

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Room, Church Street, Community Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 10th October 2006 at 7.00pm.

Present:- Councillor A Mollon (Chairman), F Crow, G Goulson, A Christie, H Guildford, A Harling and W Tyrie.

Apologies:- Councillor C Bloor, R Bowyer, A Hiles, S Rothwell M Sands, H Tyler and M Tyler.

Also in Attendance:- County Councillor J Armstrong, Sgt Karen Naughton, PCSO Steve Brown and G F Smith (Clerk).

111/06 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in item 11 – Planning Matters. They took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Christie declared an interest in item 8 – Allotment Committee meeting, she took no part in the debate.

Councillor Coulson declared an interest in item 12b – Parish Report (Parish Room Rent), he took no part in the debate.

112/06 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.

113/06 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 12th September 2006

Minute 109/06 Renewal of I.T. Officers contract, rate of pay should read £7.181 per hour (payable from 1st April 2006).

Subject to the above amendment the members agreed true record and signed by the Chairman.

114/06 Clerks Report including observations from Councillors to the minutes.

Page 1

096/06 Police Report

Awaiting response from the Police Constable.

148/06 Complaints Procedure

Response from Meera Tharmarajah, head of legal services, NALC was circulated at the meeting. It was agreed to accept the advice and place the response on the complaints procedure file.

Page 2

064/06 Reports – Parish

Recreation ground – Langley Park.

The area is subject to a bid to the Derwentside Community Resource Fund for £3000 with further funding applications to Awards for All and BBC Breathing Places (Thanks to Karen Gibson/Ken Bradshaw for their assistance in completing the application form).

Following a site inspection by the Chairman and Clerk it was agreed not to progress with installing the boulders at the football field entrance.

Earl of Durham Allotments.

Following a meeting with allotment holders and the Clerk where it was agreed not to go ahead with the use of snaring and ferrets to reduce the rabbit population. Members agreed for the Clerk to contact Defra to arrange for an Officer to visit the site and meet with the allotment holders. Clerk to provide an update report at the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

082/06 Garage Tenancy

A letter from Mr J Cassidy regarding fencing of the hard standing outside the front of the garage was circulated at the meeting.

Members agreed for the Chairman and the Clerk to meet with Mr Cassidy to discuss the proposal and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

099/06 Correspondence

c) CDCTP Half day training session on finance.

Members noted the change of date to 21st November 2006.

Page 3

099/06 Correspondence

r) Mr Liam Looby – re Council Vacancy.

Officers from Derwentside District Council had agreed that the correct procedures had been carried out for advertising a casual vacancy. As Mr Looby was on holiday members agreed to invite him to the next Parish Council meeting in order to install him as a co-opted members of the Parish Council.

w) Mrs E Hayton – re War Memorial.

A letter has been sent to Derwentside District Council (Mr Peter Reynolds) and were awaiting a response. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Page 4

Page 5

Page 6

101/06 Reports – b) Parish

Esh and Quebec play areas.

Agenda Item 12b

Page 7

Langley Park play area.

Awaiting response from Meikles Solicitors and Derwentside District Council regarding the transfer of the land from Derwentside District Council to Esh Parish Council. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

National Probation Service – Community Pay-Back Scheme.

Health and Safety questionnaire/policy to complete. Further details in correspondence report (agenda item 10).

Damage to roadside seats at Kaysburn Road, Langley Park. Contractor scheduled to start work, week commencing Monday 16th October 2006.

Page 8

Page 9

110/06 Earl of Durham Allotments – Complaints.

Clerk to write to Mr Bolton to confirm his place of residence and to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Clerk to write to Mr Holmans to ask if he would be prepared to provide evidence of alleged overnight sleeping in the shed/caravan by Mr Bolton.

No further complaints regarding barking dogs on the site. Clerk to include a reminder to all allotment holders regarding the keeping of dogs overnight on the site when he informs them of rent collection days for 2007.

115/06 Minutes of a Special Meeting (Mining Memorial) held on 13th September 2006.

Agreed as true record.

Next meeting arranged for Wednesday 18th October 2006 at 7.00pm in the Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park. Chairman to discuss with committee members the possibilities of setting up as a registered charity (with Constitution, Bank Account and Elected Officers).

116/06 Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 23rd September 2006

Agreed as true record.

Members agreed to the recommendations and for the Clerk to carry out the necessary arrangement.

Members requested a review of the tenancy agreement for allotment garden. Item to be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Clerk to remind allotment holders of the Health and Safety issues of using barbed wire on external fencing (to be included in the letter informing them of rent collection days for 2007).

117/06 Correspondence

Derwentside District Council

- a) Gambling Act 2005 – Draft Statement of Licensing Policy

Others

- b) EQUaL – Sir Bobby Robson Park request for funding of £5000
Clerk to write to the EQUaL Partnership informing them that the correspondence is a letter of intent to donate £5000 to the Sir Bobby Robson Park. Funds will be released once the scheme is fully funded.
- b) National Probation Service – Partnership Contract Health & Safety questionnaire.
Clerk to draft Health and Safety policy for members to discuss and approve at the next Parish Council meeting.
- d) County Durham Local Action 21 Newsletter; Autumn 2006;issue32.
- e) Derwentside District Council – Request for update of Parish Councillors.
Clerk to write to the Legal and Licensing Services Manager enclosing a list of Parish Councillors together with their home addresses. The District Council Officer to write to each Councillor asking if they would be happy for correspondence to be issued to them directly or whether they would prefer to receive correspondence from the Council via the Parish Clerk.
- f) Durham County Council – Local Government Pension Scheme.
- g) Natural England – Creation of new organisation on 1st October 2006.
- h) Durham County Council – National Tree Week 2006.
Member suggested Quebec Play area be selected for a 100% grant scheme. Clerk to complete the necessary application form.

118/06 Planning Matters

A
No. GG/1/2006/0768/DMCA

APPLICANT MR & MRS METCALFE

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF TWO ROOFLIGHTS
TO REAR AND ONE TO THE FRONT

AT RUNSWICK HOUSE, FRONT STREET, ESH

Agreed that no objections 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.

B
NO. GG/1/2006/0809/DMFP

APPLICANT MR G ADAIR

PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE OF LAND TO DOMESTIC
GARDEN INCLUDING THE RELOCATION
OF FENCE BOUNDARY

AT 3 WILLOW PARK, LANGLEY PARK

Members were made aware of a meeting with the Planning Officer and applicant regarding the fence, subject to satisfactory agreement between both party members. Agreed that no objections 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.

119/06 Reports

- a) EQUaL Partnership
No report.
- b) Parish.

Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park.

Members agreed to pay the annual rent of £800 to the Wood View Community Centre for the use of the Parish Room (including heating and lighting).

Litter Problem at Esh and Quebec Play Areas

Derwentside District Council is proposing;

- a) To supply a wheelie bin to each site (free of charge).
- b) To supply and fix a securing stand to each site (£100 each). Members agreed to pay this charge.
- c) The bins would be emptied (free of charge) as the collecting vehicle pass the sites.

Members agreed with the above proposal and also for the open top litterbin at Quebec to be removed once the wheelie bin is in place.

Esh Play Area

Members agreed to accept the quotation from NTC Wrought Iron for the supply and installation of a picnic table (design the same as Quebec site) at the cost of £385 plus £80 for power coated finish. Clerk to discuss claim with Council's Insurance Company.

Parish Walk

Members agreed to hold the winter Parish walk. Clerk to report date, time and other arrangements at the next Parish Council meeting.

- d) District.

Councillor Guildford reported:-

- a) Site meeting at Stanley.
- b) Arrangements for Stanley Town Council.

Councillor Coulson reported:-

- a) Cleaning up operation at Langley Park churchyard.
- b) Quebec play area – Complaint re – slide (height, parents having to lift 3-5 year olds onto equipment).
- c) CCTV – fully operational by next week.
- d) Surgery (rear of Church Street) – youths gathering and causing annoyance, climbing onto roof catapulting at the CCTV. Police have been in attendance.

Councillor Tyrie reported:-

- a) Electoral Registration and Electoral Services.
- b) Gambling Act 2005.

D) County

Councillor Armstrong reported:-

- a) Revised bus service 725/52, commencing 9th October, copies of the timetable in the Parish Room.
- b) Drop kerbs, Kingsway.
- c) Kerb damage, Kingsway.
- d) Temporary library – heating completed this week.
- e) Permanent library – survey complete, awaiting costing report.
- f) Funding playgroup at Wood View.
- g) MUGA at Esh – columns erected, no lighting.

120/06 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed to the financial details (V154 – V183) should be paid and where appropriate the Chairman/ Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

121/06 Christmas Tree Arrangements

Members agreed the following:-

- a) To accept the estimate from Durham County Council for decorating the trees (Langley Park £1345.00 + vat Esh £444.00 + vat and Quebec £444.00 + vat).
- b) Trees to be erected on Thursday 23rd November 2006.
- c) Lighting up ceremony at Langley Park to be performed by pupils from Langley Park Primary School.
- d) Clerk to negotiate with the supplier (Leo Moralee) of last years trees for a price of supplying the three trees for this year.

122/06 Remembrance Day Arrangements

Members were informed of the arrangements for Sunday 12th November 2006 for the Remembrance Day services in the Parish.

Langley Park (Councillor Mollon to attend) 10.30am for 11.00am service at the War Memorial.

Quebec (either Councillor Hiles or Sands) 10.45am.

Esh (either Councillor Hiles or Sands) St. Michaels 9.15am.

123/06 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th November 2006 in the Village Hall, Quebec 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 items listed below on the grounds that if they were present during the discussion of these items there could be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in section 100.

No confidential items.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm.