

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park on Tuesday 14th December 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors A. Mollon (Chairman), M. Berry, C. Bloor, R. Bowyer, M. Gordon, A. Harling, S. Maddison, P. Mollon, R. Partridge, S. Rothwell and M. Sands.

Apologies: Councillor B. Armstrong, County Councillors J. Armstrong and M. Campbell, and Mrs M.L.Rowland (Deputy Clerk) Miss P.J. Graham (Assistant Clerk).

Also Present: G.F. Smith (Clerk).

244/10 Declaration of Interest

Councillors C. Bloor and M. Gordon declared an interest in agenda item No 6A (v) Earl of Durham Allotments and agenda item No.10 - Allotment Rents 2012.

245/10 Police Report

No report, no Police presence. Clerk to chase up the letter sent to the Chief Constable and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

246/10 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th October 2010

Amendment – Page 3 Minutes 226/10 (5c)

“Sports and Past Times” should read “Sports and Pastimes”

Subject to the above alteration the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

247/10 Matters Arising (none agenda items)

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Presentation by a Resident (223/10)

Carrying out work by the Parish Council to unadopted roads, awaiting details from the Council’s Insurance company and County Durham Association of Local Councils. Clerk to Chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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Correspondence (130/10)

M) CDALC – Titles of Dignitary

Awaiting further details from CDALC/NALC. Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

Bus Service to Local Swimming Baths (161/10)

No further update, Clerk to Chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

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Page 5**Christmas Tree and Lights (127/10)**

Councillor Berry and the Clerk had met with the manager of the local public house (Langley Park Hotel) regarding fixing of 3 motifs to the building. Due to the time scale of receiving permission from area/national managers of the brewery it was agreed to withdraw the offer of the motifs but to continue negotiations for the Christmas period in 2011.

The Clerk was unsuccessful in obtaining solar wrap-around lighting motifs.

Members agreed to commence organising the event well in advance of Christmas (i.e. May/June).

Members also requested the Clerk to make enquiries of DCC regarding the use of the CCTV pole to install a motif. This could allow use of 2 motifs to the two lamp posts that have passed the Health and Safety Test.

Page 6**Correspondence (229/10)**

D) CDALC – Consultation on Service Delegation Scheme (DCC)

Clerk to circulate the e-mail to all Councillors. Response to Clerk before 12th January 2011.

Page 7**Page 8****Page 9****Page 10****248/10 Reports****A) Parish**

Outstanding Items:-

Report (181/10)

i) Quebec Car Park – provision of Litter and Dog Bin

AAP funding application form to be completed for January meeting of the board.

ii) Rachel Davis, 27 Eppleton Close, Langley Park – application for funding awaiting details from CDALC regarding Power of Well Being – Legal Status.

iii) Damaged half barrels flower tubs at Esh village green awaiting report from local contractor. Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

iv) Damaged Tree/s on Esh village green awaiting report from local contractor. Clerk to chase this matter up and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

v) Earl of Durham Allotments – Rats

The problem with rats on a number of allotment sites still continues.

Clerk to chase this matter up with the County Council and take appropriate action (in conjunction with the Chairman) to resolve this serious problem. Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

New Items:-**1) Review of Funding (DCC)**

Copy of a letter dated 30th November 2010 from DCC was circulated prior to the meeting.

After detailed discussion Members agreed to provide to DCC the following:-

a) Overview of the current year's accounts

b) Anticipated Reserves

c) Budget Structure

d) Services provided for the contribution (i.e. grass cutting to play areas and open spaces, additional Insurance costs for playground equipment and maintenance costs.

e) Impact report on both the Parish Council and Community if this funding were to be withdrawn (either wholly or partly from April 2011)

2) Meeting of Finance and General Purposes Committee

Meeting to be arranged for Tuesday 4th January 2011 in The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm.

3) Meeting of Environment Committee

Meeting to be arranged for 30th December 2010 in The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm.

4) Meeting of Partnership Committee (EQUaL)

Meeting to be held following the Environment Committee.

5) Council owned garage on Earl of Durham Allotments

The Clerk read out a letter from Ladycraft Ltd (tenants of the above building) regarding the delays in replacing the broken alarm system and estimate for replacing the wooden doors with new roller shutter doors. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had paid the electrician for the alarm equipment and would chase up the electrician for the alarm to be fitted as a matter of urgency. Members also agreed for the Clerk to obtain a price from Ladycraft Ltd for the cost of:-

- a) Electrician to install an intruder alarm – labour costs only
- b) Replacing the wooded doors with roller shutters doors

Clerk to also chase up the other contractors for estimates for replacing the doors as a matter of urgency and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

6) Citizens Advice Bureau

Members agreed to continue with this service provided at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park on the second Wednesday of each month (10am to 11am) for a further six months commencing in January 2011 (£25 per session). To carry out a review of this service after 12 months and to promote the sessions in the Parish Newsletter.

B) County Council

No report. Clerk to discuss with each County Councillor to provide a report if they are unable to attend a Parish Council meeting.

C) Members Report

Outstanding Items: -

i) Parking Sign at Quebec Play Area

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

ii) Bus Service to/from Esh (Councillor Gordon)

Response sent to DCC, no further update

New Items:-**1) Winter Maintenance**

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of grit bins, gritting of footpaths and clearing of snow from estate roads /footpaths.

Members agreed to refer this item to the Environment Committee for further discussion.

249/10 Financial Statement and Report

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement (vouchers 175 to 194) and that they should be paid;

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

250/10 Planning Matters

A) CS/1/2010/0566/DMFP – erection of garage to rear at 13 May Terrace, Langley Park.

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objection to this proposal

B) MS/1/2010/0671/DMFP – erection of shed in front garden at 18 South View, Langley Park.

Decision – Members agreed to raise concerns on the size of the proposed garage on the site and that adjacent owners should be consulted and their comments are taken into consideration before making a decision.

C) MS/1/2010/0636/DMFP- Sun room extension to rear at 2 Cherrytree Drive, Langley Park.

Decision – Members agreed to raise no objection to this proposal

251/10 Correspondence

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A) DCC – Parish and Town Council Sub Committee of the Standards Committee.

Members agreed to invite the Chair of the Sub Committee to the February meeting of the Parish Council to give an overview of the workings of the Sub Committee.

B) DCC – School Admission arrangements September 2012/2013. Response by the 16th January 2011. Clerk to copy the details to all Councillors.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:-

C) Local Council Review Magazine; winter 2010

D) Glasdon Products Magazine for Local Councils

E) Local Council update; December 2010; issue No.134

252/10 Allotment Rents 2012

Members agreed to increase the rent for an Allotment to £33 per annum as from 1st January 2012.

253/10 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee

Next meeting of the AAP board is 12th January 2011 commencing at 6.00pm

Next meeting of the PPC meeting is Saturday 15th January 2011 at Brandon & Byshottles Parish Council Officers at Langley Moor commencing at 10.00am

254/10 Langley Park Needs Survey

Copies of the reports were circulated at the meeting. Any comment to the Clerk. Members agreed to meet with the Community Association, AAP Board, Two County Councillors, Durham Rural Community Council and Ciswo to explore the possibility of bring “The Tute” in Church Street, Langley Park back into use for the Community. This would be subject to a number of funding applications being successful.

255/10 All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

Outstanding Items: -

Reports (068/10)

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

No further update, Clerk to chase this matter up as a matter of urgency and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

256/10 Councillors Vacancy

1) Councillor Vacancy (Councillor Tyler)

Two residents have applied for the vacancy on the Parish Council. Details as follows:-

A) Malcolm Rennenberg, 23 Middridge Road, Langley Park

B) Keith Heartfield, 16 Front Street, Langley Park

Members agreed to interview both candidates on Tuesday 11th January 2011 at The Harry Guildford Centre, Langley Park (prior to the next Parish Council meeting) commencing at 6.30pm.

2) Councillor Vacancy (Councillor Coulson)

The Clerk reported that the Notice of Vacancy in Office of Councillor had been placed on the Council's Notice Board on 10th December 2010.

Closing date for a request for an election is 5th January 2011.

If no Election called the Council may fill the vacancy by Co-option.

3) Resignation of Councillor Joyce

Councillor Joyce has resigned as a Parish Councillor for the Esh Ward.

Members agreed to accept the resignation and for the Clerk to:-

A) Inform the Returning Officer at DCC of the vacancy

B) To write a letter to Councillor Joyce thanking him for his service to the local community whilst a Parish Councillor.

257/10 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 11th January 2010 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 DISCLOSURE OF THEM OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION 100.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm