

## ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held in The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013** commencing at **7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors A. Mollon (Chair), B. Armstrong, S. Bell, R. Bowyer, A. Hancock, K. Heartfield, S. Maddison, P. Mollon, R. Moralee, M. Renneberg and S. Rothwell.

**Also Present:** County Councillor J. Armstrong, E. Tindale, K. Steveton, C. James, A. Birbeck, W. Moralee (residents), D Rider (IT Officer) and G.F. Smith (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Councillors R. Allaker, A. Harling, G. Hawxwell, M. Sands, C. Thompson and M. L. Rowland (Deputy Clerk)

**101/13 Declaration of Interest**  
Councillor Heartfield and Moralee – agenda item 6A (vi) allotments  
Councillor B. Armstrong – agenda item 10 Planning Matters

**102/13 Representation by Residents**  
The following items were brought to the Council's attention:-  
Noise complaint (barking dogs) at Park Drive, Langley Park  
Councillor B Armstrong agreed to contact the County Council's Environment section.  
use of a football pitch in Langley Park  
Both County Councillors agreed to meet with the committee of Langley Park WMC Football Club to discuss possible use of a football pitch at Langley Park Primary School.

**103/13 Police Report**  
No Pact report received, however Councillor Hancock briefed the meeting on the items discussed at the last Pact meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> September). New Neighbourhood Policing Team Officer – PC 1714 Scott Crowhurst.  
Members were most concerned about an article which appeared in the Durham Advertiser "anti social behaviour is tackled in the village (referring to Langley Park)". Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the Chief Inspector at Consett expressing these concerns and the lack of communication with the Parish Council.

**104/13 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013**  
Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**105/13 Reports**  
**A) Parish**  
i) NALC – 2013/14 National Salary Awards (1% from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013)  
Members agreed to pay the new pay scales.  
**ii) Esh Village Action Plan**  
"Members noted the current standing of specific issues and discussed the request for alterations of the fencing on the turning circle at the village green. Members agreed for the Clerk to meet a local fencing contractor and arrange for minor alterations to the fencing in the turning circle to be carried out as soon as possible."

**iii) Quebec Action Plan**

Members noted the current standing of specific issues

**iv) Langley Park Action Plan**

Members noted the current standing of specific issues

The request for painting the fencing around the SBRP was discussed. Members agreed not to carry out this work as the fencing has a protective sealed coating, also the work would be very expensive.

**v) Mid Durham AAP Forum Event – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

The event will be allocated £5000, Northern CCG and County Councillors each contributing towards this allocation. Residents will be asked to come along and vote on which project proposal they think should get £5000. Councillors were asked to volunteer to assist on the day.

**vi) Letter received from Langley Park Allotments Association**

Asking for permission to place a cargo container at the Earl of Durham site to store gardening equipment. Members agreed this request.

**vii) Earl of Durham Allotments – Infestation of rats (complaint)**

During August the Clerk received a complaint from a resident in The Crescent regarding an infestation of rats in or around the allotments adjacent to the property.

Members agreed with the action of the Clerk in reporting this matter to DCC (Environmental Health) to investigate and take what ever action is appropriate.

**viii) Next edition of newsletter – end of October/beginning of November.**

Closing date for articles is 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**ix) Highways repairs (e-mail from CDALC)**

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

**x) Letter received from Mr M Berry, 4 Hazelwood Court, Langley Park**

The Clerk read out a letter from the above resident dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013 regarding the following:-

- For the Parish Council to call for a “Quality Audit” regarding speeding and parking problems in Langley Park.  
Clerk to contact Mr Berry to ask him to expand on his request to establish what he is asking the Council to do)
- Setting up a Traders Association  
(Clerk to advise Mr Berry on the work being carried out by AAP and Parish Council staff).

**B) County Council**

**County Councillor J. Armstrong** reported on the following:-

- I. Works on Finnings Avenue
- II. The Fold, Quebec – road planings
- III. Wilks Hill – Lay by
- IV. Ramp outside Langley Park Post Office
- V. Parking problems at Aged Miners Homes, Langley Park
- VI. Youth Centre Building, Langley Park
- VII. The Tute, Langley Park
- VIII. Meeting with Allotment Association
- IX. Speed Visor at Langley Park - costs
- X. “Shed” at Derwentside Homes proposed to set up this service in Langley Park
- XI. YMCA scheme in Langley Park

**C) Chair's** – IT Teacher Qualification for 2 members of staff (cost £450)

Item to be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting (October)

**D) Members**

i) Locking of gates at the SBRP (Councillor Renneberg)

Members agreed to advertise for a volunteer to open and close the gate at the park.

ii) Litter picking Team – update (Councillor Hancock)

The following tasks have been undertaken by the group:-

- Weekly litter picks through the village (every Thursday morning)
- Litter picking at the SBRP (substantial amounts collected)
- Bus shelter in Front Street cleaned, plan to clean one bus shelter per month
- Areas under the trees near the Post Office and towards the Church have been weeded
- Footpath opposite Londis leading to the Railway Path has been cleared of weeds
- Reports concerning a variety of issues have been reported to Belinda Snow (DCC)

iii) Langley Park Environment Group – update (Councillor Heartfield)

iv) Public seat for Langley Park (Councillor Heartfield)

Members agreed that the group should obtain the necessary permissions

v) Christmas Tree, Langley Park (Councillor Heartfield)

The cost of a “live tree” is £968, It was agreed to further discuss this matter at the next Parish Council meeting (October).

vi) Cutting of football pitch at the Recreation Ground (Councillor Heartfield) – continues to be cut by volunteers/local residents/environment group

vii) Land to the South of Wallnook Lane, Langley Park (Councillor Bowyer).

Members discussed the approval of outline planning application for the above site and agreed to no further action (i.e. Judicial Review).

**106/13 “The Tute”, Church Street, Langley Park**

Clerk informed the meeting that the exchange of contracts had been further delayed due to paperwork being returned from the Community Association (Councillor Heartfield had spoken to the Association's secretary).

Councillor B. Armstrong informed the meeting regarding the state of funding for the building refurbishment. It was hoped to commence work on site in early October.

**107/13 Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

The documents have not been received from the External Auditor in time for the meeting.

The Clerk suggested a Special meeting to approve the documents on 23<sup>rd</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> September.

**108/13 Financial Statement and Report**

Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement and for Vouchers 55 to 79 should be paid, copy of the report attached to these minutes.

Also members agreed to transfer the accounts from the EQUaL Partnership to new accounts under the umbrella of the Parish Council (same as Youth Partnership). The account to have the same authorised signatories as the Parish Council.

109/13

**Planning Applications**

Members agreed to raise **no objections** to the following applications received during the August Recess

- A. 1/2013/0294/DMFP  
 APPLICANT HOME GROUP DEVELOPMENTS LTD  
 LOCATION THE HAVEN, LANGLEY PARK  
 PROPOSAL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS (34 HOUSES)
- B. 1/2013/0345/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MR A. RUSSEL  
 LOCATION THE COTTAGE, 8 HILL TOP, ESH  
 PROPOSAL RELOCATION OF BUSINES OPERATIONS;  
 CONVERSATIONOF DWELLING BACK TO RESIDENTIAL
- C. 1/2013/0393/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MR & MRS T WELDING  
 LOCATION 2 BROOM COTTAGES, ESH  
 PROPOSAL ERECTION OF SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION
- D. 1/2013/0390/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MR W DEARDON  
 LOCATION LAND SOUTH OF HIGHFIELDS, FRONT STREET,  
 QUEBEC  
 PROPOSAL CHANGE OF USE TO DOMESTIC CURTILAGE AND  
 ERECTION OF GARAGE AND HOBBY WORKSHOP
- E. 1/2013/0423/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MR A KIPLING  
 LOCATION 51 DAVIS CRESCENT, LANGLEY PARK  
 PROPOSAL ERECTION OF TWO STOREY SIDE AND SINGLE  
 STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS
- F. 1/2013/0416/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MR J PICKARD  
 LOCATION LAND TO THE EAST OF 1 WILKS HILL, QUEBEC  
 PROPOSAL CHANGE OF USE OF LAND FROM AGRICULTURAL TO  
 MIXED USE AND ERECTION OF TWO STABLE BLOCKS  
 (RESUBMISSION)

Members agreed to refer the following application to committee for consideration

- NO 1/2013/0381/DMFP  
 APPLICANT MRS M McQUAID  
 LOCATION LAND TO THE NORTH EAST OF CLIFFORD HOUSE,  
 QUEBEC  
 PROPOSAL PROPOSED ERECTION OF 2 STOREY DWELLINGS AND  
 GARAGE

**110/13 Area Action Partnership / Parish Councils Committee/Small Councils Forum**

Next AAP Board meeting **18<sup>th</sup> September 2013** (at Lanchester)

Next PCC meeting **21<sup>st</sup> September 2013** (at Lanchester)

Next SCF meeting **15<sup>th</sup> November 2013** (venue tba)

**111/13 Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday **8<sup>th</sup> October 2013** at The Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm

The meeting finished at 9.15pm

Signed by the Chairman.....page 5