

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in Wood View Community Centre, on Tuesday 14th September 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors A. Mollon (Chairman), M. Berry, R. Bowyer, G. Coulson, M. Gordon, M. Joyce, S. Maddison, P. Mollon, R. Partridge, M. Sands.

Apologies: Councillors B. Armstrong, C. Bloor, A. Harling, S. Rothwell, County Councillors J. Armstrong, M. Campbell.

Also Present: Terry Coult (DCC), Graham Davison (DCC), Kevin Elliot (Church Council), David Rider (IT officer), G.F. Smith (Clerk), and P.J. Graham (Assistant Clerk)

173/10 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Gordon declared an interest in Agenda item No. 9A (Inspection of Allotments).

174/10 Presentation by John Mc Gargill, Dave Lewin Durham County Council on Civil Parking Enforcement

John Mc Gargill and Dave Lewin did not attend the meeting.

175/10 All Saint Youth Centre, Langley Park

Terry Coult reported on the situation regarding the License from Natural England to demolish All Saints Youth Centre.

Natural England have responded by refusing the application due to no redevelopment taking place immediately after demolition.

A further application will be sent for possible demolition in March/April 2011.

He agreed to keep the Parish Council informed with any update.

Graham Davison reported that he was compiling a cost report on making the building secure and was awaiting details from the Fire and Police services; again he agreed to keep the Parish Council updated.

176/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13th July 2010

It was agreed to make the following amendment:

Page 2 Minutes Corresponded (130/10)

Add “(County Councillors Members Initiative fund)”

Subject to the above amendment it was agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

177/10 Matters Arising (non agenda items)

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Community Garden at Railway Street, Langley Park (119/10)

The Clerk updated Members on the present situation.

Clerk's Report (044/10)

2) Containers at Quebec

The Clerk reported that the County Council had sent out a Planning Enforcement Notice (by recorded delivery) on the 8th September 2010.

The notice was for the removal of four containers from the land which would take effect on Monday 18th October 2010.

The containers are to be removed within 28 days of the notice taking effect.

There is a right to appeal to the notice and would have to be received by the Planning Inspectorate prior to the notice taking effect on the 18th October 2010.

Member noted the situation.

Parish Paths Partnership Grant

Clerk updated Members with the Partnership working being carried out on the two schemes by the County Councils Countryside Ranger and a volunteer group.

The next meeting is scheduled for October. Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

Page 2**Earl of Durham Allotment – Security Gates (047/09)**

The work is now complete.

Play Equipment at Esh (repairs) (067/09)

The work is now complete.

Citizens Advice Bureau – use of the Parish Office (121/09)

Three members of the public attended the session Wednesday 14th July 2010 and also on Wednesday 11th August 2010.

No members of the public attended the session on Wednesday 8th September 2010.

Litter Problems in Langley Park (104/10)

Meeting with County Council officers Martin Bisco and Alex Bland. They are speaking to the Youth Engagement and Probation Service on our behalf.

Clerk to report at the next Parish Council meeting.

Litter Bin at Quebec (068/10)

The work is now complete.

Correspondence (130/10)

F) Summer programme of coaching in Langley Park (16th - 20th August)

95 young people attended the sessions throughout the week.

M) CDALC – Titles of Dignitary

Clerk to chase this matter up with Steve Ragg (CDALC) and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Page 3**Page 4****Correspondence (158/10)**

A) Hamsteels Inn FC – Repair to goal posts

Goal posts have be repaired by Hamsteels Inn FC

D) County Durham Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted – application for funding

Clerk reported that the Parish Council had donated £200 to this organisation on the 12th June 2007.

Members agreed not to support this application, County Councillor Campbell has supported them out of has County Councillor's Members Initiative fund.

Bus service to Local Swimming Baths (161/10)

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

178/10 Minutes of the special meeting held on 22nd June 2010

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

179/10 Matters arising (non agenda items)

None

180/10 Police Report

No Police report or Police attendance at the meeting (report received and e-mail to all Councillors).

Members agreed for the Clerk to write a further letter to Inspector Turner regarding a Police presence at future Parish Council meetings.

181/10 Reports

A) Parish Report

Outstanding Items:-

2. Inspection of Allotments (068/10)

Further Inspection will take place in November 2010

New Items

a) Christmas Lights

Members agreed to accept the quotation for Christmas lighting work to be carried out by Durham County Councils Neighbourhood Services, as follows:-

Esh - £507 + vat

Quebec - £507 + vat

Langley Park - £487 + vat

Members also agreed for the Clerk to investigate with the County Council the situation regarding Christmas Motifs on lighting columns in Langley Park and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

b) Earl of Durham allotment Langley Park

The Clerk reported that allotment Number 71 at the above site has been let.

The allotment was in poor state of repair and required certain amount of work to bring it to an acceptable condition, the new allotment holder had paid a full years allotment rent (£27.50).

Members agreed to inspect this allotment at the November site inspections and should it be in a satisfactory condition the rent would be waived for this year and the amount paid credited against the rent due 2011 (£30.00).

Members also agreed that the Clerk should encourage any further lettings of allotments as a half plot first before full tenancy this would reduce the present waiting list.

c) Esh Village Green

Following a complaint by a resident, a meeting with officers from DCC took place.

The County Council agreed to resite /replace the bin on the village green (this work has now been completed).

d) Quebec Car Park Litter + Dog Bin

Clerk to discuss with the two County Councillors and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

B) County Council

No County Councillors attended the meeting verbal reports from:-

County Councillor Armstrong asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Members and AAP Coordinator and Councillor Campbell to discuss the Needs Survey.

County Councillor Campbell reported that Consett Council Office would be demolished in February 2011/2012 and that the Planning Office would be moved to Chester-le-Street or County Hall.

County Councillor Campbell also donated to the County Durham Society for the Blind and Partially Sighted from his Members Initiative Fund and also made arrangements for future funding.

C) Members Report

Outstanding Items:-

1a) Roadside litter at Esh (068/10)

Clerk to chase this matter up with the Probation Service/Youth Engagement Service and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

1b) Parking Sign at Quebec Play Area (068/10)

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

Improvement/Appearance of Langley Park (Councillor Berry) (096/10)

Councillors M. Berry updated the Members on a meeting he had with two officers from DCC. Some progress had been made and it was agreed to hold this meeting on a quarterly basic.

Members agreed for the Clerk to inquiry about the conversion of the bus shelter in Front Street to “Ad-Shiel” type bus shelter, Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting

Rubbish at the rear of the Parish Council Office (096/10)

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

Graffiti on the garage door (096/10)

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

Christmas trees and lights (127/10)

Meeting with a Specialist Contractor advised that a living tree would not be suitable at Esh and Quebec due to the position in the village (wind burn)

Members agreed to have usually cut trees, Clerk to make the necessary arrangement with the local Contractor.

Committee meeting (127/10)

Members agreed to form five Committees (agenda item No. 20 Partnership Sub-Committee)

New items

Councillor G. Coulson raised the following concerns:-

The speed of traffic (heavy goods) and vibrations felt in properties in Stringer Terrace

It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the two County Councillors and Police to arrange a site visit (with residents).

182/10 Financial Statement and Report

Member agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 67- 120) and that they should be paid;

Where appropriate confirm the Chairman/Clerk’s action in issuing cheques in advance of the meeting.

183/10 Planning Matters

A) MS/1//2010/0427/DMFP- Mr J Hughes, Sun Lounge to front of property, 28 Finings Avenue, Langley Park.

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

B) MS/1/2010/0422/DMFP – Mr P Peart, Erection of detached garage to rear, 23 Garden Avenue, Langley Park.

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

C) MS/1/2010/0498/DMFP- Mr J Whitney, Loft conversion comprising of velux low profile windows to rear elevation, East House, Front Street, Esh.

Decision – Members agreed to make no objections to this proposed development

184/10 Correspondence

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:-

A) Durham City Centre Youth Project – Application for Funding

It was agreed to await financial details before considering this application.

B) DCC – Controlled Waste transfer note – cost £164.30 + Vat per year

It was agreed for the Chairman to sign the necessary forms and Members noted that the cost for collection of rubbish from the office was £164.30 +Vat for this financial year

C) DCC – Remembrance Sunday – details required

Members agreed for the Clerk to obtain the necessary details and inform the County Council.

D) Batson Groundwork + Construction Services – company details

Members agreed to place this contactor on the Council works list.

E) DCC – Select tender list for Civil Engineering Works

Members agreed to place this contactor on the Council works list.

F) N-Power – Prices for extended contract period (Council garage)

Members agreed to accept the extended contract period.

G) DCC – Draft Statement of Licensing Policy 2011-2014

The Clerk to circulate the detail of the policy to all Councillor Members (via email)

H) DCC – Taxi Licensing Policy Public Consultation

The Clerk to circulate the detail of the policy to all Councillor Members (via email)

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:-

I) Standard Life Cash Savings – changes to Interest Rates

J) Link County Durham – Annual Report April 2009 – March 2010

K) DCC – Overview + Scrutiny Committee – Annual Report 2010/2011

L) Durham county council Our Life August 2010 Issue No. 4

M) Local Councils update; August 2010; Issue No.130

N) Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine; September 2010; Issue No.71

O) Local Councils Update – September 2010; Issue No 131

P) Local Council Review Magazine; Autumn 2010

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:-

Q) Langley Park Martial Arts Club – Application for Funding

Members agreed to await financial details and instructors licence number, (CRB check) before considering this application.

R) CDALC – Charter Review Event (two places for Parish)

Saturday 2nd October 2010 County Hall 10.30 start

Members to inform the Clerk if they wish to attend this event.

S) Rams Head Football Club, Langley Park- Application for Funding

Member agreed to await financial details before considering this application.

185/10 Recreation Ground, Langley Park

No further update

Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

186/10 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee

The next meeting of the Parish Council Committee is on 18th September 10.00am at Burnhope, for any Members wishing to attend.

187/10 Langley Park Needs Survey.

Clerk to arrange a meeting with Members and County Councillors Armstrong, Campbell and the AAP Coordinator to discuss the Needs Survey.

188/10 Parish Newsletter Esh Leaves

Members agreed to publish two editions of Esh Leaves per year (December/June) and a Monthly Parish Newsletter

189/10 All Saints Youth Centre at Langley Park

Outstanding Items:-

Report (068/10)

2. A) Letter to Chief Executive, DCC
- B) Letter to Inspector Turner, Durham Police
- C) Letter to Natural England
- D) Letter to Health + Safety Executive

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

190/10 Councillors Vacancy

The Clerk reported that the above notice had been placed on the Council's notice boards on 9th August 2010; the notice expire on the 27th August 2010.

There have been no requests for an election to fill the said vacancy

Members were encouraged to pass onto the Clerk any names of any prospective candidates.

It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

191/10 Langley Park Library

Members agreed for the Clerk to discuss with County Councillor Armstrong the need for a new library sign.

192/10 Partnership Sub-Committee

Outstanding Items:-

Partnership Sub Committee (113/10)

A) Financial Information

The Clerk produced a set of accounts for the EQUaL Partnership as at 31st December 2009. The balance at bank was £27,427.66.

Members agreed to accept the details provided subject to the Clerk (and Councillor Bowyer) completing an Annual Return to the Charities Commission.

B) Funding Arrangements

Members were informed that the Capacity Development workers (Lynne + Paula) were actively progressing further funding applications for revenue costs (office equipment and salary costs).

C) Committee Structure

Members agreed to accept the report by the Clerk (circulated at the meeting) in which it proposed the following Committee Structure:-

Finance + General Purposes

Planning

Environment

Publicity

Community Partnership (EQUaL)

Members agreed for the Clerk to e-mail all Councillors for them to respond on their committee preferences.

Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

193/10 Sir Bobby Robson Park

Outstanding Items:-

B) Security Bolts

Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and arrange for the work to be completed as a matter of urgency. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

C) Missing Equipment

Clerk to chase this matter up with the contractor and arrange for the work to be completed as a matter of urgency. Clerk to report to the next Parish Council meeting.

New item

Horse being “Tethered in and around the Park again, Clerk is arranging for the situation to be monitored by Officers of DCC.

Clerk to report to the next Parish council meeting.

194/10 Lanchester Railway Walk

Member agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

195/10 Parking on grassed areas in Langley Park

Outstanding Items:-

Members agreed to have a special meeting with officers from DCC

Clerk to arrange and contact Councillors.

196/10 Bus Shelters in Langley Park

Outstanding Items:-

Correspondence (099/10)

B) DCC – Ownership of Bus Shelters

Invitation to Andrew Bruce, Clerk to arrange a special meeting with the relevant officers at DCC and contact all Councillors.

197/10 Youth Provision in Langley Park

Outstanding Items:-

1) Letter to YMCA

2) Letter to Inspector Turner

3) Letter to Chief Executive (DCC)

Clerk to chase up the outstanding correspondence and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

198/10 Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 12th October 2010 at Wood View Community Centre 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 DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at 9.15 pm

Signed by the Chairman.....Page 7