

**Esh Parish Council Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at the Miners Institute, Church Street, Langley Park at 19:00. Meeting commenced at 19:00.**

**Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

**1. Co-option requests**

**Item deferred to agenda item 13.**

**2. Record of attendance**

Cllr. Linda Bushell, Cllr. Ryan Drion, Cllr, Rita Moralee, Cllr. Donna Smailes, Cllr. Edwin Simpson, Cllr. Richard Bowyer. Cllr Ruth Hughes

Clerk; Patricia Embleton

**3. Apologies of absence**

**Apologies have been received and accepted by Council by the following Councillors;**

County Councillor Mike McGaun and Arnie Simpson - apologies  
Cllr. Siobhan Kennedy – Personal commitments – accepted at Council  
Cllr. Claire Lund – No apologies received in advance.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

**5. Minutes from the previous meetings of the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

**Signed as a true record, without amendment.**

**6. Matters arising**

**7. County Councillors report**

**No Councillors in attendance**

**8. Fields in Trust Deed of dedication**

**Resolved that the draft lease was acceptable to Council, Clerk is to proceed with having Lease drawn with fields in Trust and prepare signatures from Cllr. Rita Moralee and Cllr Richard Bowyer.**

## **9. Zurich Insurance proposal**

The Council resolved they were happy to enter into a long-term agreement with Zurich, once the policy has been amended.

Clerk to liaise with Zurich renewal team for best available price.

## **10. Break Away Letter to Natural England**

The Council wishes to proceed with terminating the Higher-Level Stewardship arrangement. Clerk to prepare and send letter.

## **11. Small holding at the Crescent, request to erect a temp animal shelter to hold two sheep – Andrew Turnbull.**

A request was submitted to the Council for formal permission to hold two sheep and erect a temp housing structure on the small holding.

The Parish Council wishes to hear from Mr Turnbull directly before any formal permissions are decided upon. Clerk to invite Mr Turnbull to the next full meeting of the Council.

## **12. Wording for the Pitmans' Parliament tokens**

It was resolved the Council will use the wording;

"For the Miners of Langley Park"

"For the Miners of Esh Hilltop"

"For the Miners of Esh" used on each respective token

"The Council of the Parish of Esh"

Clerk to contact Redhills with wording for tokens.

## **13. Consideration of co-option requests received**

Resolved that the Clerk will contact the applicants and invite them for a brief interview prior to the start of the next parish Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

## **14. Cllr. Edwin Simpson – Quebec update and report**

Councillor Edwin Simpson gave a short report into various issues, namely being speeding and the danger posed by deer along the roadside. Cllr. Simpson has the support of many of the residents in the area who would like to see a reduction in the speed on the road from 60 to 40 miles per hour.

Clerk to prepare a draft letter to Highways at Durham County Council with regards to the matter for consideration at the next meeting of the Council. Clerk will also contact County Councillor Mike McGaun and County Councillor Arnie Simpson. This has been an ongoing issue for the Esh Village Residents Association. Clerk will seek a collaborative approach to see if collectively we can have more impact.



### **15. Confirmation for dates of upcoming events within the Parish**

Due to the success of the Christmas Celebrations in the village the Council have decided to extend its events programme. Two major dates were confirmed as;

**Summer Fayre - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Christmas Celebrations – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

In addition, the parish Council will look to support events at various times throughout the year.

### **16. Budget and Precept Report**

All Councillors received the report well ahead of the meeting to give the budget and precept due consideration.

**The Budget was agreed for 2018/19**

**The Precept was agreed for 2018/19 as having a 0% increase on the previous year.**

### **17. Hanging Baskets and Plants for Parish Summer displays**

**The Council to Invite Tenders from local suppliers. Clerk to prepare paperwork for this process. Clerk will prepare details of contract and open tender to suppliers.**

**Meeting closed at 20:30**

Signed as a true record of the meeting

*R. Mowalee*

13<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**Part B Confidential Matters**

**18. Minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes of Part B of the meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

**19. Matters arising**

**20. Clerks Contract of employment and amendments**

It was agreed by Council that the Clerks hours will increase to 22 hours per week and salary on LSC2 SP27 which equates to £12.56/hour.

The contract of employment was signed by the Clerk, Chair Rita Moralee and Cllr. Richard Bowyer who undertook the review process.

**21. Payments made/to make.**

Resolved as accepted, to be paid.

Meeting closed at 20:50

Signed as a true record of the meeting *R Moralee* 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018