

## Esh Parish Council

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

Present: Councillor A Mollon (Chair), R Bowyer, F Crow, G Coulson, A Christie, A Harling, L Looby, S Rothwell and W Tyrie.

Apologies: Councillor C Bloor, H Guildford, M Sands, H Tyler, M Tyler and County Councillor J Armstrong.

Also in Attendance: PCSO Steve Brown and G.F. Smith (Clerk).

127/07 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Coulson declared an interest in Item 8 – Planning Matters, he took no part in the debate other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Christie and Looby declared an interest in Item 10b – Parish Report; Earl of Durham Allotment No 69, they took no part in the debate.

128/07 Police Report

PCSO Steve Brown presented the monthly report to members (copy attached to the minutes), followed by a question and answer session. Members thanked PCSO Brown for producing reports on incidents from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007 detailing wards, area and district figures for comparison (copy attached to the minutes).

129/07 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Agreed as true record and signed by the Chairman.

130/07 Clerks report including Observations from Councillors to the Minutes

Page 1

082/06 Garage Tenancy

The garage tenancy has been let to Mr Owers, 7 Ash Street, Langley Park as from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

Page 2

117/06 Correspondence

s) EQUaL – Playground Equipment.

Equipment has been ordered.

132/06 Reports – Parish

Langley Park recreation ground.

Awaiting price from fencing contractor, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

148/06 Reports – b) Parish

Quebec, Esh and Langley Park play areas.  
Agenda Item 10b – Parish Report.

Page 3

010/07 Correspondence

e) LGPS – Flexible retirement policy.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

f) LGPS – Early retirement and voluntary redundancy payments.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

s) PCSO Brown - Feedback on monthly police report.

Data is now available.

Page 4

121/07 Planning Matters – A

11 Middridge Road, Langley Park

The Arborist report has been received. Tree 1, no work required, tree 2 only two lowest branches upon the east side require removal and tree 3, two options recommended a) dress back branch tips nearest outward bud or branch or b) remove full limb back to the central stem.

Members accepted the report.

Page 5

Page 6

123/07 Reports – B) Parish

iv) Christmas decorations.

New motifs have been received and are stored in the Councils garage.

v) Earl of Durham Allotments

Allotments 73 and 74 have now been let, all allotments are now tenanted.

Page 7

Page 8

125/07 Contract of Employment – Mr D Rider

Members agreed to extend Mr Riders contract for a further six months (until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007).

131/07 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the financial details (V299 –V320 and for 2007/08 V1 – 7) should be paid and where appropriate the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

132/07 Quality Parish Council

The Clerk presented the final documents for the portfolio for Quality Parish Council. Members agreed for the portfolio to be sent to the County Durham Association of Local Councils for assessment by the accreditation panel.

133/07 Planning Matters

A

No. CC/1/2007/0139/DMTP

APPLICANT MR K SHALE

PROPOSED ERECTION OF SECOND STOREY EXTENSION  
ABOVE EXISTING GARAGE

AT 9 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.

B

No. CC/1/2007/0112/DMFP

APPLICANT MR & MRS FAWKES

PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY  
REAR EXTENSION

AT 8 HYLTON CLOSE, 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. G/1/2007/0137/DMFP

APPLICANT MR S JOHNSON

PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY FRONT  
EXTENSION

AT 9 THE FOLD, 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.

D

No. G/1/2007/0137/DMFP

APPLICANT MR & MRS FORSTER

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF BAY WINDOW TO FRONT, CANOPY OVER FRONT DOOR, ART STONE BRIDGING UNIT OVER DOOR AND WINDOW OPENINGS

AT 17 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.

E

No. G/1/2007/0135/DMFP

APPLICANT MR & MRS HALLAM

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF BAY WINDOW TO FRONT, CANOPY OVER FRONT DOOR, ART STONE BRIDGING UNIT OVER DOOR AND WINDOW OPENINGS, ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING DORMER WINDOW (RE-SUBMISSION)

AT 18 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.

134/07 Correspondence

Durham County Council

- a) Local Government Review – briefing paper.
- b) Local Government Pension Scheme – new look scheme – draft regulations.

Derwentside District Council

- c) Chairman's Charity Ball – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2007 in the Civic Hall, Consett.
- d) Local Government White Paper – Pathfinder to Unitary, Executive summary.

County Durham Association of Local Councils

- e) Local Council External Audit Fees – period 2006 /2011.

Members agreed that the audit fees for 2006/11 would be:-  
£400.00 (income/expenditure band £50,0001 to £100,000).

Others

- f) North East Restorative Community Partnership – launch of its Prison Procurement Portfolio on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007 at Darlington Football Club.
- g) The Nature Reserve Trust – unable to assist with the Langley Park Nature Reserve project.
- h) Minerals Valley Project – a guide to the progress of the projects taking place in West County Durham, January 2007.
- i) Langley Park Mining and Memories Group – details of exhibition to be held 24/25<sup>th</sup> March in Woodview Community Centre from 10am to 5pm also a school exhibition on 26/27<sup>th</sup> March at Langley Park Primary School from 3.15 to 4pm.
- j) Derwentside District Council – Local Government White Paper; Comments required by 14<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

135/07 Reports

## A) EQUaL Partnership

- i) Newsletter has been distributed.
- ii) Session for Community Groups to be held at Ushaw College on Saturday 28th April 2007.

## B) Parish

Footpath 59, Langley Park, Parish Paths Partnership 2006

Four quotations have been received to carry out works to the above footpath at Langley Park (Garden Avenue/Earl of Durham Allotments/Lanchester Valley Walk), details are as follows:-

Contractor A	£2350.00
Contractor B	£2680.80
Contractor C	£4093.00
Contractor D	£5239.25

All prices subject to VAT

The Parish Council has received a grant from Durham County Council Parish Paths Partnership 2006 for £1000.00 (footpath 60) and £800.00 (footpath 59).

Members also agreed to:-

- a) The Clerk to discuss with officers from Durham County Council the possibility of using the £1800.00 allocated for footpaths 60 and 59 towards the cost of footpath 59. If this was possible they also agreed to allocate £550.00 from the Parish Councils budget for 2006/07 to make up the difference between the grant and estimate.
- b) To accept the quotation from contractor A (L+G Plant Hire and Sales) for £2350.00 plus VAT.
- c) Complete the Parish Paths Partnership 2007 grants form for footpath 60 and the installation of the notice board at Langley Park.

Esh Play Area

Site complete.

Quebec Play Area

Car-park provision – Estimate from Durham County Council (costs exclude administration fees and VAT):-

Erection of the Parking double sided sign	£ 292.09
Footpath link from the play area plantings with timber edge	£3155.68
or 170mm thick bituminous footpath with timber edge	£5370.69
Car park option to hold a maximum of 10 cars without bay markings surrounded by timber bird mouth fence to 3 sides	
Planting topping with granular sub-base and timber edge	£4076.86
305mm thick bituminous construction with timber edge	£7675.69
Grass road with sub-base (modular matting which is filled with top soil and grass seeded)	£9852.49
Cheapest option total	£7524.63

Members agreed to:-

- a) Obtain a specification for the works and to obtain further quotations.
- b) Obtain from Durham County Council a detailed drawing of the site showing the proposed car parking provisions.
- c) Consider the possibility of obtaining grants to carry out the proposed works.
- d) Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Langley Park Play Area

Legal fees have now been agreed. Cheque released to the Parish Council's solicitor (Meikles).

Christmas Decorations

Six decorations have been received and are stored in the Councils garage. Members agreed to write off and dispose of the old decorations.

Parish Walk – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Volunteers were required to assist with the catering.

Earl of Durham Allotments

a) Requests for co-tenancy

ED 69 – to be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

ED 52 – members agreed that Mr Gauden and Mr K Lowerson could become co-tenants

b) Entrance Gate

Members agreed to:-

- a) Replaced the damaged padlock (cost £50.00 including two new padlocks and 30 keys) and for the contractors (NJC wrought iron) to supply and fit the security boxes at the cost of £20.00.

- b) The Clerk to write to all allotment holders reminding them of the necessity to lock the gates at all times.

Health and Safety Policy

Members agreed the Health and Safety Policy documents (copy attached to the minutes).

Pantomime

Income	-	£249.30
Expenditure	-	£610.45

Parish Council Elections – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007

Nomination papers were now available from the Clerk.

Esh Leaves

Proof to the printers on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March, delivery by the end of March. Members agreed to discuss the publishing costs of a book of poems by Mrs Betty Watt at the next Parish Council meeting.

C) District

Councillor Coulson reported:-

- a) Update on funding for play areas in Esh Parish.
- b) Details of road sweeping (ward based) by Derwentside District Council.

Councillor Tyrie reported:-

- a) Street cleaning service review.
- b) Derwentside affordable housing.

D) County

No report.

136/07 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2007 immediately following the Annual Assembly, which commences at 7.00pm in Esh Parish Hall, Front Street, Esh.

The meeting finished at 8.40pm.



# POLICE REPORT

For the period 12<sup>th</sup> February 2007 – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007:

## **Esh Parish Area: 103 calls**

(There may have been more than one call about the same incident).

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<b>Criminal Damage</b>	<b>: 5 calls</b>
<b>ASB / Nuisance / Under Age Drinking / Rowdy</b>	<b>: 16 calls</b>
<b>Vehicle / Motorcycle Nuisance</b> (* Majority of calls relate to rear of Park Drive)	<b>: 22 calls *</b>
<b>Suspicious Persons</b>	<b>: 11 calls</b>
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>: 4 calls</b>
<b>Drugs Related</b>	<b>: 4 calls</b>
<b>Concern for safety</b>	<b>: 4 calls</b>
<b>Crime Burglary</b>	<b>: 2 calls</b>
<b>Theft</b>	<b>: 9 calls</b>
<b>RTC – Injury</b>	<b>: 1 call</b>
<b>RTC – Damage Only</b>	<b>: 4 calls</b>
<b>Violence (Against the person)</b>	<b>: 2 calls</b>
<b>Firearms Incidents</b>	<b>: 1 call</b>
<b>Road Related Incidents</b>	<b>: 4 calls</b>
<b>Other Incidents</b> (Alarm activations, police reported problems, sudden deaths, animals etc)	<b>: 13 calls</b>

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## **Current Anti-Social Behaviour Hot Spots:**

Behind Park Drive – Off – Road motorbikes

All Saints Youth Centre, Front Street – drugs and alcohol related issues – Recently had meeting with Fire and Reverend and agreed to have the building properly secured

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## **Important Notes:**

Magistrates warrant executed for drugs resulting in a quantity of drugs seized and one female arrested

Another magistrate's warrant executed in Langley Park and one male arrested relating to burglary in the Leadgate area

Criminal damages have reduced significantly since last period

One off-road bike seized, in total 7 locals issued with first warnings and one local male is currently being investigated for a number of driving offences

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## **Ongoing:**

- Criminal damage and Anti-social behaviour calls are still causing concern. We have increased patrols, particularly on evenings when such problems are occurring
- Walkabout opportunities are always available with me to identify hot spots or to pass on intelligence
- Beat Surgeries (dates advertised on poster within Housing Office), Streetsafe box (Housing office) for intelligence; anonymously if preferred
- All Langley Park CCTV Cameras are usually fully working and have become an invaluable resource in identifying local criminal activities and anti-social behaviour, however there are issues with the cameras which cause them to fail

We are continuing to show a visible presence to deter youths from purchasing alcohol for consumption on the streets and we will work with our licensing unit with regards to under-age sales. During this period we have not seized any alcohol on the streets.

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## **Contact Details:**

Steve Brown  
Lanchester Section Office  
4420

Langley Park/Esh Rural PCSO 6654  
Telephone: 0845 6060365 Ext. 664