

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Miners Institute Building, Langley Park on **Tuesday 12th January 2016** commencing at **7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: G. Hawxwell (Chair), B. Armstrong, J. Armstrong, S. Bell, R. Bowyer, B. Coult, I. Dowson, L. Finch, K. Heartfield, M. McGaun, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, R. Moralee, M. Sands and A. Simpson

Also

Present: G. F. Smith (Clerk), Denise Long, Gwen Blakey, Donna Donaghy, Jeremy Cassidy, J. Cooper and Mr A Hardwick (Residents)

001/16 Apologies

Members agreed the following apologies:-

Cllr S Cheal

002/16 Declaration of Interest

Councillor B Armstrong declared an interest in agenda item 14 – Planning Applications

003/16 Representation by Residents

No report

004/16 Presentation by Langley Park Miners Memorial Group

Members of the group raised concerns regarding:-
Number of sites available to erect the Memorial (some confusion) Councillor Dowson suggested a site near the Langley Park Nursing Home (further investigations required). There was a possible site opposite Langley Park WMC, an area of land in the new housing development by Derwentside Homes and land to the rear of the seat opposite East Clere. The group had a meeting arranged with Graham Blakey (Planning Officer, DCC) for Friday 15th January at 2pm (Councillor B Armstrong to attend with the group). Funding was also mentioned and both County Councillors made £5,000 finance available from their Neighbourhood Budgets. Updates at the next Parish Council meeting.

005/16 Asset of Community Value – Cross Keys, Esh

Mr A Hardwick a resident of Esh presented to members the latest regarding the Cross Keys, Esh being included on the County Council of Durham's list of Assets of Community Value under the Localism Act 2011.

Members agreed to support this application by working in Partnership with the individual group (37 residents), Esh Residents Association and Esh Parish Council. Mr Hardwick to supply the Council with the necessary nomination form to complete.

006/16 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th December 2015

Amendments "add Cllr A. Simpson to the apologies"

Subject to the above amendment the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

007/16 Matters arising from previous meetings

Councillor Dowson had questions on minute 192/15 on the representation at the meeting with CISWO on 16th December 2015. The Clerk responded to Councillor Dowson's questions

008/16

Reports

(A) Parish

The Clerk reported that problems had been reported on the possible collapse of the bank side at allotments 79 to 81 and urgent action would be required to make the area safe. As the work was of a specialist nature (and health & safety) Members agreed for the Clerk to contact a Highways Engineer at DCC to obtain some advice and report the outcome to Councillors.

(B) County Councillors

County Councillor J. Armstrong reported on the following:-

- DCC Precept being increased by 1.98%
- Wallnook Bridge (urgent repairs)
- Traffic calming scheme for Esh
- Traffic calming scheme for Langley Park

County Councillor B. Armstrong reported on the following:-

- Witton Gilbert Village Plan

(C) Chair's – No Report

(D) Members Report

Councillor Dowson reported on the following:-

- Tree/lights for Quebec – place on agenda for next meeting
- Electricity connection at Quebec – place on agenda for next meeting
- Christmas lighting on street lights – place on agenda for next meeting
- Miners lamp (manufactured by NJC Wrought Iron) - place on agenda for next meeting

009/16

Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park

- Equal management Committee – details to be circulated to all Councillors
- Income/Expenditure accounts for 2015 - details to be circulated to all Councillors

The Clerk updates Members on the meeting with CISWO on 16th December 2015, points to note:-

- Estates Manager in discussion with Chief Executive Officer regarding lease conditions etc
- Langley Park & District Community Association have de-registered with the Charity Commission
- CISWO is keen to resolve this long running matters as the current situation is unsatisfactory

010/16

Setting the Precept for 2016/17

Members discussed the for and against for increasing/not increasing the Precept for 2016/17

Members agreed to vote on increasing the Precept by 2% - voting 14 for 1 Abstention therefore vote carried.

Example of the request for the Precept 2016/2017:-

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Precept for 2015/16 | £76229.56 | 2015/16 |
| + 2% | <u>£1524.59</u> | £76229.56 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Precept for 2016/17 | £77754.15 | £76229.56 |
| + DCC Contribution | <u>£ 6004.00</u> | <u>£ 6969.00</u> |
| Total Income | <u>£83758.15</u> | <u>£83198.56</u> |
| Proposed Band D Council Tax | £ 58.22 | £ 58.35 |

- 011/16 Action Plans for Langley Park, Esh and Quebec**
Members were requested to call into the Parish Office to update the master copy (held by the Clerk) and produce a draft report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.
- 012/16 Village Walkabout**
Members agreed for to carry out the village walkabout later in the year, Clerk to make the necessary arrangements with partner organisations.
- 013/16 Recreation Ground, Langley Park – Fencing Quotations**
The Contractors have a number of queries with original documentation (supplied by Natural England). Clerk is in contact with Natural England to resolve the queries and may possibly have to again increase the closing date for the work to be completed.
- 014/16 Financial Statement and Report**
Members agreed to pay vouchers 109 to 122
Deputy Clerk to send all Councillors a copy of the voucher report as soon as possible after the meeting.
Members noted the expenditure report for the period 1st April to 31st December 2015, which was sent to all Councillors prior to the Christmas holidays.
- 015/16 Planning Applications**
A) DM/15/03206/FPA by Mr A Moralee for the erection of a single storey garage/outbuilding in the garden to the rear of The Lawns, 3 Hospital Road, Langley Park **Decision - No objections**
- 016/16 AAP/PCC/SCF**
Next AAP Board Meeting 13th January 2016 at Langley Park (6pm)
Next PCC meeting is the 16th January 2016 at Lanchester (10am)
Next SCF Meeting is the 12th February 2016 TBA
- 017/16 Date and time of the next meeting**
Tuesday **9th February 2016** at The Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM (IN PRIVATE)

The meeting finished at 8.55 pm