

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The New Parish Hall, Front Street, Esh on Tuesday 9th February 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors A. Harling (Chairman), M.Berry, G. Coulson, M.Gordon, A.Hiles, A.Mollon, P.Mollon, S.Rothwell, M.Sands, M.Tyler.

Apologies: Councillors B.Armstrong and C.Bloor, County Councillor J Armstrong and PCSO A. Joyce, M.L.Rowland, P.J.Graham (Assistant Clerks).

Also Present County Councillor M.Campbell, G.F.Smith (Clerk) and David Rider (IT).

021/10 Declaration of Interest

Councillors M.Gordon declared an interest in agenda item No. 4a (4) – Allotment.

022/10 Police Report

Report circulated at the meeting.

023/10 Reports

A) Parish

1. The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park

Members agreed for the Chairman to sign the new tenancy agreement between Derwentside Homes and Esh Parish Council for a further 2 years term for the use of The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park. The rent will be £750 per annum for this tenancy.

Members further agreed for the Clerk to make inquiries of the Langley Park Community Association (Wood View Community Centre) and The Baptist / Methodist Churches (Church Halls) to hold future Parish Council meeting as the present facilities at the Harry Guildford Centre are not practicable.

Members also agreed for the Chairman/Clerk to look at the office space with a view to re- locating some areas (ie IT facilities) and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

2. Notice of Vacancy of Office of Councillors

The Clerk reported that the above notice had been placed on the Council's notice boards on 27th January 2010. The notice expires on the 15th February 2010. Members were encouraged to pass onto the Clerk any names of any prospective candidates, Members were also reminded of the vacancy for Ushaw Ward. It was agreed to place these items on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

3. Brief – Langley Park Needs Survey

Members agreed that there is a need for this survey to be carried out and it will help with any future funding application, assist with the preparation of the Parish Plan and the possible refurbishment of the Institute premises in Church Street. Clerk to circulate the survey to all Council Members (via e-mail).

4. Allotments

a) Fencing between Earl of Durham Allotments 74 and 75.

Members agreed to the re-alignment of the fencing between the above two allotments due to trees/hedges between them. Clerk to inform both allotment holders of the decision.

b) Earl of Durham Allotment No.61.

The tenant of the above allotment has still not paid the allotment rent for 2010 following two letters and a telephone call (reminder).

Members agreed for the Clerk to issue a Notice to Quit and to offer the allotment to the next person on the waiting list.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 1

5. Residents Concerns

a) Dog Fouling and litter

The Clerk read out an e-mail received from a resident in Cherrytree Drive, Langley Park, regarding dog fouling and the need for a dog bin in Hospital Road.

Members agreed:-

- i) For the Clerk to check the situation on the adoption of roads in the Hospital Lane area.
- ii) For an item on dog fouling be placed in the next edition of the Parish Council's Newsletter.
- iii) For the Clerk to forward the details of the e-mail onto the appropriate Officer at Durham County Council.

b) Salt Grit Bin at Kingsway /Springwell Close, Langley Park.

The Clerk read out an e-mail received from a resident at Springwell Avenue, Langley Park, regarding the need for a salt/grit bin at the above.

Members agreed for the Clerk to forward the e-mail onto the appropriate Officer at Durham County Council.

6. Council Garage rear of Garden Avenue, Langley Park

The Clerk reported that the security alarm system at the above premises had ceased operating.

A local electrical contractor had inspected the system and recommended a new security alarm system costing £300 (supply and installation costs).

Members agreed the Chairman /Clerk action and for the electrical contractor to carry out this work as soon as possible.

7. Parish Paths Partnership Grant (P3)

The Clerk had received details of the latest P3 Grants for improvement and promotion of the right of way network in the Parish area.

Members agreed for the Clerk to work with Councillor Hiles and the Development Workers of the EQUaL Partnership to develop an action plan to apply for the Grants. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

B) County Council

- i) Councillor Armstrong not present, no report sent
- ii) Councillor Campbell reported on the following:-
 - 1) Road Gritting /Salting
 - 2) Pot Holes in the Roads
 - 3) Care Homes Consultation

C) Members Reports

Councillor Berry reported:-

- 1) Road gully problems in Front Street, Langley Park (reported to DCC).

Any future concerns should be reported to the Highway Action Line and confirmed at the next Parish Council meeting for recoding purposes and any necessary further investigation.

- 2) Bus Shelter upgrade – item to be discussed with Councillor Armstrong.

Councillor Gordon reported on the following:-

- 1) State of footpath from Esh to Langley Park. It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman reported on a meeting of the editorial Committee which was held prior to this meeting. It was agreed to:-

- a) Produce a copy of Esh Leaves by the end of March/beginning of April
- b) The editor will be David Rider
- c) The next edition would be smaller in size but would include more local news and more Parish Council information (list of Councillors including telephone numbers)
- d) The editorial committee will meet to discuss with the editor on a regular basis and they would decide the contents.

024/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th January 2010

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

025/10 Clerk's Report (matters arising)

Page 1

Reports – a) Parish (004/10)

i) Use of information technology for Council agenda, minutes and reports

The Clerk reported that the necessary documents for this meeting had been sent to all Councillors via e-mail. There were a number of problems which required attention by the IT Officer (David Rider). Members agreed to continue with this system and for the Clerk to monitor costs (i.e. Postage, paper, ink cartridges for Council Members etc) and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

ii) Winter Gritting / Footpath Clearance

Agenda item No.19

Page 2

Clerk's Report (006/10)

Youth Provision in Langley Park (165/09)

The Clerk / Councillor Paula Mollon reported on the introductory session which took place on Friday 5th February 2010 at Wood View Community Centre, there were a number of initial problems which required some attention. Further meetings with partner agencies were planned and the next session for the young people was scheduled for Friday 12th February 2010.

Members agreed to agenda this item for the next Parish Council meeting.

Fencing at Esh Village green (145/09)

The Clerk confirmed that the Contractor had commenced on site today.

Councillors Hiles and Sands asked the Clerk to check with the Contractor on the positioning of the fence on the green area.

Allotment Condition of Tenancy (livestock) (128/09 (1))

Clerk was awaiting details from other Parish Councils and he was to attend a training session on allotments by the County Durham Training Partnership on 24th February 2010 when he would ask this relevant question of the presenter.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park (128/09(2))

Agenda Item No.4A (1) – Parish report

Cheque Signatory – Standard Life (AGM 04/09)

Clerk had written to standard life, awaiting response. **Clerk to report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Earl of Durham Allotments – Security Gates (047/09)

Due to inclement weather the contractor was unable to install the Security Gates.

Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

Page 3

Play Equipment at Esh – Repairs (067/09)

Due to inclement weather the contractor was unable to carry out the repairs to the play equipment. **Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Former Hippodrome Building, Langley Park – Planning Matters (080/09)

No further details received from the Planning Officer. **Clerk to chase up this matter with the Planning Officer and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

The Co-operative, Langley Park; Advertising Consent – Planning Matters (115/09)

No further details received from the Planning Officer. **Clerk to chase up this matter with the Planning Officer and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Citizens Advice Bureau – Use of the Harry Guildford Centre (121/09)

The Clerk was awaiting details from the Manager of the Durham office. **Clerk to chase up this matter and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Mapping Ordnance Survey – CDALC (135/09 (F))

The Clerk reported that Steve Ragg (CDALC) was in discussion with the DCC regarding this service under the new charter arrangements. **Clerk to chase up this matter and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Durham Biodiversity Partnership (135/09 (K))

No further details received from the Partnership. **Clerk to chase up this matter and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Community Engagement – Councillor Training (170/09)

The Clerk was awaiting dates from Steve Ragg and it was hoped to do some joint training with Councillors from Tow Law, Brandon&Byshottles, Lanchester and Esh at the Quebec Village Hall in February/March 2010. **Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.**

County of Durham School Benevolent Fund – Application for Funding (174/09 (A))

No further details received. **Clerk to chase up this matter and report to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.**

Financial Statement and Report (007/10)

Financial report for period ended 31st December 2009

Agenda Item No.7

Page 5**Correspondence****(A)Charter Arrangement – Local Councils and Durham County Council (010/10)**

Members agreed for the document to be placed on the Council's Web Site and for the item to be also placed in the next edition of the Council's Newsletter.

026/10 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 195 to 210)

And they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman /Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

Members agreed to accept the summary of income received from 1st April 2009 to 31st January 2010, as shown on the report, details as follows:-

Total income received during April to June 2009	£59,256.36
Total income received during July to September 2009	£6,858.93
Total income received during October 2009 to January 2010	£5,484.35
Total income	£71,599.64

Members also agreed to accept the summary of expenditure paid from 1st April 2009 to 31st January 2010 £70,646.76

027/10 Setting the budget 2010/2011

Members agreed to receive the reports for this item but to defer any decisions until the next Parish Council meeting. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting (March) and for Members to retain the reports for use at the meeting.

028/10 Planning Matters

No applications to be considered

029/10 Correspondence

Item for discussion:-

A) County Durham and Darlington NHS – Stakeholders event 3rd/8th March 2010 in Durham/Darlington

Members can obtain details from the Clerk

B) DCC – County Durham Environment award 2009

Closing date for entries 19th February 2010

Members can obtain details from the Clerk

C) Great North Air Ambulance – application for funding

Clerk had requested usual financial details

Item to be reported to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting

D) DCC – Esh Parish P3 Group

Members agreed to accept the offer from Elaine Field to act as a walk leader for the next Parish Council walk in May 2010 and for the event to be submitted in the DCC guided walks programme (April – September 2010).

Clerk to contact Elaine Field to make the necessary arrangement (Councillor Bloor to be included in the discussions). Councillor Paula Mollon would provide refreshment (number of participants needed prior to the date of event) in the Parish Office.

E) CDALC – invitation to Buckingham Palace Garden Party on Tuesday 20th July 2010, nomination by 26th February 2010.

Members can obtain details from the Clerk.

F) North East Regional Employers Organisation – application for the Parish Council to become a Member of this organisation (cost £273+vat per annum)

Members agreed not to join this organisation.

G) Wearlangley park – application to add link to the Council’s website

Members agreed not to allow this link to the Council’s website.

H) DCC – consultation on Contaminated Land Strategy, replies by 1st March 2010

Members agreed for the Clerk /IT Officer to scan the executive summary and other relevant papers and to send the documents to all Council Members by e-mail.

I) DCC – Local Government Pension Fund increase in employers rate from 1st April 2010 from 19.4% to 19.7%

Members noted the increase and would adjust the figures when fixing the budget for 2010/11 at the next Parish Council meeting (March).

Items for information :-

J) Standards Board for England – notification to Parish and Town Councils concerning complaints about their Members and Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008.

K) Standard Board for England – the role and appointment of Parish and Town Council representatives to the Standards Committee and the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008.

L) CDALC – Licensing and Parish Councils (update).

M) DCC – County Council consultation with Town and Parish Councils regarding mutually beneficial working relationships.

- N) DCC Newsletter; our life; for people with learning disabilities
- O) Rams Head over 40s football team – letter of thanks for donation
- P) DCC – Sustainable Design supplementary Planning document, consultation response by 1st April 2010
- Q) Link County Durham – AGM report dated 22nd October 2009
- R) Local Councils update – Jan/Feb 2010; issue No.123/124

030/10 Parish Plan

Members agreed to progress this plan (incorporate needs survey) and place on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

031/10 Litter Problems in Langley Park (Hospital Road)

Members agreed to invite an appropriate Officer from Durham County Council to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

032/10 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

Councillor Hiles preparing a management/action plan. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

033/10 Area Action Partnership/Parish Councils Committee

A) The next meeting of the board of the AAP is scheduled for:-

Wednesday 24th February 2010 commencing at 6.30 pm, venue to be decided

Wednesday 17th March 2010 commencing at 6.30pm, venue to be decided

Wednesday 21st April 2010 commencing at 6.30pm, venue to be decided

Wednesday 19th May 2010 commencing at 6.30pm, venue to be decided

B) The next meeting of the PCC is scheduled for Saturday 20th February 2010 commencing at 10.00 am at the offices of Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council, Langley Moor.

034/10 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

No further update, item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting

035/10 Langley Park Library

No further update, item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting

036/10 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Councillor Hiles raised concerns on the outstanding bolts/parts for various items of equipment. Clerk to chase this up with the Council's contractor and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillor Coulson raised concerns on the CCTV system at the park; he would speak to the relevant County Council Officer (Lee Spraggon)

037/10 Partnership Sub Committee

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of accounts details from the EQUaL Partnership. It was agreed for Councillor Hiles to discuss the situation with Councillor Bowyer.

The Chairman would also meet with the Clerk to discuss the progress of setting up a Partnership Sub Committee. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

038/10 Winter Gritting /Footpath Clearance

Councillors discussed the lack of gritting/salt in the Parish area and raised concerns in particular with Esh & Quebec. They also raised concerns at the number of potholes in the Parish area mainly in Langley Park. It was agreed to defer this item until the next Parish Council meeting.

039/10 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 9th March 2010, commencing at 7.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

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 DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at 8.55 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 7