

Esh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Room, Church Street Community Centre, Langley Park on Tuesday 13th February 2007 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillor A Mollon (Chair), C Bloor, G Goulson, A Christie, H Guilford, A Harling, A Hiles, L Looby and M Sands.

Apologies: F Crow, S Rothwell, H Tyler, M Tyler, W Tyrie, PCSO Brown and PC Fenwick.

Also in Attendance: County Councillor Armstrong, Inspector McConnell and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

013/07 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Coulson and Guildford declared an interest in Item 9 – Planning Matters, they took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Bloor declared an interest in Item 11b – Parish Report; Earl of Durham Allotments, he took no part in the debate.

Councillor Bloor and Hiles declared an interest in Item 7B – Request for Donations; Durham Wildlife Trust, they took no part in the debate.

014/07 Police Report

Inspector McConnell presented the monthly report to members (copy attached to the minutes), followed by a question and answer session.

015/07 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 9th January 2007

Agreed as true record and signed by the Chairman.

016/07 Clerks report including Observations from Councillor to the Minutes

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082/06 Garage Tenancy

Members agreed to let the garage to Mr Christopher Owers, 7 Ash Street, Langley Park at a monthly rental of £120.00 per calendar month as from 1st March 2007 on the condition;

- A) Mr Owers pays £100 security bond.
- B) Mr Owers pays the quarterly electricity charges for the garage.
- C) Uses the garage for storage of vehicles (only).
- D) No maintenance of vehicles is carried out at the garage.
- E) Allows the Parish Council and other contractors access to Christmas lights etc.

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101/06 Reports – b) Parish

Roadside seats at Kaysburn Road, Langley Park.

News paper article appeared in the Northern Echo and Durham Advertiser series.

117/06 Correspondence

s) EQUaL – Playground Equipment

Letter has been received from Wicksteed Leisure Ltd confirming that they will manufacture the four playground items and hold them in stock until they are required.

Members agreed for the Clerk to order the following playground equipment for the Sir Bobby Robson Park:-

1no Double Arch Swing

1no Toni Turtle Spring Mobile

1no Scramble Bike Mobile

1no Crazy Twister

Total Cost £3179.00 +VAT (£556.33) = £3735.33

132/06 Reports – Parish

Langley Park recreation Ground

Following a receipt of a grant (£2154) to improve the Nature Reserve members agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotation for the supply and installation of fencing at the top of the site. Clerk to update at the next Parish Council Meeting.

145/06 Minutes of a Special Meeting held on 4th December 2006Esh Leaves Extra

Newsletter printed and distributed (2nd/3rd February 2007).

148/06 – b) ParishQuebec Play Area

Agenda item 11b – Parish Report

Esh Play Area

Agenda item 11b – Parish Report

Langley Park Play Area

Agenda item 11b – Parish Report

Allotment Site, Bridgeway, near Recreation Ground Langley Park

A quotation has been received from Derwentside District Council to excavate trench, lay 300mm dia drainage pipes and back fill at a cost of £3160.00. The Officer did state in his letter 'this may solve the problem of water logging in the allotment adjacent to the footpath but may exacerbate any problems with the lower field'. Members agreed to inspect the site at the end of May 2007.

Pantomime – 27th January 2007

Agenda item 11b – Parish Report

Page 3006/07 Quality parish Council Status

Agenda Item 8

Page 4009/07 Planning Matters – DHilltop View, Langley Park

Letter received from Derwentside District Council “I have received the letter you sent to the Council regarding the above application. Your view will be considered before any decision is reached. In the event that any application is referred to the Development Control Committee for decision, your comments will be reported”.

Clerk to update any further developments.

Page 5010/07 Correspondence

- e) LGPS – Flexible Retirement Policy
Clerk to update at the meeting
- k) LGPS – Early retirement and voluntary redundancy payments
Clerk to update at the meeting
- l) Quebec and District Village Hall Association
Agenda item 7a
- m) Durham Wildlife Trust
Agenda item 7b
- n) Natural England – Rabbits
Members agreed to discuss the possibility of ‘ring fencing’ allotments rents at the Scrutiny Committee meeting which is scheduled for the 15th March 2007 commencing at 9.30am in the Parish Room.
- s) PCSO Steve Brown – Feedback on the monthly Police Report.
The Clerk had spoken to PCSO Brown and he would be changing the format of the monthly report (to incorporate locations and comparison figures within Derwentside District Council). Figures would be produced on a monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, half-year and yearly depending on the availability of data statistics.

Page 6011/07 Reports – b) ParishQuebec Play Area Car Park provision

Awaiting details/estimate from Durham County Council, Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

Langley Park Play Area

Ongoing discussions with the Councils solicitors regarding solicitors fees. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

118/07 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the financial details (V275 – V298) should be paid and where appropriate the Chairman/Clerk’s action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

119/07 Request for Donation

a) Quebec District Village Hall Association

Members agreed to donate £500 towards the cost of new PVC guttering. Clerk to send the association a letter if intent.

b) Durham Wildlife Trust

Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Trust informing that at the present time the Council is unable to offer any financial assistance and the Trust to apply at a later date.

c) Langley Park Branch Sunderland Supporters

Members agreed that the event has been very successful and the Parish Council would work in partnership with the group with the aim of providing another similar event in August 2007. Clerk to contact the event coordinators and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

120/07 Quality Parish Council

The Clerk took members through draft document and the sixty four pieces of evidence. The final document is to be presented to the next Parish Council meeting (13th March 2007) for the members approval and then to be submitted to Durham County Association of Local Councils for their consideration.

121/07 Planning MattersA

No. G/1/2006/1030/DMTP

APPLICANT MR S GALLAGHER

PROPOSED LOPPING OF 4 OAK TREES (TPO 17)

AT 11 MIDDRIDGE ROAD, LANGLEY PARK

Members agreed to object to any future lopping of trees on this development. Clerk to write to the Planning Officer explaining members concerns. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

B

No. SW/1/2006/1031/DMFP

APPLICANT MR I SHRIGLEY

PROPOSED CREATION OF ACCESS ROAD

AT ESH WINNING INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
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.

Durham County Council

- a) Local Government White Paper conference papers from the special meeting held at County Hall on Saturday 13th January 2007.
- b) County Archivist request for a complete set of Esh Leaves to deposit in the Record Office.

Derwentside District Council

- c) Local Government White Paper conference papers from the special Parish Council Liaison Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 10th January 2007.
- d) Agreement to article in Esh Leaves Extra.
- e) Derwentside Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Issues and Options. Consultation commenced 2nd February 2007.

County Durham Association of Local Councils

- f) Local Policing Policies
- g) Consultation on the draft Freedom of Information and Data Protection (appropriate limit and fees) Regulations 2007.
- h) Consultation paper on changes to the Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members.
- i) Local Government and Health Bill – Government Implementation Plan.
- j) Election Pack – copies available soon.
- k) LGWP – Submissions for County Durham.
- l) Post Office Network Consultation – closing date 8th March 2007.
- m) Local Government Re-organisation – Unity Authority bids.
- n) Post Office Network Consultation- details of consultation process.

Others

- o) Charity Commission – Launch of the Fundraising Standards Board
- p) Langley Park Primary School – letter of thanks for the Parish Council's donation.
- q) Simply Sport – details of activities at Langley Park Primary School.
- r) Northumbrian Water – improvements to water supplies at Esh and Langley Park.
- s) Allotment ED48 request for co-tenancy, Mr M Jackson and Mr C Rielly.
Members agreed to the above request.
- t) North East War Memorials Project Newsletter; Issue 4; Winter 2006.
- u) County Durham Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Newsletter; Issue 13; January 2007.
- v) County Durham Local Action 21 Newsletter; Issue 33; Winter 2006.
- w) Parish Paths Partnership Newsletter; Issue 23; Winter 2006/07
- x) David Cumberland Housing Regeneration Ltd – Research questionnaire into the accommodation needs of gypsies and travellers in County Durham.
- y) Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities Fund – Grant approval for £2950.00 (1st April to 31st July 2007).
- z) Durham County Council – Parish Paths Partnership applications 2007.
Members agreed to include the cost of £500 to install the notice board at Langley Park. Any further suggestions to the Parish Clerk before 7th March 2007.
- aa) Durham County Council – Tree Week 2006; completion of claim form reminder.
Clerk to confirm the form for the work carried out at Quebec Play Area.

- bb) Durham County Council – Building Schools for the future; issue 2; February 2007.
- cc) Derwentside District Council – Local Development Framework; consultation documents.
- dd) DEFRA – Review of the Quality Town and Parish Council scheme.
- ee) Communities and Local Government – Revised Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members.

123/07 Reports

- A) EQUaL Partnership
 - i) Fencing quotations required for recreation ground.
 - ii) Volunteer day (12th February) cancelled due to inclement weather (snow).
 - iii) Plans for Sir Bobby Robson park being redesigned by consultant.
 - iv) Newsletter to be produced soon (including Community Association Activities).
 - v) Awaiting details of Public meeting re: New Library.

- B) Parish
 - i) Quebec play Area.
Small amount of work to level out mounding within the site.
Awaiting details and price from Durham County Council for a possible car park adjacent to the play area.
 - ii) Esh Play Area
Play area now complete.
 - iii) Langley Park Play Area
Awaiting final account details for solicitors' fees etc.
 - iv) Christmas Decorations.
Members agreed to purchase 6no rope light motifs including brackets at a cost of £583.02 plus VAT + delivery charge.
 - v) Earl of Durham Allotments.
Two allotment holders had not paid the annual rent, despite two reminder letters; the plot numbers are ED73 and ED74.
Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the allotment holders serving a seven-day notice to quit and to offer the vacant plots to the next person on the waiting list.
 - vi) Derwentside LSP Play Area Meeting.
A request has been received from Derwentside LSP for a representative to sit on the Play Area Committee. It was recommended that Councillor A Hiles be nominated to represent Esh Parish Council.
 - vii) Pantomime
The Clerk reported:-

Income	(Admission)	£213.00
	(Raffle)	<u>£ 36.30</u>
	Total	£249.30

		Item
Expenditure	(Gifts)	£ 13.00
	(Prizes)	£ 8.33
	(Travelling expenses)	£ 3.87
	(Jack Drum Arts)	£520.00 (+VAT – Recoverable)
	(Hire of hall)	<u>Cost to follow</u>
		£545.20
viii)	Health and Safety Policy Statement. Members agreed to adopt the policy statement circulated at the meeting and the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Parish Council (copy attached to the minutes).	
ix)	Esh Leaves – The Book. Members agreed to the following:-	
	a)	To order 100 copies from FRO Print and Images LTD, Birtley at a cost of £585.00 (£5.85 per copy)
	b)	To sell the book at £7.50 per copy.
	c)	To donate to the charity of the local post master/mistress an agreed amount for acting as selling agents.

C) District

Councillor Coulson and Guildford reported:-

- a) A meeting with the Chief Executive and Leader of Derwentside District Council and the three District councillors (Coun Tyrie unable to attend). They discussed funding for Play Areas in the Esh Parish. Possible funding available from Derwentside District Council and Big Lottery fund. More details to follow.
- b) Membership of the Derwentside Young Peoples Forum.

D) County

Councillor Armstrong reported:-

- a) Possible parking at Quebec Play Area.
- b) Drop kerbs at Kingsway.
- c) Permanent Library – Public meeting to be arranged (more details to follow).
- d) Repairs required to the roof at Church Street Community Centre (discussing with the Community Association).
- e) Donation - £492 to EQUaL Partnership.
- f) Marked road crossing at Esh – No further developments.

124/07 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th March 2007 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 9.20pm