

Esh Parish Council

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council Meeting held at Quebec Village Hall, Quebec on Tuesday 11th November 2008 commencing at 7:00pm

Present: Councillors A.Mollon (Chairman), B.Armstrong, G.Coulson, H.Guildford, A.Harling, A.Hiles, P.Mollon, S.Rothwell, M. Sands, W.Tyrie

Apologies: Councillors C.Bloor, H.Guildford and M.Tyler

Also in attendance: G.F.Smith (Clerk), and C.Wayman (Assistant Clerk) County Councillors Armstrong and Campbell

110/08 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Coulson and Rothwell declared an interest in item 12 Planning Matters, they took no part in the discussion other than to clarify any matters of fact.

Councillor Hiles declared an interest in item 12 Planning Matters (E) as a trustee of EQUaL.

111/08 Police Report

No report

It was decided that the Clerk will write a letter inviting the Police and the PCSO's to the next meeting.

112/08 Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 14th October 2008

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

113/08 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th October 2008

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

114/08 Clerks report on matter arising from the Previous Meeting

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132/07 Reports b) Parish

Langley Park Recreational Ground

The fencing has been completed and the gate put in place. The information boards have been paid for and will be arriving soon. The hedges and plants have been paid for and will be put in place in March 2009.

011/08 Reports – b) Parish

2) Esh Village Green

The Clerk to meet with Tamsin Harrison on Thursday 13th November at the Parish Council Office at 11am.

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068/08 Reports a)Parish

1. EDF Energy - Wind Farm

Burnhope Parish Council have forwarded their three representatives. It was agreed that Councillors Harling, Armstrong and Rothwell will represent the Parish Council. The Clerk will arrange and clerk the meeting.

2. Litter Problem, Thomas Street Langley Park

The sweeper is unable to change the route however, it does come down one a week.

6. Earl of Durham allotments

All the work has now been completed.

7. Crossfell allotments

All the work has now been completed.

8. Litter Bin

No suitable meeting date has been arranged.

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091/08 Correspondence

b) Rachel Davies, 27 Eppleton Close, Langley Park

The Clerk will continue to try and contact Mrs Davies.

c) Vitalise, Chigwell, Essex

No financial information has been received.

d) WRVS

A financial statement has been received, however it is for the charity nationally, the Clerk has contacted them to ask if they could supply a copy for the county area.

g) CDALC – Access point within the Parish Council office

The application form has been filled in and sent off.

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105/08 Correspondence

b) CDALC – Freedom of Information

Clerk to present a report at the next meeting.

d) DCC, Environment – National Tree Week

Clerk to speak with Councillor Hiles after the meeting.

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105/08 Correspondence

k) N-Power – Electricity Supplier

Assistant Clerk to report at next appropriate meeting

v) NALC – Quality Councils Exhibition

The Clerk took copies of the Parish Walk booklet and copies of Esh Leaves, all copies were distributed during the exhibition.

x) Derwentside District Council – Parish Liaison Meeting

The Clerk gave a verbal report. The position is still unclear on budgeting and precepts for next year. It was agreed to hold a Special Council Meeting to discuss budgets, precept and the current services the Council provides.

106/08 Area Action Partnerships

The situation is becoming clearer and it appears that there will be 14 Area Action Partnerships (AAP's) in the County.

At the CDALC AGM it was proposed that the Association would be spilt along the line of the AAP's instead of the District Council's, as is the case at present. The Council agreed that this was a good idea.

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107/08 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The fencing is being erected.

Derwentside District Council are conducting a litter pick on a Monday morning. Clerk and EQUaL are to confirm the final lettering for the notices to be erected.

115/08 Reports

a) EQUaL

Currently looking for funding for the worker

b) Parish

a) Christmas Tree "switch-on" at Langley Park Saturday 29th November 2008 at 4:00pm

Langley Park Primary School are holding their Annual Christmas Fete on that afternoon at 1:00pm, at approximately 3:45pm the children will form a procession carrying "safe" Candles/Lanterns to the village Christmas tree for the switch on ceremony which will take place at approximately 4:00pm when children picked by the school will turn the lights on. Esh and Quebec's lights will be turned on shortly after.

It was agreed that the Clerk would contact other schools in the area to see if they wish to take part in the ceremony.

It was agreed for the Clerk to issue a press release regarding the switching on of the lights.

b) Pantomime

Jack Drum Arts who conducted the pantomime last year are not doing a Christmas Pantomime this year.

It was agreed that the money budgeted for the pantomime would be used for activities in the spring.

c) Land at Springwell Avenue, Langley Park

The Council had a lease on the land which ran out on the 6th of November 2008.

The Council agreed to not renew the lease.

d) Council Garage at Langley Park

The Council were informed that the current tenant had not paid their rent for the last two months.

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the tenant asking them to pay the rent, however, if the tenant is struggling in the current financial climate that the Council would ask if they could pay any money towards the rent. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council Meeting.

e) Remembrance Service at Esh, Langley Park and Quebec

There was a misunderstanding with the wreath for Quebec, however, the Chairman made sure that the wreath was delivered to Quebec in time. The Parish Council was represented at Langley Park by the Chairman (Councillor Mollon) and at Esh by Councillor Sands.

c) County Councillor Reports

County Councillor Campbell reported on:
The Police Consultation
DCC Allotment policy
Fly Tipping

At this point County Councillor Campbell left the meeting

County Councillor Armstrong reported on:

Urban and Rural Renaissance Initiative
Highways

Improving bus stops

That asbestos has been found in the site for the new library so moving will be delayed

County Councillor Armstrong has received a letter from Malcolm Berry (resident) enquiring about the Parish Council notice board being replaced and if there were any plans to replace the existing bus shelters.

It was agreed to write to Mr Berry and inform him that the notice board is on order and will be replaced shortly.

Durham County Council will be more likely to enter discussions and Service Level Agreements with Quality Parish Councils

At this point County Councillor Armstrong left the meeting.

d) District Councillors Reports

No report

116/08 Annual Audit 2007/08

The Parish Council agreed to accept the external auditor's report.

It was agreed to (following the external auditors report) to review the Parish Council's risk assessment policy on a yearly basis in January prior to the Council's annual insurance premium being calculated

It was agreed to place the Notice of Conclusion of Audit on the Parish Council's notice boards for 14 days from Monday 17th November 2008.

117/08 Review of the Allotment Rent for 2010

A discussion took place regarding the current rent, provision and other local charges.

It was agreed by a vote of 8 to1 to increase the rent for one allotment plot to £27.50 per year.

118/08 Financial Statement and Report

After receiving details of all Financial Statements for 2008/09 (vouchers V176to V198)

Members agreed they should be paid and where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting

119/08 Correspondence

Items for discussion:

- a) Derwentside District Council – Charity Night 26th November 2008
- b) Derwentside District Council – Chairman’s Ecumenical Christmas Carol Service
- c) Derwentside District Council – Tree Preservation Order 203: Finnings Farm, Langley Park. Copy to be circulated to members
- d) NEPACS – Application for funding. Clerk to ask for financial details.
- e) Department of Communities and Local Government – Consultation document “Communities in control real people, real power Codes of Conduct for Local Authority members and employees”. Executive summary to be circulated to members.
- f) NHS County Durham – Consultation document “Seizing the future”. Executive summary to be circulated to members.

Items for information:

- g) Zurich Insurance – new contact details.
- h) County Durham Sustainability and Environment Partnership Newsletter; Autumn 2008; Issue 38.
- i) The Mineral Valleys Project Newsletter; Autumn 2008; Issue 9.
- j) The Mineral Valleys Project Summary of projects June 2003 to May 2008
- k) County Durham Learning Disabilities Partnership Board Newsletter; September 2008; Issue 23.
- l) Local Council Review; November 2008; Volume 60, No. 4.
- m) Clerks & Councils Direct; November 2008; Issue 60.
- n) Local Councils Update; November 2008; Issue 109

120/08 Planning Matters

A

No.	MH/1/2008/0699/DMFP
APPLICANT	MR S JONES
PROPOSED	ERECTION OF REPLACEMENT GARAGE
AT	PLOT 22, CARTERS COTTAGE GARAGE SITE, HOSPITAL ROAD, LANGLEY PARK

The members agreed to raise no objection to this application

B

No.	MH/1/2008/0671/D3FP
APPLICANT	DERWENTSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PROPOSED	ERECTION OF 15 METRE HIGH COMMUNICATIONS TOWER AND EXTERNAL DATA CABINET

AT LAND 95 METRES WEST OF THE BOARD INN, HILL
TOP, ESH

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development

C

No. SCA/1/2008/0727/DMFP

APPLICANT R SMEDLEY

PROPOSED CROWN THINNING OF 6 SYCAMORE TREES,
REMOVE LOWER BRANCHES TO 1 BEECH TREE
AND TRIMMING OF CONIFER HEDGE

AT TARVES, ESH

Members requested the Clerk to contact the Planning Officer to obtain further detailed information (i.e. Arborist Report) in order to make an informed decision on the development.

D

No. SCA/1/2008/0691/DMFP

APPLICANT MR S A VAKHSHORY KOHI

PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE TO HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY

AT 39 FRONT STREET, LANGLEY PARK

Members raised concerns about an increase in the litter problem in the area and a possible increase in nuisance in the area.

E

No. GB/1/2008/0756/DMLB

APPLICANT MR C PHILLIPS

PROPOSED LISTED BUILDING CONSENT TO CREATE TWO EN-
SUITE BATHROOMS TO FIRST FLOOR

AT ESH GLEBE HOUSE, ESH

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development

F

No. MH/1/2008/0759/D3FP

APPLICANT DERWENTSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL

PROPOSED ERECTION OF 12 METRE GALVANISED STEEL COLUMN AND CCTV CAMERA

AT SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, LANGLEY PARK

Members agreed to raise no objections subject to adjacent occupants being consulted and for their views to be taken into account when making a decision on this development

121/08 Langley Park Library

The date has passed for offers on the old fire station, however, there has been no announcement.

122/08 Parking at Quebec Play Area

A discussion took place regarding the parking provision at the play area in Quebec. It was decided to approach Durham County Council and make enquiries about the green to see if it (or part of it) could be made into a car park.

123/08 Date of the Next Meeting

The Next Meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 9th December 2008 in The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park which commences at 7.00pm

124/08 Confidential Item - Pay Award 2008/09

125/08 Confidential Item – Staffing Matters

The meeting finished at 9.00pm