

Esh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Room, Church Street, Community Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 12th September 2006 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors H Guildford (Chairman), C Bloor, R Bowyer, G Coulson, A Christie, A Harling, M Sands, M Tyler and W Tyrie

Apologies: Councillors F Crow, A Hiles, A Mollon, S Rothwell and H Tyler.

Also in attendance: County Councillor J Armstrong, PCSO Brown and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

095/06 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in Item 7-Planning Matters, they took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Harling declared an interest in Item 7c-Planning Matters, he took no part in the debate.

Councillor Bloor declared an interest in Item 19-Earl of Durham Allotments, he took no part in the debate.

096/06 Police Report

P.C.S.O. Brown gave a comprehensive report on incidents within the Parish (copy attached to the minutes), followed by a question and answer session.

Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Chief Constable regarding the following:-

- a) No provision of a vehicle for PCSO Brown to be transported from Lanchester to Langley Park.
- b) Lack of police presence in the Parish (members would like to see the return of the "village bobby").

097/06 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th July 2006

Agreed as true record, signed by the Chairman.

098/06 Clerks Report including Observations from Councillors to the Minutes.

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072/06 Police Report

The Clerk read out an email from Acting Inspector Peter Dawson, Consett Neighbourhood Policing Team (copy attached to the minutes).

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148/05 Complaints Procedure Policy

Awaiting response from NALC. Clerk to report to the members when there is further developments.

064/06 Reports – Parish

Recreation Ground, Langley Park

The area was subjected to unauthorised vehicles gaining entry onto the recreation ground. Clerk to make further enquiries and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Earl of Durham Allotments

The allotments were subject to a large number of wild rabbits eating produce from the allotments. The Clerk had met with a number of allotment holders regarding the use of snaring, but this offer was declined. It was resolved that the Clerk should meet again with some of the allotment holders to discuss the possible use of ferrets and also information from the Defra web site. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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082/06 Garage Tenancy

Awaiting planning application forms for change of use purposes. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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090/06 Reports – b) Parish

Simply Soccer Coaching Sessions at Langley Park

The Clerk had met with the organiser (Mr Billy Horn). The company was in planning stages of events on a Saturday morning and may change the venue to Ushaw Moor. Clerk to provide an update once the final programme has been agreed.

099/06 Correspondence

Durham County Council

- a) Environment – Adoption of the County Durham Statement of Community Involvement.
- b) Community Safety – Local Government Association Reputation Campaign.

County Durham and Cleveland Training Partnership

- c) Half day training event (Councillors and Officers) “Finance for Councils with budgets of under £200,000” on Tuesday 26th September 2006 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm at Hardwick, Stockton on Tees. Cost £27.00 per delegate + VAT.
It was agreed for the Clerk to attend the above mentioned course.
- d) Half day training event (Councillors) “Speaking in Public” on Saturday 7th October 2006 9.30 am to 12.30 pm at County Hall, Durham. Cost £52.50 per delegate + VAT.
- e) Half day training event (Councillors and Officers) “Member/Officer relationships” on Saturday 11th November 2006 9.30 am to 12.30 pm at County Hall, Durham. Cost £52.50 per delegate + VAT.
- f) Half day training event (Councillors) “Code of Conduct for Members” on Saturday 2nd December 2006 9.30 am to 12.30 pm at County Hall, Durham. Cost £52.50 per delegate + VAT.

- g) Half day training event (Councillors) “The Member and the Media” on Saturday 9th December 2006 9.30 am to 12.30 pm at County Hall, Durham. Cost £52.50 per delegate + VAT.

Others

- h) NALC Policy Briefing – Climate Change and Sustainability Energy Act 2006.
- i) NALC Legal Briefing – Memorial Safety in Cemeteries.
- j) County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service – 2006/07 Best Value Performance and Business Plan.
- k) Durham and Chester-le-Street PCT – Celebration of National Clean Air Awards – 18th October 2006 at 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm, County Hall, Durham.
- l) Durham City Council – Local Development Framework, dates for receipt of comments.
- m) Langley Park Angling Association – Letter of thanks.
- n) Langley Park Branch, Sunderland Supporters Association - Letter of thanks.
- o) Durham Rural Community Council – Community News; Issue 101; July 2006.
- p) Allotments Regeneration Initiative Newsletter; Issue No.2; Summer 2006.
- q) North East War Memorials Project Newsletter; Issue No.2; Summer 2006.
- r) Mr Liam Looby, 52 Front Street, Langley Park – letter of application to become a co-opted member of Esh Parish Council.
Members agreed to accept the application subject to the Clerk checking with officers at Derwentside District Council that the correct procedure has been followed.
- s) One Voice Network – Conference “Working together for County Durham” to be held on Friday 20th October 2006 at Durham County Cricket Club.
- t) Mr R Brownlow, 10 Esh Terrace, Langley Park – Email regarding the siting of a post (NEDL) in the middle of the pavement at Esh Terrace. Councillor Armstrong informed the meeting that the post was to be removed and the cables installed underground.
- u) Derwentside District Council – Parish Liaison Committee to be held on Thursday 14th September 2006 at 6.30pm in the Civic Centre, Consett.
- v) Mr J Moralee, 17 Lillian Terrace, Langley Park – Request for co-tenancy (Jillian Crombie, 5 Hezlett Court, Langley Park) of No. 15 and 16 Crossfell Allotments. Members agreed to the request.
- w) Mrs E Hayton, 52 Quebec Street, Langley Park – letter regarding the inscription on the war memorial for the unknown soldier (buried in All Saints churchyard). Clerk to contact the responsible officer at Derwentside District Council and report to the next Parish Council meeting.
- x) Derwentside District Council – Beacon Open Day “Positive Youth Engagement” on Wednesday 25th October 2006 at the Centre of Life, Newcastle.
- y) Durham Rural Community Council – AGM Thursday 12th October 2006, 10am to 2.00pm at Wheatley Hill Community Association.

100/06 Planning Matters

A

No. SW/1/2006/0560/DMFP

APPLICANT JAMES HALL & CO LTD

PROPOSED WORKS TO COMBINE EXISTING SHOP UNITS, SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION, ALTERATION TO SHOP FRONTAGE AND INSTALLATION OF ROLLER SHUTTERS TO FRONT

AT 37-39 FRONT STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Concerns were raised about the installation of the roller shutter (not appropriate for a Rural village and gave an inner city impression) and would like the Planning Officer to consider the look of the village when determining the application.

Subject to the above concern it was agreed to raise no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision.

B

No. LF/1/2006/0559/DMFP

APPLICANT MISS F QUINN

PROPOSED ERECTION OF TWO STOREY AND SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS

AT 6 D'ARCY STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

C

No. CC/1/2006/0608/DMFP
APPLICANT MR A WALTON
PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR
EXTENSION
AT 2 MIDDRIDGE ROAD, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

D

No. LF/1/2006/0623/DMAF
APPLICANT W J WADE
PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DETERMINATION FOR
ERRECTION OF AGRICULTURAL BUILDING
AT ROWLEY GILLETS FARM, ESH WINNING

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

E

No. GG/1/2006/ 0658/DMFP
APPLICANT MRS P RITCHIE
PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR
EXTENSION
AT 8 CLIFFORD STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL:-

F

No. CC/1/2006/0600/DMFP
APPLICANT MRS K RYAN
PROPOSED ERECTION OF ONE DWELLING (OUTLINE)
AT 7 FRONT STREET, QUEBEC

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

G

No. CC/1/2006/0688/DMFP
APPLICANT MR P HAMMEL
PROPOSED DOMER WINDOW TO FRONT
AT 3 CEDAR COURT, LANGLEY PARK

Agreed that no objection to the above planning application, subject to adjacent owners being consulted and to their comments being taken into consideration before making a decision on this development.

101/06 Reports

A) EQUaL Partnership

Consultation event on the proposed Langley Park Play Area took place on the 29th July 2006. The winning design was Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. Six education and IT survey forms have been returned. A meeting has taken place with the detached youth workers who have three young people interested in forming the committee to discuss young people activities etc.

B) Parish.

Esh Play Area

Sign has now been erected.

Footpath is now complete.

Vandalism – Repairs are now complete.

Problems of litter on the site (no litter bin) . Clerk to contact Derwentside District Council regarding provision and emptying of a wheelie bin.

Quebec Play Area

Sign has now been erected. Problems of litter on the site. Clerk to contact Derwentside District Council regarding provision and emptying of a wheelie bin.

Langley Park Play Area

Clerk to contact Meikles Solicitors and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

National Probation Service – Community Pay-Back Scheme

Awaiting update report from Probation Service Staff. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Damage to roadside seats at Kaysburn Road, Langley Park

On Friday 4th August 2006 three roadside seats were wilfully damaged. Following an inspection it was agreed that two seats would have to be replaced and one seat could be repaired. In consultation with the Chairman the Clerk obtained a quotation from Mr N J Cassidy, the estimate to carry out the work was £390.00. Instruction was given to Mr Cassidy to carry out this work.

The Police were informed by a resident and the Clerk has received a crime reference number. An article has appeared in the Northern Echo and the Durham Advertiser.

It was agreed: -

- a) To obtain a price from Mr N J Cassidy to provide hollow section steel seating (plastic coated) as apposed to wood.
- b) When the replacement seats are installed, the Clerk to contact the local press for a picture and story to appear in the newspaper.

Recreation Ground, Langley Park – Breathing Places Funding Application

The funding application would be to commission a professional nature conservation company to draw up a fully costed management plan to look at short, medium and long term aims for the area within the grounds.

Some of the conditions of grant have an impact on the Trustees, these are:-

- a) Must be a registered charity – already exists
- b) Must have a bank account – already exists
- c) Must have a Equal Opportunities Policy – Members agreed the report. (Copy attached to these minutes).
- d) Must have a Child Protection Policy – Members agreed the report. (Copy attached to these minutes).

C) District

Councillor Guildford no report.

Councillor Coulson reported on his attendance at the recent Planning Committee meeting.

Councillor Tyrie reported on:-

- i) Conservation Area Appraisals.
- ii) Annual Report of the Directors of Public Health.
- iii) Closure of the neighbourhood office in Lanchester.
- iv) Equipped play areas.
- v) Shotley Bridge Hospital.
- vi) Capital Programme 2006/07 – Dangerous Headstones.

D) County

Councillor Armstrong reported:-

- i) Road sign in Bridge Street.
- ii) Drop kerbs.
- iii) Parking in Quebec Street (opposite All Saints Church), possible alterations to the flowerbed area.
- iv) Ownership of land in Front Street (fenced shrubbery area).
- v) Bus service 725 (further report to the next Parish Council meeting).
- vi) Survey of Institute building (awaiting results).
- vii) Storage provision for equipment of the playgroup based at Wood View Community Centre (further report to the next Parish Council meeting).

102/06 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed to the financial details (V106 – V148) should be paid and where appropriate the Chairman/Clerk action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

103/06 Financial Reconciliation Statement/Budget Update

Members agreed to accept the report of the Assistant Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and also to:-

Transfer funding from the reserves to cover increased expenditure levels as follows: -

Esh Leaves by £500 to £4000

Allotments by £500 to £2650

Open Spaces by £300 to £1000

Play Areas by £500 to £1500

Hanging Baskets by £200 to £1700 (limiting the number of occasions the baskets are watered to 30).

104/06 Financial Regulations

Members agreed to implement the financial regulations as set out in the report (copy attached to these minutes).

105/06 Application for Donation

Members agreed to donate £200 to Age Concern, Langley Park (under the powers within the Local Government Act 1972 section 137).

106/06 Garage, Earl of Durham Allotments

Members agreed to refund the bond (£100) paid by Mr Trevor Muskett, Front Street, Quebec, less any outstanding electricity charges.

107/06 Annual Inspection of Allotments

Members agreed to inspect the allotments on Saturday 23rd September 2006 commencing at 10.00am (meet in the Parish Room prior to the inspections).

108/06 Date and Time of the next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th October 2006 in the Parish Room, Church Street, Community Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm.

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 ITEM LISTED BELOW ON THE GROUNDS THAT IF THEY ARE PRESENT DURING DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS THERE COULD BE DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.