

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park, on Tuesday 13th April 2010 commencing at 7.10pm

Present: Councillors A. Harling (Chairman), B. Armstrong, M. Berry, C. Bloor R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, M. Gordon, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, M. Sands, M. Tyler.

Apologies: County Councillor M. Campbell, PCSO A. Joyce and M.L. Rowland, (Assistant Clerk).

Also Present: Anne Bonner (Red Social Enterprise), County Councillor J. Armstrong, David Rider (IT Officer), G.F Smith (Clerk) and P.J Graham (Assistant Clerk).

065/10 Declaration of Interest

Councillors Bloor and Gordon declared an interest in agenda item No. 5A (3) – Inspection of Allotments.

066/10 Police Report

Copies of the report were circulated at the meeting. Councillor J Armstrong announced he was meeting with the Police and Officers from the County Council to look at verge hardening/off – road parking at the Aged Miners Homes at Langley Park. Members instructed the Clerk to write to DCC regarding the need for Traffic calming measures/20mph speed restrictions near the School crossing patrol.

067/10 Presentation by Anne Bonner, Red Social Enterprise

Anne informed the Members of the work that was being carried out on the Langley Park Needs Survey over the next 3 months and asked for Members support and co-operation. She would be making another presentation/update to a Parish Council Meeting. The Members thanked Anne for the update and looked forward to the completed report.

068/10 Reports

A) Parish

1. Litter Bin at Quebec

The litter bin beside the bus stop (next to the Play Area) was in need of replacement. Members agreed for the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to replace the litter bin.

2. Parish Walk in May 2010

Councillor Bloor announced that the Parish Walk would be held on Sunday 9th May 2010 to commence at 2.00pm, Meeting at the Car Park at Bridge Street, Langley Park. Clerk to arrange publicity posters to be displayed on Council's Notice Boards. Councillor Bloor gave his apologies as he is away and will not be able to lead the walk. The Chairman and other Councillors will be present to lead and also the Clerk to arrange for refreshments en route.

3. Inspection of Allotments

The Clerk is to arrange for the skips to be sited at the allotments during the week end of 1st to 3rd May 2010 (subject to weather conditions). Clerk to arrange the inspection of allotments after the 3rd May and to inform all Members of the date and time.

4. Broadband (emergency cover)

Members agreed to the need for emergency broadband facilities should Durham net become unavailable at the office. The cost is £4.99 per month, it was agreed for the Clerk/IT Officer to make the necessary arrangements.

5. Luncheon Club at Langley Park

The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the supplier of meals to the luncheon club on a Monday and Wednesday was to cease on 28th April 2010.

County Councillor J Armstrong had spoken to a director at DCC (Ian Thompson) who would be making alternative arrangements for the service.

B) County Council

County Councillor Campbell not present, no report sent

County Councillor Armstrong reported on the following:-

- 1) Langley Park Library – ongoing legal issues
 - 2) All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park – no further progress. Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of DCC stating their concerns on the delay of demolishing the building, which is now in a very dangerous state (copy to Chief Constable).
 - 3) Youth Provision in Langley Park – Update report.
 - 4) CCTV at Sir Bobby Robson Park – negotiations still ongoing. Members instructed the Clerk to write to the Chief Executive DCC regarding this matter, expressing the concerns and disappointment of a lack of service.
 - 5) Footpath from Esh to Langley Park – meeting to be arranged (Councillors Sands and Gordon to be invited), Clerk to e-mail Councillor Armstrong.
 - 6) Home Housing – empty properties at The Haven, Langley Park.
 - 7) Winter Maintenance – ongoing discussions at the Scrutiny Committee.
- Councillor Coulson asked Councillor Armstrong to contact a resident of Ash Street, Langley Park regarding ASB on the unadopted footpath in that street.

C) Members Reports

1) Councillor Sands reported on:-

- a) Roadside Litter at Esh (e-mail details to the Clerk who was arranging work with the Youth Offending Service).
 - b) Parking sign at Quebec Play Area (need for a bigger sign). It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain prices and the procedure to site the sign in a more prominent place.
- 2) Councillor Harling stated he will not be standing for Chairman at the AGM because of future lack of time and work/family responsibilities.
 - 3) Councillor A Mollon reported his apologies (on Holiday) for the next meeting which is the Annual General Meeting and wished to be considered for the position of Chairman.
 - 4) Councillor P Mollon reported her apologies (on holiday) for the next meeting which is the Annual General Meeting and wished to be considered for the position of Vice Chairman.

069/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th March 2010

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

070/10 Clerk's Report (matters arising)**Page 1****Page 2****Reports (044/10)**

A) Parish 5) Durham Net

The Clerk reported that the system was now operational and additional ports were now available, also contact details had been exchanged (the Clerk thanked Councillor Armstrong for his assistance in this matter).

B) County Council 8) Bus Shelters at Langley Park

Agenda item No.11

C) Members reports 1) Tarmac Path, Front Street, Esh

The Clerk had sent an e-mail to DCC, Councillor Sands reported that the work had been completed satisfactorily.

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 2

C) Members Reports 2) Containers at Quebec

The Clerk read out an e-mail from John Laidlaw DCC, in which a Planning Enforcement notice would be served on the land owner, The Officer stated he would inform the Council when the notice has been served. Members noted the situation and awaited the update report.

C) Members Reports 3) parking on the grassed areas in Langley Park

Agenda Item No.12

Page 3**Clerk's Report (046/10)****1. The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park**

Re-organisation of Office,

Due to staff sickness the re-organisation was unable to be carried out, The Chair/Clerk to meet to agree another time to carry this out.

Parish Paths Partnership Grant (P3)

Clerk met with Councillor Hiles and agreed to carry out some work to the circular path, complete pathway to gate and commence with reinstating the public footpath at Park Drive (This work would have to be phased over a number of years). Letters would need to be sent to the residents of Park Drive informing them of the proposed works and asking them for their co-operation due to the works and to stop dumping waste etc onto the path. Members agreed for the Clerk to complete the necessary application forms.

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

Work has not commenced on site due to inclement weather. Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Play Equipment at Esh – Repairs (067/09)

Work has not commenced on site due to inclement weather. Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Page 4**Citizens Advice Bureau – Use of the Harry Guildford Centre (121/09)**

The Clerk had spoken to the Manager of the Durham office and he was informed that the cost of supplying a case worker was £25 per hour (this cost included for the CAB to provide the necessary publicity materials). Members agreed to arrange for the CAB case worker to commence in June with a trial period of 1 hour a month and for this to be reviewed on a regular basis (particularly on the number of clients using the service).

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

Awaiting details from Steve Ragg discussions with DCC are still ongoing; Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Community Engagement – Councillor Training (170/09)

Power of Well Being Training arranged for 28th April 2010 in Brandon & Byshottles Parish Council's office at Langley Moor commencing at 6.30pm (Councillors Bowyer, Coulson, Gordon, Berry and Tyler).

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

No further financial details have been received.

Correspondence (029/10)

D) DCC – Esh Parish P3 Group – Parish Walk 9th May 2010

Clerk to invite Elaine Field (DCC) to the Walk.

Page 5**Litter Problem Hospital Road, Langley Park (031/10)**

Clerk was arranging for the work to be carried out by the Youth Engagement Service

Winter Gritting /Footpath Clearance (038/10)

Clerk had sent details to DCC for discussion at the Scrutiny Committee

Page 6**Planning Matters (049/10)**

A) CMA/1/146 – Unit 10 Langley Park Industrial Estate

The Clerk had sent details of this Planning Application to all Councillors.

Members agreed to raise the following concerns on this proposed development:-

a) Noise from the unit may effect local residents and adjacent proprietors of units on the Industrial Estate.

b) Dust and smell may effect local residents and adjacent proprietors of units on the Industrial Estate.

c) An increase of heavy goods vehicles to/from the site may effect local residents and adjacent proprietors of units on the Industrial Estate.

Clerk to write to the Planning Officer with the above concerns.

B) 928/1/164 (5) – Langley Park Primary School.

The Clerk had sent details of this Planning Application to all Councillors, Members agreed to make no objections to this proposed development.

C) MS/1/2010/0034/DMFP – 1 and 2 Esh Hall Cottages, Esh

The Clerk had sent details of this Planning Application to all Councillors, Members agreed to make no objections to this proposed development.

Correspondence (050/10)

F) Victim Support – application for funding

No further financial details have been received

Parish Plan (051/10)

Agenda item No.15

Page 7**State of Footpath Esh Village to Langley Park(053/10)**

County Councillor Armstrong is arranging a meeting with officers from DCC (Councillors Sands and Gordon to attend).

Council Vacancies (054/10)

Agenda Item No.14

Youth Provision in Langley Park (055/10)

Agenda Item No.16

Page 8**Recreation Ground, Langley Park (057/10)**

Agenda Item No.17

All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park (059/10)

Agenda Item No. 19

Langley Park Library (060/10)

Agenda Item No. 20

Sir Bobby Robson Park (061/10)

Agenda Item No.21

Partnership Sub-Committee (062/10)

Agenda Item No.22

071/10 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (Vouchers 244 to 271) and they should be paid; where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk's action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

O72/10 Planning Matters

A) MS/1/2010/0117/DMFP – conversion of garage to habitable room at 12 Kings Avenue, Langley Park.

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objections to this proposed development.

B) MS/1/2010/0115/DMFP – erection of single storey rear extension at 1 Consett Terrace, Esh.

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objections to this proposed development.

C) MS/1/2010/0130/DMFP – erection of two storey rear extension and first floor extension to front at 25 Herrington Close, Langley Park.

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objections to this proposed development.

O73/10 Correspondence

A) BDO – External Auditors – Annual Audit for year ending 31st March 2010.

Members noted the following dates:-

18th June 2010 – Audit Date

30th June – Approval of Annual Returns

3rd May 2010 to 16th May 2010 – display notice “Exercise of Electors Rights”

17th May 2010 to 14th June 2010 – Make the records available for inspection.

B) DCC – Neighbourhood Services – Festive Lighting 2010.

Members agreed for the Clerk to meet with officers of DCC regarding the fixing of motifs on lamp posts in Langley Park and prepare a report for their consideration.

C) DCC – Our Life Magazine; April 2010; issue No.2 questionnaire to complete available in the Council’s office.

D) Langley Park Angling Association (juniors) – application for funding; financial details have been requested.

Members agreed for the application to be referred to the Community Development Worker at the EQUaL Partnership to assist the Angling Association to complete funding application forms from other funding bodies.

E) Butterwick Hospice Care – application for funding – financial details have been requested.

Members noted the situation.

F) Standard Life Cash Savings – current bond (£7500) matures.

Members agreed to invest the £7500 in a further one year bond with Standards Life, bond to expire 31st March 2011.

G) Durham Miners Association – Gala Book project (hard back or paper bank copies available).

Members agreed to purchase 1 hard back copy at £19.50, Clerk to arrange to collect a copy from the DMA offices in Durham City.

Items for Information:-

H) Link to County Durham – items for information; A) joint commissioning strategy for older people for County Durham 2010/2013; B) proposal to close in-house residential care homes (DCC).

I) Campaign to Protect Rural England Newsletter; spring 2010.

J) DCC – Parish Paths Partnership application forms for 2010 and work books 1, 2 and 3.

K) DCC – P3 Newsletter; spring 2010; issue No.26.

L) County Durham Health Wellbeing Partnership; a physical activities strategy for County Durham.

M) DCC – Kaysburn roundabout – sight lines to be trimmed.

N) SLCC – acknowledgement of submission by Clerk of section 7 (portfolio) – Power of Wellbeing.

O) Standard Life Cash Savings and Mortgages – transfer of business to Barclays Bank PLC.

P) Standard Life Cash Savings and Mortgages – confirmation of Direct access savings account (£7500) from 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011.

Q) Play Space Design – consultancy business.

R) Local Council update; April 2010: issue No.126.

074/10 Bus Shelters in Langley Park

Members agreed for the Clerk to e-mail County Councillor Armstrong to arrange a joint meeting with officers of DCC to discuss:-

Upgrading the bus shelters in Front Street.

Re-Siting of bus shelter

Seating provision in bus shelters

Servicing/Maintaining of bus shelters (regular cleaning programme?).

075/10 Parking on Grassed Areas in Langley Park

Councillor Berry had met with PCSO Joyce and action had been taken by the Police to owners of the vehicles. The Police have also agreed to continue monitoring the situation. Members were reminded to report any incidents to the Police.

Councillor Armstrong reported that the problems at Low Moor Road near the Cemetery would be resolved soon (subject to weather conditions).

076/10 Litter Problems at Langley Park

The Clerk was arranging litter picks (on a regular basis) with Probation Service/Youth Engagement Services.

Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

077/10 Council Vacancies

Members agreed to interview the four residents who had expressed interest in the two vacancies on Tuesday 27th April 2010 in Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park, commencing at 7.00pm. Each candidate would be allowed 15minutes based on a question and answer session.

The Candidates are:-

Mr Dowson, 31 Front Street, Langley Park.

Mr Joyce, Hillcrest, Esh.

Mr Maddison, 31 East Clere, Langley Park.

Mr Partridge, 24 Front Street, Quebec.

078/10 Parish Plan

Awaiting details/information from the Langley Park Needs Survey which is to be carried out during April/May/June 2010. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

079/10 Youth Provision in Langley Park

Clerk had made arrangements with the Co-operative Bank to set up a separate Bank Account with cheque book facilities. Councillors B Armstrong and P Mollon updated Members about the activities and membership (15) and hoped to carry out further publicity to encourage more young people to attend. A trip to Wet n' Wild was being organised. An e-mail had been received from a local resident regarding a number of concerns, Councillor B Armstrong had responded to the resident by e-mail.

080/10 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

The work to the Recreation Ground would be part of a plan which would hope to obtain funding from Natural England. The application form would be completed by the Capacity Workers employed by the EQUaL Partnership.

081/10 Area Action Partnership /Parish Councils Committee

The AAP has been renamed to Mid Durham AAP. A meeting of the Youth Task Group will be held on 28th April, this will discuss the proposed work on the Railway Walks and Gateway projects that are to be funded by the AAP.

The next meeting of the PCC will be Wednesday 21st April 2010 at 6.30pm in the offices of Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council.

082/10 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

Awaiting response to letters being sent to DCC and Durham Police. Members again raised concerns at the delay in demolishing the building on site.

083/10 Langley Park Library

Members again raised concerns at the delay in moving into new premises in Front Street.

084/10 Sir Bobby Robson Park

The Clerk reported that two pieces of equipment had been vandalised and were now not operational. A local resident had agreed to volunteer to open/close the park gates, Members agreed for the Clerk to discuss the arrangement with the Council's Insurance Company regarding Employer/Employee Public Liability considerations and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Reports had also been received of a quad bike and motor cycling on the park area; this had been reported to the Police.

Also dogs have been seen on the site, Members agreed for the Clerk to chase up the sign with the contractor and also to inform the appropriate officer at DCC (dog warden).

Parts of the security fencing had been removed (Clerk had arranged for replacements) as well as parts (panels) of some play equipment. Clerk was to discuss with the supplier (Wicksteed Leisure Ltd) some sort of secure/fixing bolts to be supplied/fitted as soon as possible.

085/10 Partnership Sub-Committee

Chairman/Clerk to meet with Councillor Bowyer after the meeting to discuss the financial position of the EQUaL Partnership. Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

086/10 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 11th May 2010 in Wood View Community Centre, Langley Park immediately following the Annual General meeting which commences 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
DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.**

The meeting finished at 9.15 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 8