

Esh Parish Council News



April 2011



www.eshparishcouncil.gov.uk

Volume 2, Issue 4

Esh Parish Council newsletter for Esh, Langley Park, Quebec, Ushaw and Wilk's



Shock Horror-Parish Council Tax up by 10%

Sounds bad doesn't it!

But on a Band D property it means an extra £2-68 a year or 5p a week!

Q So why put it up at all, the County Council hasn't?

A Well the Parish Council was told that it would lose £13,692 that it has received in previous years, in addition to the DCC precept (Part of the Council Tax), for 2011-2012

Q Why?

A DCC have taken the funding away because there is no other ex-district area receives this benefit, having been put in place by Derwentside Council, but in it's place we will now retain any 106 planning monies that come into the Esh, but it is still a lot of money to lose.

Q Why does it make a difference?

A The funding paid for the maintenance and insurance of the three play areas in Esh, Langley Park and Quebec, the grass cutting for the village green at Esh and the wide grass verges from Langley Park to the Kaysburn roundabout. Without this additional funding it would be almost impossible to continue to fund this work from the Parish Council precept.

In fairness County Cllr Joe Armstrong negotiated a cut of 50% for this year so the Parish Council will receive £6,846 for 2011-2012 and nothing the following year. This allows a breathing space to have discussions with County regarding the grass-cutting etc. So it was necessary to increase our precept to help protect the services the Parish council provides.

If you have any questions please do contact your local Councillor or staff at The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas street Langley Park. Tel: 0191 373 6687



Do you need help to tackle home repairs or are you struggling to afford essential home improvements?



Why not take a helping hand?

One of the main aims of Durham County Council is to help homeowners live in dwellings that are warm, comfortable and safe. We want to achieve this by offering financial assistance to those who need it most. If an owner/occupier finds it difficult to fund repairs, essential improvements or adaptations then they may qualify for an affordable loan from Durham County Council.

It doesn't matter about your age, income or where you live, we may be able to help you. If you are struggling to afford to keep your home safe and comfortable to live in, an affordable loan may be available too. Helping Hand can provide you with a loan that can be paid back in affordable instalments over many years, or a loan that is paid back when you choose to sell your home or it is inherited by a member of your family. It may even be interest-free depending on your circumstances. If you take out a loan, the Council will help you to choose a suitable contractor to get fair estimates for the work. The Council will inspect the standard of the work and pay your loan to the contractor directly so that you don't have to worry. We will be happy to arrange an appointment to visit you in your home at a convenient time to discuss your requirements.



COMMUNITY BANK
Honest Savings. Simple Loans.

Credit Union is now The Prince Bishops Community Bank

Prince Bishops Community Bank is a bank which encourages people to save and manage their money, and offers them access to affordable credit, including instant loans at very low interest rates

Never heard of a Community Bank before?

Well we are a financial co-operative owned and controlled by its members for the benefit of its members. Any money left over from

the running costs is paid back to its members as a dividend.

To help local people in the area a point has been opened locally in the Langley Park Post Office — Details of the **Langley Park Community Bank from the Post Office or for further information please contact Lesley, Debbie or Lynn on 01207 593 445.**

Anyone can join and be eligible for a loan from the age of eighteen, after they have saved for ten weeks regularly with the Community bank. There is a £1 joining fee and we need two forms of ID.

Children this is for you too; any child can join up to the age of sixteen and membership is free! It is important we encourage children to save and manage their money from a very early age. Research shows that by the time children reach seventeen years old over half are in debt to family and friends.

Saving is easy. You are given a 'swipe card' which can be used at your local Post Office.

Withdrawing money is easy too. You contact us and we sort it out for you, usually within five days. You can have a cash cheque to get your money at the Post Office.

Your money is totally safe as it is protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme up to the value of £85,000.

To join please contact Lesley Richardson on **01207 593 445.**

The most important thing to remember is if you do need to borrow money NEVER go to a loan shark, they charge huge interest rates and often resort to violence, intimidation and other drastic measures in order to collect their money.

DO NOT borrow from a loan shark because they are criminals and once in their hands you may never get out.

DO NOT borrow from a legal doorstep lender because it will cost you a lot more than a credit union loan and you might end up owing thousands when in fact all you needed was a small loan.

DO Borrow from Prince Bishops Community Bank!

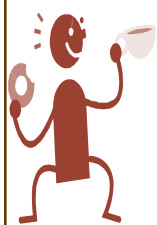
So

- ◆ **DO** join your Community Bank,
- ◆ **DO** save with your Community Bank,
- ◆ **DO** borrow from your Community Bank.

Keep monies local and help discourage people from using doorstep lenders and loan sharks.

We look forward to hearing from you and lots of new members.





Coffee Morning

Langley Park Care Home
Front Street, Langley Park
every Wednesday 10 - 11 a.m.
£1 donation to Residents funds

Woodview Community Centre News

7th April

Film Club starts at 1.45pm
showing the feel good film
"Mama Mia"



9th April



There is a table top sale
from 10am-3pm @£5 a
table—bookings being
taken now. Entrance fee
20p

29th April

The Royal Wedding. This will be
shown on the big TV at Wood-
view and is for members only
who are over 60. After the
wedding there is a buffet lunch,
which is free, but a donations
box will be available if people
want to help towards costs etc. The bar will
be open too and after lunch there will be
the usual Friday tea dance @ £2 a head
tea /biscuits provided, bingo, raffle etc.
We are hoping that a community bus will be
available. For more information phone:



0191 373 2843 or 373 1876

Church Services



for April

All Saints Church Langley Park

- 3rd Mothering Sunday Family Service
10th & 17th Holy Communion 9.45 a.m.
22nd Good Friday 2pm Service
24th Easter Sunday Holy Communion 9.45 a.m.
also every Thursday Holy Communion
9.45 a.m. including Maundy Thursday

St Andrew's Methodist Church Langley Park

All Sunday Services at 10.30 a.m.
Good Friday Service 11 a.m.

St Michael and All Angels—Esh

First Sunday of the month 10 a.m. Service
All other Sundays 9 a.m. Service
Good Friday Service 10 a.m.

St. Joseph's Langley Park

- 20th Mass for Sick & Housebound 1.30 p.m.
Easter Sunday Mass 9.00 a.m.

St Michael's Esh Laude

- 22nd Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's
Passion 3.00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Mass 8.00 a.m.

Churches together - Lent Groups for everyone

There will be a choice of an afternoon or an
evening group during Lent.

- ◆ Tuesdays 7p.m. at Langley Park Roman Catholic Church—'Jesus' Legacy of Love'
- ◆ Thursdays 1.30 p.m. at Langley Park Methodist Church—'Matthew for Everyone'.

Good Friday 'Act of Witness' - 10 a.m.
Langley Park Memorial



**Great company, good food, nice venue,
low cost, have fun!**

Would you like to get together with like-
minded people once a month to enjoy each
others lovely company and good food at a
reasonable price? Yes!

Well the club hopes to meet once a month
on a the second Tuesday of each month, at
the Cross Keys, Esh to enjoy a buffet lunch
with tea or coffee for a reduced price.

First meeting Tuesday 10th May 12.30 pm.

Telephone 0191 3736376 for details.

Me, you, him, her, them...us!

Come and join Litterfree Durham's



big spring clean

Everyday from 19 March to 16 April 2011
there will be litterpicks happening
throughout County Durham & Darlington

To clean up your village or town
Email: springclean11@litterfreedurham.org.uk
Call or text : 0757 253 1725
Visit : www.litterfreedurham.org.uk



Fly-tipping is a serious problem in England and Wales. Dealing with the problem can cost £100-£150 million every year. This cost falls on taxpayers and private land-owners. Fly-tipping adversely affects local environments threatening the health of rivers and recreation areas and even reducing property prices in the area.

NO FLY TIPPING
It is an offence under the **ENVIRONMENTAL ACT 1990**

To illegally deposit anything on this land UNLIMITED FINE OR PRISON SENTENCE



If you see rubbish and fly tipping on public rights of way please call the

Customer Services on 0300 123 7070

or Parish Council staff on **0191 3736687** or call in at the Harry Guildford Centre



IMPORTANT MEETINGS

12th April

Meeting of Electors.

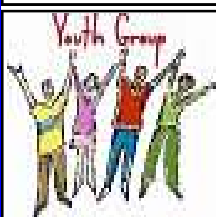
Open to all to listen to the Chairman's Annual report and to ask make comments and ask questions.

7 p.m. at the Harry Guildford Centre.

10th May Annual Parish Meeting

Election of new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

7 p.m. at the Harry Guildford Centre.



STOP PRESS

The Mid Durham Area Action Partnership has just approved funding of over £15,000 to provide improved

facilities for our young people.

The Youth Drop-in held in Woodview, Langley Park last year ended because of the loss of qualified Youth Workers and volunteers. More information next issue.



Working with the Community (part2)

Aims and Objectives

The Parish Council's aims and objectives for seeking community engagement and the outcomes it hopes to achieve are:

- ◆ To enable an involved and active community through consultation with residents on local issues, reaching all sectors of the community including hard to reach groups, and seeking the views of young people.
- ◆ To communicate information clearly and factually through the management of the Council's website and the publication of a regular newsletter.
- ◆ To improve communication with partner organisations
- ◆ To be actively involved in local groups such as Residents organisations, youth groups and community groups.
- ◆ To raise the profile and reputation of the Council through:
 1. Inviting residents to take part in council meetings through public participation.
 2. Publicising the Annual Parish meeting throughout the Parish area.

3. Informing the press of the activities of the Council, when appropriate.

- ◆ Encouraging the Chairman to fulfil his civic role by accepting invitations to community events.
- ◆ To enable each Councillor to effectively perform their role as elected representatives of the community through:
 1. The issue of a new members information pack
 2. Encouraging Councillors to attend meetings of community organisations or take up places on community groups and organisations.
- ◆ To ensure Parish Council staff represent the interest of the Council at community events
- ◆ To encourage staff to have an effective input into the Council's decision making process.



You can send comments, letters, photographs etc. to -

eshleavesnews@langley-park.org.uk
Or drop them off at the Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park.