

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held in the **PARISH ROOM, LANGLEY PARK** on Tuesday 8th February 2005 commencing at 7.00pm

Present Councillors:- M. Tyler (Chairman), C. Bloor, F. Crow, A. Christie, G. Coulson, H. Guildford, A. Harling K. Robson, H. Tyler and W. Tyrie

Apologies:- Councillors A. Mollon, S. Rothwell and M. Sands. PC Dover.

Also in attendance:- M. G. Ackroyd (Clerk), G. F. Smith, Clerk Designate and Councillor J. Armstrong

Before commencing the Meeting Councillors observed one minutes silence for Mr Brenkley a former Parish Councillor and Chairman

138/04 ADDRESS BY MR S. QUINN, PLACEMENTS OFFICER, THE NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE

The Probation Service supervises low risk offenders on community service hours. The types of placements are working in the community for many organisation (local authorities and registered charities etc). The organisation provides the materials and the Probation Service arrange the labour (at no cost to the organisation).

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Mr Quinn to discuss possible work placements for the Parish Council (litter picking and tidying up of the recreation ground, grass cutting etc). The Clerk to report to the next meeting.

014/05 POLICE REPORT

PC Dover was unable to attend the Meeting but had emailed the Clerk with his report. Unfortunately this had been lost on the computer. A further copy has since been received and is attached to these minutes.

015/05 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 11th JANUARY 2005

Agreed as a true record signed by the Chairman excepting for the following matters raised by Councillor

016/05 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING OBSERVATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS TO THE MINUTES

Page 2

091/04 Police Report – Speeding

Letter sent to the Chief Constable, acknowledgment received.

082/04 Proposed MUGA at Esh C of E School

No progress to report

064/03 Noticeboard for Langley Park

Map board with the signmaker

111/03 Commuted Sum for erection of 25 dwellings at Woodside Farm, Woodside Terrace Langley Park

Awaiting response from Derwentside District Council.

081/04 Costs of filling Casual Vacancy

Contact made with the local MP's office. Acknowledgement received

083/04 Reports

(i) Seat opposite the Quebec play area

Delivery awaited

086/04 Offering www services to other Parish Councils

No progress reported

106/04 Funding for the Intermediate Labour Market

Application form from Awards for All with Cllr M. Tyler and other form awaited from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust. Cllr Armstrong suggested that it might be useful for the Clerk to speak to Kathryn Warren, Regeneration Officer, Durham County Council to discuss any other possible options for funding.

108/04 Garage roof

Tenders invited. Closing date 18th February 2005

117/04 Disability Discrimination Act 1995 – provisions for Play Areas

Comments awaited from Derwentside District Council on the annual reports received from the Zurich Municipal Engineers.

124/04 Correspondence

p) The Clerk Designate to contact the City of Durham Council Planning Officer re the field being used by Anderson and Young as an overflow car park

127/04 Seat in memory of Doreen Cummings

Delivery awaited.

Page 3

140B/04 Alternative Parish Office accommodation

The Clerk advised that he was awaiting a response from the County Council re question of an alternative

Parish Room once the existing rooms are required for the new library.

143/04 EQUaL – National Playing Fields Association Scheme

Details awaited from EQUaL. The Clerk Designate had contacted the Clerk of Stanhope PC where a similar initiative might have been carried out. Awaiting response.

Derwentside District Council

- g) Parish Liaison Meeting 20th January 2005. Postponed due to power failure

Page 4

- k) Countryside Agency - Parish Transport Grant

The Clerk advised that the forms had now been sent to the Countryside Agency re the second instalment of the grant awarded for the Service 767

No SL/1/2004/1113/DMFP

Applicant J. Atkinson

Proposed Temporary permission for two bedrooms and full permission for retention of existing bathroom, tackroom and kitchen.

At Mill House Farm Equestrian Centre, Wall Nook, Langley Park

Further information obtained from the District Planning Officer and circulated to all Councillors excepting Councillors Coulson and Guildford

Page 5

006/05 REPORTS

- D) Parish Council

- (ii) Parking in Hall Road, Esh

Price awaited from NJC Wrought Iron for notice board

County Council asked to place notice on the Public Footpath notice warning unofficial users of the road

007/05 ALLOTMENT ED 58 – REQUEST FOR CREATION OF LAYBY

The tenant of the above allotment had requested permission to create a lay-by for use of a motor car at the above allotment.

The Clerk Designate had reported that 12 lay-bys had already been created on the Earl of Durham allotment site. It was agreed to allow a lay-by which would span only half of the frontage of allotment ED 58.

008/05 COMBINED LOCAL COUNCIL POLICY – REVIEW OF COVER

Revised quote awaited from the Zurich Municipal

Page 6

009/05 DONATION TO TSUNAMI EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

The Clerk advised that he had been in touch with County Hall and a response was awaited

013/05 PRECEPT 2005/06

A letter has been received from Derwentside District Council confirming the financial arrangements for 2005/06 to be on the usual basis, plus 2.5% for inflation, resulting in a total Contribution of £12714. This was subject to approval by the full Council meeting which will take place later this month.

017/05 CORRESPONDENCE

Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils

- a) Travellers: Action to Safeguard Local Communities. Letter to be copied to Cllrs and an item placed on agenda for the next Meeting
- b) Freedom of Information Act 2000
- c) Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act
- d) Clerks Salary Award 2005/06. To be considered at the March 2005 Meeting
- e) Guide to Good Employment Practice
- f) Asian Disaster – confirming that Parish Council's could not make financial payments to the appeal
- g) Irish Bank Compliance
- h) Buckingham Palace Garden Parties

Durham County Council

- i) County Durham Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Key Issues Paper. Passed to Cllr Christie. Item to be placed on next month's Agenda.
- j) Highways Member Area Panel – Clerk to check on the details for the next Derwentside meeting.
- k) Gypsy and Traveller Conference 2nd March 2005
- l) PPP 3 Application forms. See under 020/05

Derwentside District Council

- m) Standards Board for England

- n) Minutes of the Esh Playground Meeting 21st December 2004
 - o) Application for small business rate relief. Form completed and returned to the District Council.
Possible relief up to 50% for the garage
- County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership Course
- p) Training Courses
 - (i) The Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme
5.00pm to 8.00pm Wednesday 9th February 2005 County Hall, Durham
 - (ii) The Role and Procedures of a Parish or Town Council
2.00pm to 5.00pm Wednesday 13th April 2005, Ferryhill

Other

- p) Thank you letter from Langley Park Primary School re £50 donation
- q) Stewardship News Autumn/Winter 2004
- r) Wear Life Winter/Spring Issue 3
- s) EQUaL – Meeting with Living Spaces re Quebec Play Area
- t) North East Assembly – shaping the North East
- u) Standards Board – Further Guidance
- v) Community News

018/05 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in this item and took no further part in the debates.

Planning Approval Certificates

Issued for

No SW1/2004/1080TF
 Applicant Derwentside District Council
 Proposed Pruning of one Ash tree (TPO17)
 At Land to the north of 15 Close, Langley Park

No SW/1/2004/1153/DMFP
 Applicant Phil Wilks
 Proposed Erection of single storey rear extension
 At Redtiles Service Station, Kaysburn, Witton Gilbert

Applications received for

No SL/1/2004/1154/DMFP
 Applicant Mr and Mrs N. Applin
 Proposed Erection of two storey rear extension
 At 15 Elemore Close, Langley Park

No objection subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into account by the District Council before coming to a decision in the matter.

No CS/1/2005/0001/DMFP
 Applicant Mr and Mrs Marley
 Proposed Erection of two storey side extension to incorporate garage
 At 3 Phoenix Close, Langley Park

Application noted. The District Council to be asked to consult adjacent owners and to take into account any comments received by them before coming to a decision in the matter.

No SL/1/2005/0045/DMOP
 Applicant Charles Ryan
 Proposed Erection of office (outline)
 At Greenland Lodge, Hamsteels Lane, Esh

No objection subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into account by the District Council before coming to a decision in the matter.

No FC/1/2005/0068/DMLB
 Applicant Ushaw College
 Proposed Listed Building consent for refurbishment of top floor rooms including provision of new Bathrooms, shower rooms and utility spaces
 At Ushaw College, Esh

No objection subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into account by the District Council before coming to a decision in the matter.

No FC/1/2005/0072/DMFP
Applicant Elite Property Services Ltd
Proposed Demolition of existing building and erection of offices and flats
At Former Hippodrome Building, Hedley Terrace, Langley Park

No objection subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into account by the District Council before coming to a decision in the matter. In addition the Planning Officer to consult with adjacent occupiers on the access arrangements to premises situated to the rear of the property.

006Di)/05 CASUAL VACANCY

The District Councils Returning Officer had agreed for the notice of a Casual Vacancy to be posted throughout the Parish. It had been suggested that the 5th May 2005 could be a possible date for polling day (subject to an election being called). This was the same day as the proposed County Council elections. Should a General Election also be called for that day then legally 3 elections cannot be held on the same day and the Parish Council election would be postponed for 3 weeks.

It was agreed to post the notice of a Casual Vacancy throughout the Parish as soon as possible.

019/05 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2005

Item deferred until the next meeting.

020/05 FOOTPATH AT THE RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Robson declared an interest in this item but remained in the meeting. The Clerk referred to a possible upgrading of part of the footpath which runs along the northern end of the Rec. Funding might be available under the County Council's PPP Scheme in 2005/06. It was agreed to await further details.

021/05 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT 2005

It was agreed to invite Wharton Landscapes to quote for this seasons grass cutting contract in accordance with the initial contract awarded in 2003. The Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, to finalise the details.

022/05 REQUEST FOR C/O TENANCY ON ED ALLOTMENTS 35-40

It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the tenant informing him of the conditions which were agreed in December 2003 (ie that there should be no sub-letting of all or part of the sites and that the tenant should use the land for grazing his horses only).

023/05 REPORTS

A) EQUaL Partnership meeting

No report given

B) Parish Council

Articles for Esh Leaves to be with the Clerk by 18th February 2005.

Cllr Christie raised the issue of the sudden revision in timetables for Services 53 and 54.

Apart from the apparent lack of any real notice period Cllr Christie highlighted various areas of concern including:-

(a) the reduction in more direct journeys both ways between Langley Park and Durham (3 an hour rather than 4 an hour) particularly at the critical times of the working day

(b) that passengers to Earls House were having to walk longer distances to work in potentially vulnerable areas, particularly in the darker periods. This is not really helping all our efforts to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

On another matter a question was raised on the question of bus ticket prices between operators and in particular whether the various bus companies serving our area could come to some agreement on the transferability of tickets.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Go Ahead Northern and ask that it responds to these points and agrees to monitor the situation.

C) District Council

Cllr Guildford reported on the following:-

a. He had attended 2 licensing training sessions

b. A recent Council meeting discussed the following:-

Chairmans charity donations

Stanley bus station

Council tax basis

Cllr Coulson – no report as comments already included in Cllr Guildford's report

Cllr Tyrie reported on the following:-

- (i) Large Scale Voluntary Stock Transfer
Application by the District Council submitted just before the deadline. It was possible that the tenant ballot might slip to November and the actual stock transfer might now take place in June/July 2006.
- (ii) Financial Support to Parish Councils
Matter discussed by the Executive the previous night. See also under 013/05
- (iii) Wind Farms in Derwentside
Concern over possible location of Wind Farms. Given the output of the High Hedleyhope Farm turbines this would suggest around 55 turbines would be required for Derwentside
- (iv) Stanley Bus Station
Work should finish in October 2005.
- (v) Council House Rents for 2005/06
Rents likely to increase by around £1.80 per week with effect from 1st April 2005

D) County Council

- (i) Library
Negotiations ongoing with CISWO re the Community Centre in Church Street
Planning permission might be required for the new library
Full survey requested for the Centre
Meeting shortly re a Service Level Agreement with the Community Association
- (ii) Temporary Library
Still awaiting confirmation by the College on the proposed terms of occupation for the temporary accommodation in the former fire station.
- (iii) Community Capacity Worker
County officer to contact EQUaL and the Parish Council re their funding needs.
- (iv) Donation
£100 made to the LP Primary School Badgers Football team
- (v) New loading bay, Front Street, Langley Park
Some problems – being addressed
- (vi) Other matters raised included builders rubbish deposited in Park Close

024/05 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT

After receiving details of the financial statements (V248 – 272) should be paid and, where appropriate, confirm the Chairman/Clerks action for issuing any cheques in advance of the meeting. In addition 2 further payments to Durham County Council (V273) and NJC Wrought Iron (V274) were also agreed.

The Clerk also reported on an overpayment of £6 in rent in 2004 by a Mr J. . It was agreed to refund this.

025/05 REQUEST FOR DONATION

Finchale Training College

A request for a donation had been received from Finchale Training College for setting up a communication disorder support studio. This project will enable people with disabilities and special needs to develop their potential to gain the skills to make the transition from welfare dependency to work.

It was agreed to donate £100 under the powers contained within the Local Government Act 1972 s137.

026/05 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

To be held on Tuesday 8th March 2005 at Ushaw College commencing at 7.00pm, at a fee of £3 per person.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded for the remainder of the Meeting during consideration of the items listed below on the grounds that if they are present during the discussion of these items there could be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Section 10.