) Parish**  
i) The Clerk read out a letter from Mr Ian Dowson, 31 Front Street, Langley Park, "requesting the reasons in writing as to why he could not be co-opted onto the Parish this time, so that I might be able to be better equipped next time."  
Members agreed for the Clerk to respond in writing to Mr Dowson.  
The Clerk read out an e-mail from Mr Stuart Wilkinson of Esh Village regarding the additional "No dogs allowed" sign for the village green, overgrown trees on the village green and replacement litter bin (next to the telephone box), all at Esh Village. The Clerk reported that he would arrange to have all matters dealt with as a matter of urgency.  
ii) The Clerk also reported overgrown trees at Quebec Play area and would also arrange to have this matter dealt with as a matter of urgency.  
iii) The Clerk read out a letter regarding the next meeting of the Parish Councils Committee to be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Esh Parish Councils Office, Miner's Institute Building, Langley Park, commencing at 10.00am.  
"At the last meeting of the Committee, concern was expressed regarding the low attendance at recent meetings. Please consider the future of this committee".  
Many Members agreed to attend the next meeting of the committee.

**b) County Council**

County Councillor B Armstrong reported on the following:-

- Setting –up an Allotment Association in Quebec
- Road planings at Hall Road, Esh
- Meeting with Highways Officers from DCC regarding speeding vehicles in Langley Park
- Village Voice – feedback
- AAP staff moving into The Miners Institute Building at the beginning of August
- Railway Street (rat problem)
- Langley Park Allotment Association
- Langley Park Care Home
- Parking at Aged Miners Homes, Langley Park
- Strike by Fire Service
- Capital Works Programme
- Opening of Shed programme/building

**c) Chairman**

- The Chair reminded all Councillors the need to contact the Clerk if they are unable to attend a Parish Council meeting (apologies require a reason for non-attendance)
- The Chair raised concerns around parking of vehicles in Front Street, Langley Park i.e. outside/opposite the Spar Shop, parking on zig zag signs near pedestrian crossing. This should be raised at the next Pact meeting and for the Clerk to write to the Police making them aware of the concerns.

**d) Members**

i) Feedback from AAP Village Voice event (Councillor Hancock) Although poorly attended the two main areas of concerns raised were litter and speeding vehicles through the village.

ii) Standard of grass cutting in the Parish (Councillor Hancock) Members agreed for the Clerk to write to DCC regarding the possible improvements to the present schedule including future dates of cutting, removal of cuttings and strimming around posts etc.

iii) Parish Council accommodation (Councillor Heartfield) The present building has a lack of storage facilities for archive files etc and the continued use of the secure container at the Industrial Estate.

**Members agreed to:-**

- a) Clerk to obtain prices of lockable cabinets for the area under the bay window.
- b) To set up a working party to visit the storage container to view documents being stored and recorded and report the findings to a future Parish Council meeting.

**092/14 Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park**

Councillor B Armstrong reported on the following:-

- Toddlers group – stopped using the building
- Community Building Grant (£1641)
- Excessive gas/electric accounts
- Volunteers required to assist in the building

**093/14 Litter problems in the Parish**

Councillor Hancock reported that the Community Litter Picking day would be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

**094/14 Former Fire Station, Langley Park**

The Clerk read out an e-mail from Karen Easton, Asset Management, Durham County Council dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014 “a request has been received to release a restrictive covenant on the former Fire Station, Langley Park. The owners Derwentside College are in the process of selling the property.

Members agreed to remove the restrictive covenant and for the £30,000 fund be given to the Community of Langley Park (The account of the Miners Institute Building for community use).

- 095/14 Councillor Vacancies**  
 Notice of vacancy (Councillor Thompson) expires on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014; Clerk to inform all Councillors after the closing date (election or co-option).  
 One other vacancy still exists, nominations to the Clerk.
- 096/14 Council Web Site**  
 David Rider provided an update on progress to develop the web site, a number of suggestions were made which would be incorporated in the final version (presented to September's Parish Council meeting)
- 097/14 Working Relationship with other Organisations (including residents)**  
 It was agreed:-
- Parish Councillor surgeries linked with other events taking place in the Miners Institute Building and other places.
  - Further look at communications (i.e. Esh Leaves)
  - Further details of what the Parish does (use of web site)
  - Further improve working arrangements with DCC, Police, Fire Service, Housing providers etc.
- 098/14 Financial Statement and Report**  
 Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement and for vouchers 37 to 48 should be paid, a copy of the voucher report will be attached to these minutes.  
 Members agreed to re-look at delivery costs etc for Esh Leaves (include in agenda for September)
- 099/14 Planning Matters**  
 a) Planning Application DM/14/01208/FPA by Mr A Moralee for conversion of loft space above existing flat to provide new flat including cast-iron external staircase to first floor flat entrance at 47f Front Street, Langley Park.  
**Decision** – no objections  
 b) Planning Application DM/14/01809/FPA by Lesley Gregory for the erection of a single storey front and rear extension at 19 Netherton Close, Langley Park.  
**Decision** – no objections  
 c) Planning Application DM/14/01570/TP by Mr Lilly for tree works (TP023) at 7 Ramshaw Close, Langley Park.  
**Decision** – No Objections
- 100/14 AAP/PCC/SCF**  
 Next AAP Board Meeting 9th July 2014 Satley at 6pm  
 Next PCC meeting is the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Langley Park (10am)  
 Next SCF Meeting is the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at Sedgfield (2pm)
- 101/14 Date and time of the next meeting**  
 The next Ordinary Meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday **9<sup>th</sup> September** 2014 in the Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park commencing at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm