

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at Ushaw College on Tuesday 14th July 2009 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors C. Bloor, (Chairman) B. Armstrong, R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, A. Harling, L. Looby, M. Sands and M Tyler.

Apologies: Councillors H. Guildford, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, S. Rothwell,

Also Present: County Councillor J. Armstrong, County Councillor M. Campbell, G.F. Smith (Clerk) and L Rowland (Assistant Clerk). Paula Graham, PCSO Pearsall and Norman Peacock, Natalie Armstrong, Kenneth Turnbull (Residents).

087/09 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Bloor declared an interest Item 6b (3) Earl of Durham Allotments, Item 11(a) Planning Matters Item 8 (075/09) Langley Park Primary School.

088/09 Presentation by Mr N. Peacock, 1 Esh Hillside, Langley Park

Mr Peacock addressed the meeting regarding the provision of a suitable football pitch for the Ram's Head over 40's Football Team.

Members agreed for the Clerk to:-

- a) Check the tenure of the football field (Mr A Cassidy-(CISWO)
- b) To check the covenant of the Sports & Social Club
- c) To arrange for a local contractor to visit the football pitch at the recreation ground to obtain an estimate to make the area suitable to play football on.
- d) To enquire of the owners of the football pitch at Quebec of any availability for football teams to play on the pitch for next season (possible changing facilities in the Village Hall?)

Clerk to prepare a report on the above mentioned items for the next Parish Council meeting (September 2009)

Mr Peacock left the meeting,

089/09 Presentation by Mr K. Turnbull, 14 Springwell Avenue. Langley Park

Mr Turnbull addressed the meeting regarding an application for funding for the Langley Park Sports & Social Football Team.

Members agreed to donate £500 pounds towards the running costs of the football team subject to obtaining a guarantee that the football team have a pitch to continue playing on next season (power – section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).

Members suggested that Mr Turnbull contact the owners of the football pitch at Quebec regarding the possibility of renting the ground for next season.

Mr Turnbull Mrs Armstrong left the meeting

090/09 Presentation by Mr Colin Waters Ushaw College

Mr Waters did not attend the Parish Council meeting.

091/09 Police Report

PCSO Pearsall presented the report to Council Members followed by a question & answer session.

PCSO Pearsall left the meeting.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 1

092/09 Reports

A) EQUaL Partnership. The AGM would be held on Thursday 16th July commencing at 7pm in St Andrews Church Hall, Langley Park. The meeting was to discuss the possible dissolving of the partnership. Members raised concerns regarding the possible outstanding balances in the financial accounts and it was agreed subject to approval by the funding bodies to transfer the balances from the EQUaL Partnership to the Parish Council. It was further agreed to discuss the possibility of setting up a Partnership Sub-Committee to continue the good work that had been done by the EQUaL Partnership. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

B) Parish**i) Summer holiday activities**

Simply Sports Ltd are proposing to hold a coaching session for young people at the Sports & Social Club, Langley Park from the 27th until 31st July 2009. The cost for providing this was £1,000.00. Members agreed to donate £500.00 (Power – section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 towards the cost of this event. (County Councillor J. Armstrong also to donate £200 from his Member's Initiative Fund)

ii) Esh Leaves

members agreed to:-

a) Review the composition/size of Esh Leaves

b) Set up a sub Committee (Councillors Bloor, Coulson, Harling, Sands and Tyler) to discuss the future of Esh Leaves.

iii) Earl of Durham Allotments site no's 79, 80, 81

Members agreed for Mr K Smith, 7 Quebec Street, Langley Park to become the joint tenant of the above 3 allotment sites.

iv) All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

County Councillor Armstrong updated members on the present situation regarding the state of this building. He understood that it required a bat survey which can only be carried out during the month of September. This follows a number of meetings he has had with the Rev. Michael Peers. Members agreed for the Clerk to send an email to Councillor Armstrong to continue conversations with the Planning Officer regarding a Compulsory Demolition Order. This item is to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.

(v) Community Speed Watch Scheme

The Chairman/Clerk updated the meeting on the position regarding the speed watch equipment in which the subject was being referred to the Area Action Partnership (AAP) by the Parish Councils Committee.

Councillor B Armstrong informed the meeting that the price of the display was approximately £2,000.00 but had concerns on Health & Safety issues regarding the weight of the equipment (which included a 12 volt power pack)

(vi) Office Equipment (IT)

The Clerk reported that the present computer in Reception was out dated and has required a number of repairs during the passed month by the IT Officer. The IT Officer has recommended that the system be updated, A second hand computer system (1 year old) including a flat screen monitor, colour printer was available to purchase for £275.00. Members agreed for the Clerk to purchase the equipment for £275.00. County Councillor Armstrong informed the meeting of the County Council policy regarding disposal of IT equipment at the County Council, He agreed to send the Clerk this information.

(vii) Planning Matters

Members agreed to invite a local Planning Officer from Durham County Council (Fiona Clark) To a special meeting of the Parish Council (possibly in September for a presentation on the planning application process and the making of representation/comments on proposed applications.

(Viii)Citizens Advice Bureau

Members agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting.

C) County Council

County Councillor Campbell reported:-

- a) Dog fouling in the Parish Area (Lynne Copeland very ill and at present is not at work)
- b) Temporary Library at Langley Park is hoping to be open for business by the end of this year.
- c) The County Council vision for Personal Health Care throughout the County

County Councillor Armstrong reported:-

- a) Area Action Partnership (AAP)
- b) The “TUTE” Survey
- c) Highway works at Quebec including a Car Park for the Play Area possible costs are in the region of £32,000.
- d) Footpath from Esh Laude to Esh Village (estimated cost £40,000.)
- e) Bus lay-by in Langley Park
- f) Bus stops in Langley Park. There will be an item in Esh Leaves (Councillor Armstrong handed a copy of the document regarding bus stops in Langley Park to the Clerk before public viewing.
- g)Bus stop sign & timetable for Front Street, Esh Village

093/09 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 9th June 2009

Page 5 080/09 Planning Matters should read 080(1)/09 Planning Matters and 080/09 Correspondence should read 080(2)/09 Correspondence subject to the two amendments
Members agreed that the Minutes were a true record and signed by the Chairman.

094/09 Matters Arising

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075/09 Reports-b)

ii)Langley Park Primary School Summer Fayre 18th July 2009

The Clerk informed the Members that the 3 primary schools in the Parish area would prefer the offer from the Parish of a hamper to raffle to help raise funds at their Christmas Fayre day. Members agreed not to donate towards the Langley Park Primary School Summer Fayre.

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AGM 04/09 Cheque Signatories

c) Standard Life

The Clerk had written to Standard Life to change the number of cheque signatories (Increase the number of Councillors). Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Minute 046/09 Police report

All Saints Youth

Agenda item No. 6b- Parish Report

047/09 Report – b) Parish

Cross Fell Allotments and Earl of Durham sites

The work at Crossfell Allotment site is complete. The gates for the Earl of Durham Allotment site are presently being manufactured and the contractor is hoping to have them in place within the next two weeks. The Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

068/09 Report – b) Parish

1)EDF Energy Wind farm – Three Parish Councils meetings
The Clerk to write to Lanchester & Burnhope Parish Councils regarding the future of the 3 Parish Councils meetings. This is mainly due to the setting up of a funding committee by the Wind Farm Operator (EDF/County Foundation)

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134/08 Planning Matters

Land at Quebec – Agenda item No. 12a- Correspondence

021/09 Correspondence

a) Dog fouling at Langley Park Clerk to provide an update at the next Parish Council meeting
d) Steps Detached Youth Project, Members agreed to invite Louise Wilson to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the work of the project

034/09 Correspondence

c) Litter problem on the Lanchester/Langley Park Railway Walk the Clerk has arranged a meeting with the countryside ranger on Thursday 16th July. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council Meeting.

064/09 Resignation of Councillor Wallace Tyrie

A letter of resignation has been received from Councillor Tyrie.
Members agreed:- for the Clerk to write a letter to Councillor Tyrie thanking him for his service to the community also to arrange for some flowers to be sent to Mrs Tyrie. The Clerk to inform the County Council of this vacancy and the other two vacancies that exist on the Parish Council.

066/09 Planning Matters

c)GB/1/2009/0219/DMFP – 8 Hill Top Quebec
No further update. Clerk to inform Councillors if he receives any further details on this application.

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067/09 Correspondence

a)Parish Councils Committee (PCC)
The next meeting of the PCC will be held on Saturday 18th July 2009.
b)DDC Insurance Officer
Play equipment at Esh
The repair work (treating rusting areas) has been arranged with a local Contractor (Jeremy Cassidy) and should be complete within the next 2 weeks.
l)Pact meeting – Community Speed Watch Scheme
Agenda item No. 6(b) – Parish Report
s)Mr K. Turnbull, 14 Springwell Avenue, Langley Park – request for funding for Langley Park Sport & Social Football Club
Mr Turnbull attended the meeting (see minute 089/09)

079/09 Financial Statement

Agenda item No. 10

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080/09 Planning Matters

A)MH/1/2009/0252/DMFP (Resubmission) – Former Hippodrome Building, Hedley Terrace, Langley Park. No further date. Clerk to inform Councillors if he receives any further details on this application.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 4

080/09 (1) Correspondence

Goodwill Association – Application for funding
Members agreed for the Clerk to meet with Mrs Herworth to help understand the income/expenditure for the Goodwill Association. Members agreed to delegate to the Chairman/Vice Chairman/Clerk to determine the funding and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

b)Browell Smith & Co Solicitors – claim by Mr Thomas Huscroft

The Clerk had informed the Council’s insurance company of this claim.

Members raised concerns on the possible effect this claim could have on the premium paid by the Council. Clerk to discuss this matter with Zurich Insurance and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

c)CDALC – Double Taxation Grant for 2010/11

The Clerk had completed the return to CDALC

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081/09 Annual Audit 2008/09

The Clerk had sent off the Return to BDO Stoyward (External Auditor)

082/09 Sire Bobby Robson Park

Agenda item No. 14

083/09 Langley Park Library

Agenda item No. 15

084/09 Area Action Partnership

Agenda item No. 16

095/09 Financial Statement

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 58 to 76) and they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk’s action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

096/09 Income/Expenditure Statements – 1st April to 30th June 2009

Copies of the Statements were circulated prior to the meeting.

Members noted the following:-

a)Expenditure

For April 2009 £6275.61

For May 2009 £5958.27

For June 2009 £5436.74

Members also requested that the Budget Heads should be further expanded to include Allotments etc. Clerk/Assistant Clerk to provide a further detailed report for the next Parish Council Meeting.

Members noted the following:-

b)Income

Summary Total = £53,799.11

Clerk/Assistant Clerk to produce a further detailed report for the next Parish Council Meeting.

097/09 Planning Matters**A**

No. MH/1/2009/0226/DMFP
 APPLICANT MR. P. CHAMBERS
 PROPOSED ERECTION OF 3 TERRACED DWELLINGS
 AT LAND TO SOUTH OF 21 IVY TERRACE
 LANGLEY PARK

SITE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE

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.

B

No. GB/1/2009/0276/DMFP
 APPLICANT HARGREAVES SERVICES PLC
 PROPOSED CONVERSION OF PART OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDING TO
 PROVIDE ANCILLARY OFFICE AT GROUND FLOOR AND
 MEZZANNINE LEVEL
 AT HARGREAVES HAULAGE, ESH WINNING INDUSTRIAL
 ESTATE

NO PLANS AVAILABLE

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. MH/1/2009/0300/DMFP (RESUBMISSION)
 APPLICANT MR. P. JEAVONS
 PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF DEMOLISHED BARN BUILDINGS
 AS A DWELLING HOUSE INCLUDING THE ERECTION OF
 A GARAGE AND PROVISION OF A NEW ACCESS
 AT HAMSTEELS HALL FARM, HAMSTEELS LANE,ESH

NO PLANS AVAILABLE

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.

D

No. PS/1/2009/0308/DMFP

APPLICANT MR. B. FIRBANK

PROPOSED CONVERSION AND EXTENSION TO GROUND FLOOR BARBERS SHOP TO CREATE ONE BEDROOMED HOUSE AND ERECTION OF NEW BOUNDARY WALL AND GATES

AT PARK SALOON, 25 FRONT STREET, LANGLEY PARK

NO PLANS AVAILABLE

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.

098/09 Correspondence**Items for discussion:-**

A)DCC (Planning) – Containers on agricultural land to the rear of Aged Miners Homes, Quebec; monitoring the situation.

Members noted the contents

B)CDALC – Grant Scheme from Northern Gas Networks for Environmental Projects

Members agreed for the Clerk/Assistant Clerk to meet with the Chairman and Councillor Hiles regarding any possible environmental scheme/s within the Parish that could apply for this funding.

C)DCC (Planning) – County Durham Local Development Framework; Preparation of Documents (Core Strategy and Area Action Plans).

Members noted the contents

D) Mr D O'Brien – Application for Funding for Langley Park WMC Football Club

Members agreed for the Clerk to check which team this application was for and to request financial information (income/expenditure accounts and current bank statement) before making a decision on this application. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

E)Butterwick Hospice Care – Application for Funding

Members agreed that the application be deferred until later into this financial year.

F)County Durham Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted – Application for Funding

Members agreed that the application be deferred until later into this financial year.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 7

G)DCC Environmental Protection) – Keep Britain Tidy; Vehicle Litter Campaign.
Members agreed to support this campaign and for the posters to be displayed on the Council's notice boards.

H)County Durham Sports – Sport and physical activity awards 2009 on Friday 9th October 2009, Ramside Hall Hotel Durham
Members noted the details of this event and agreed for the posters to be displayed on the Council's notice boards.

I)DCC (Asset Management) – Disposal of sites owned by DCC
Members agreed for the Clerk to obtain the information on the two allotment sites (Langley Park and Quebec) and to arrange a meeting of the Allotments Committee to discuss this matter further.

Items for Information:-

J)Link County Durham – Newsletter Issue 3: June 2009

K)Local Councils Update: July 2009; Issue No. 117

L)County Durham Sustainability and Environment Partnership Newsletter; June 2009; Issue no 40

M)Local Council Review – Summer 2009

N)The Festive Lighting Company – Catalogue 2009/10

O)Natural England – Environmental Stewardship; 2nd July 2009 at High Studdon Farm, Allendale.

P)Campaign to Protect Rural England – Newsletter; Summer 2009

Q) Clerks & Councils Direct; July 2009; Issue no 64

R)ADT Fire & Security PLC – Routine inspection of intruder alarm system

S)Northern Tree Transplanters – Company Information

099/09 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

As Councillor Hiles was not at the meeting, Members agreed to defer this item until the next Parish Council meeting. Clerk to contact Councillor Hiles to discuss this matter.

100/09 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The Clerk reported on the ongoing problem of litter, broken glass and vandalism at the park. Members agreed for an article on this problem to be placed in the next edition of Esh Leaves.

101/09 Langley Park Library

Item discussed in the County Councillors reports, a further update required for the next Parish Council Meeting.

102/09 Area Action Partnership (AAP)

The Chairman reported that the next meeting of the Parish Councils Committee would be on Saturday 18th July 2009.

The first AAP Board meeting would be held on Wednesday 22nd July 2009.

103/09 August Recess

Members agreed to delegate powers to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to deal with any matters requiring attention and to report to the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council in September 2009.

104/09 Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Esh Parish Council is on **Tuesday 8th September 2009** in the **Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, 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 ITEMS LISTED BELOW ON THE GROUNDS THAT IF THEY ARE PRESENT DURING DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS THERE COULD BE DISCLOURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at **9.25pm**

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 9