

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held in the **PARISH ROOM, LANGLEY PARK** on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2005 commencing at 7.10pm

Present Councillors:- A. Mollon (Chairman), C. Bloor, R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, A. Harling, S. Rothwell and W. Tyrie

Apologies:- Councillor, A. Christie, F. Crow, A. Hiles, M. Sands, H. and M. Tyler

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

### **041/05 POLICE REPORT**

Police not in attendance. No report available.

### **042/05 MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2005**

Agreed as a true record signed by the Chairman.

### **043/05 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING OBSERVATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS TO THE MINUTES**

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138/04 Community Enhancement Service, the National Probation Service

Some clearance work already carried out under the Service. More to follow.

082/04 Proposed MUGA at Esh C of E School

No progress to report.

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

Awaiting response from Derwentside District Council. To be discussed at the District and Parish Liaison Meeting to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

081/04 Costs of filling Casual Vacancy

Item placed on the Agenda for the next District and Parish Liaison Meeting to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2005.

083/04 Reports

(i) Seat opposite the Quebec play area

To be installed over the weekend 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> April 2005

124/04 Correspondence

The Clerk Designate reported that he had spoken to a member of staff at Durham City Councils Planning Department and confirmed that no vehicles were parked on the land. Action could be taken should the situation change (ie enforcement notice).

127/04 Seat in memory of Doreen Cummings

To be installed over the weekend 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> April 2005

140b/04 Alternative Parish Office accommodation

Contact awaited from Durham County Council

143/04 EQUaL – National Playing Fields Association Scheme

Details awaited from EQUaL and Stanhope Parish Council.

D) Parish Council

(ii) Parking in Hall Road, Esh - Board now installed

009/05 Tsunami Earthquake Appeal

The Clerk to discuss any possible twinning with the Head Teacher at Langley Park Primary School.

k) Countryside Agency (CA) – Parish Transport Grant. Invoice now received from the County Council for the latest grant settlement from the Countryside Agency.

017/05 Correspondence

d) Clerks Salary Award 2005/06.

Item on the Agenda for the Meeting.

006di/05 Casual Vacancy

Item on the Agenda for the Meeting.

020/05 Footpath at the Recreation Ground

On Agenda – under Parish report

022/05 Request for c/o tenancy on ED allotments 35-40

A further letter had been received from Mr King. Members agreed for the Chairman, Cllr Coulson, the Clerk and the Clerk Designate to meet with Mr King and Miss Smith on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am In the Parish Room. Clerk Designate to report to the next Parish meeting.

023/05 Reports

B) Parish Council – Services 53 & 54 - Letter received from Go Ahead Northern explaining its procedures

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D) County Council

(iii) Funding for the IT Officer. Various applications requested/already submitted

027/05 Outstanding allotment rents 2005

Notices to Quit served on the 3 tenants involved – sites now available to relet

031/05 Correspondence

- d) Inland Revenue - Employer Talk 2005 – Seminar 5<sup>th</sup> April 2005 – Ramside Hall.  
Attended by the Clerk. Main item of interest was the opportunity of obtaining payment of around £870 over 5 years for employers of under 50 employees completing their returns on line. The Clerk had registered an interest in this initiative.
- k) EDF Energy  
Public Exhibition of Langley Wind Farm held from 3.00pm to 7.00pm Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2005, Wood View Centre. Photograph taken for Esh Leaves.
- m) EQUaL
  - (i) Exhibition day at the Quebec Village Hall - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2005 - 10.00 to 12.00 noon  
Following the Meeting it had been decided by ballot to proceed with the Wicksteeds scheme.

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032/05 Planning Matters

Applications received for

No CC/1/2005/0165/DMFP  
Applicant Mr R. Forman  
Proposed Conservatory to front  
At 2 Hall Road, Esh

The Clerk advised that he had contacted Cllr Sands and had responded as follows to the application. New structure will not take up more space than present conservatory and will close access to next door. Proposed shape not in keeping with conservation area/other structures in area. Is pvc the right material to use? No objections to the concept but the chosen style needs further consideration.

019/05 Remembrance Sunday 2005

Clerk Designate had recently spoken to Mrs Esther Hayton and would report to the next Parish meeting on the availability of a brass band for Remembrance Day and the update from the War Memorials Commission.

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021/05 Grass Cutting Contract 2005

Clerk Designate reported that he had spoken to the contractor (Wharton Landscapes), who would begin grass cutting in week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> April.

034/05 Quebec Play Area - EQUaL

Letter received from Zurich Municipal confirming the quotation given to the Council at its March 2005 Meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would make further enquiries re other possible Insurers for an alternative competitive quote.

035/05 Hanging Baskets 2005

Clerk Designate reported that the brackets for the hanging baskets would be inspected at the end of April. The baskets will be provided in May.

036/05 Reports

B) Parish Council

Clerk Designate reported on a proposed meeting with EQUaL to discuss youth Facilities in the Parish. It was agreed to arrange a meeting in late May 2005 and also invite a representative from the Police and Derwentside District Council.

037/05 Request for a Donation - Great North Ambulance

Donation on the Financial Statement for payment.

040/05 Renewal of the IT Officer's Contract

The Clerk advised that following the meeting with the Regeneration Officer several potential fundholders had been identified and letters had now been sent to them (9 in total) re possible funding for the IT Officer.

108/04 Tenders for the Garage Roof

Clerk Designate reported that he had received two satisfactory references for the contractor and had also received a letter from Park Roofing confirming the agreement to the contract clauses. It was agreed to award the contract to Park Roofing and for the Clerk to release a cheque to pay for the materials prior to commencement on site. The contractor was due to start on site in week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> April.

**044/05 CORRESPONDENCE**

Derwentside District Council

- a) Parish Liaison Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> April 2005
- b) Children's Play Areas at Esh and Quebec
- c) Agenda and background papers for the Development Control Committee Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005

Durham County Council

- d) Agenda for the Development of Local Charter Arrangements Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April 2005
- e) Community Information Database – Review Letter
- f) Doorstep Crime Initiative – Email Early Warning Network
- g) Local Transport Plan 2 (2006 to 2011) – Public Consultation
- h) Potential Funding for various EPC initiatives
- i) Local Government Pension Scheme – Combining periods of Local Government Pension Scheme Service. Both the Clerk and Clerk Designate had advised the County Council that they did not wish to combine their separate Schemes
- j) Appointment of new Chief Executive

Other

- k) EDF Energy – offer to meet with EPC re the planning application for the proposed Wind Farm at Langley. Clerk to discuss with EDF and if major changes are proposed to the original application then EDF to be invited to attend a PC Meeting.
- l) DEFRA Quality Parishes and Parish Planning
- m) Kompan – Play area brochures
- n) Mary Sutherland – old photographs for Esh Leaves
- o) Countryside Agency – Transfer of Grant of the Stanley – Consett Bus Service to One North East
- p) Thank you letter from Finchale Training College
- q) Invitation to the Chairman to Brandon & Byshottles Parish Council Fund Raising Event 6<sup>th</sup> May 2005
- r) Trafalgar Weekend 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2005
- s) NALC Conference Eastbourne 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2005

**045/05 PLANNING MATTERS**

Councillors Coulson declared an interest in this item and took no further part in the debates other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Planning Applications received for

Councillor Bowyer declared an interest in the following item (SW/1/2005/0171) and took no further part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

No SW/1/2005/0171/DMFP  
Applicant Mr and Mrs Bowyer  
Proposed Conservatory to side  
At 12 Dean Street, Langley Park

No CS/1/2005/0172/DMFP  
Applicant Mr A. Johnson  
Proposed Erection of two side extensions and single storey front extension  
At 5 Stargate Close, Langley Park

No CC/1/2005/0069/DMFP  
Applicant Mr B. Crabbe  
Proposed Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey garage  
At 51 Front Street, Langley Park

No objections to the above subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision in these cases.

**006di)/05 AND 033/05 CASUAL VACANCIES**

The closing date for both Councillor vacancies had closed with no requests for calling a by-election. It was agreed to discuss the vacancies at the next Parish Meeting with Council.

**046/05 REPORTS**

- A) EQUaL Partnership meeting
  - (i) Charity Curry Night Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2005
  - (ii) Illustrated Talk on the Ascent of Cotopaxi, Ecuador at Wood View Community Centre at 8.00pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2005
  - (iii) Meeting of the Playground Action Group at the New Hall, Esh at 7.00pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2005

- (iv) Report on the Langley Park site – the BIFFA application had been turned down as considered premature. EQUaL now progressing bids to obtain funding for planning applications, lease documents etc being prepared.
- (v) Report on the Quebec site – planning application now submitted. Letter sent by the Clerk seeking the former owner's agreement (the Coal Authority) re the proposals.

B) Parish Council

- (i) Ponding along the Railway Walk between the rear of Davis Crescent and the entrance road into the Riverside Industrial estate. Agreed that the Clerk should contact Durham County Council on the matter.
- (ii) Beating the Boundaries Walk. 1.30pm Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005 – Leader Chris Bloor.
- (iii) Litter picking. Email from the Countryside Ranger, Durham County Council, advising on a litter pick on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2005 – 9.30am to 11.30am.

C) District Council

Cllr Coulson reported :-

- (i) Inspection of Churchyards are ongoing, St Michaels at Esh have fifty headstones needing attention and at Quebec one hundred headstones require attention.
- (ii) The Environmental Scrutiny Committee on the number of fly-tipping incidents in the district (2119),
- (iii) The possibility of a new Bill in 2006 for Cleaner Streets.
- (iv) Trade Refuse

Cllr Tyrie reported:-

- (i) Play area at Craghead Community Play Park.
- (ii) Suggestion made by local resident on possible Sheltered housing for the All Saints Youth Club Langley Park site
- (iii) Stanley old Bus Station / New Health Centre, Derwentside District Council had agreed to sell the site to the Primary Care Trust. The development was estimated to cost £17 million.
- (iv) Integrated Learning Disability Service in Derwentside District
- (v) Postal voting. 25% of the electorate in Esh Ward had applied for a postal vote.

D) County Council

No report. Cllr Armstrong had given his apologies for his absence from the meeting.

**020/05 FOOTPATH AT THE RECREATION GROUND**

The Clerk advised the Council that he had written to the NWA outlining the problems in this area. Reply awaited. Cllr Bowyer referred to a further drain running alongside the western boundary of the Recreation Ground. The Clerk to make further enquiries in this case.

**047/05 UPDATE ON PORTFOLIO FOR CLERK DESIGNATE OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATE IN LOCAL COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION**

Clerk Designate updated the meeting, report attached to the minutes.

**048/05 REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CLERKS AND COUNCILLORS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS AT WAKEFIELD – 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2005**

Members agreed for the Clerk Designate to attend and pay the conference fee of £38.00.

**049/05 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT**

After receiving details of the financial statements 2004/05 (V295 – 306) and 2005/06 (V2-V18 and 20) should be paid and, where appropriate, confirm the Chairman/Clerks action for issuing cheques in advance of the meeting. Item V19 (Affiliation Fee to the DAPTC for 2005/06) to be deferred until the May 2005 Meeting in order that the Clerk Designate can discuss the level of fee at a meeting of the DAPTC later this month. The Clerk reminded the Council that the new scale of fees had been introduced in light of major changes to the DAPTC administration and had been considered at the September 2004 Meeting.

**050/05 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

To be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2005 in the Parish Room, Langley Park immediately following the Annual General Meeting which commences at 7.00pm.

**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.

The Meeting finished at 9.25pm