

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Village Hall, Front Street, Quebec on **Tuesday 11th November 2014** commencing at **7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: S. Rothwell (Chair), B. Armstrong, J. Carr, A. Hancock, G. Hawxwell, K. Heartfield, R. Hughes, A. Mollon, M. Renneberg and M. Sands.

Also Present: County Councillor J. Armstrong and G F Smith (Clerk),

139/14 Chairman's Statement – The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

The Chair read out the Statement

140/14 Apologies for absence

Members agreed to accept the following apologies:-

Cllr R. Bowyer (work)

Cllr P. Mollon (Family reasons)

Cllr R. Moralee – (unwell)

Cllr S. Bell – no reason

141/14 Declaration of Interest

Councillor B Armstrong declared an interest in agenda item 15 - Planning Applications

Councillors Heartfield declared an Interest in agenda item 7a (4) – Parish Report

Councillors Hawxwell declared an Interest in agenda item 7a (5) – Parish Report

142/14 Representation by residents – None

143/14 Pact Meeting – No Report

144/14 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 14th October 2014

Amendments:-

Minute 111/14 Donation (9th September 2014) should read “A request received from the EQUaL Partnership for the provision of a Christmas Party in the Miners Institute Building on 23rd December 2014 for the children of Esh Parish.

Members agreed to donate £200 to this event”.

Minutes 107/14 Reports (d) Members WW1 Centenary update (9th September 2014)

Should read “Councillor Renneberg updated the Councillors on various meetings that had taken place for arrangements to commemorate the WW1 Centenary. The Chair agreed (from the Chairman's allowance) to support this event for up to £100”.

145/14

Village Plans

Copies of the “Your Village, Your Voice – 2013/16 action plans for the following villages were circulated prior to the meeting:-

Langley Park

Themes include:- Road Safety and Highways, Transport, Environment, Community Safety, Children and Young People, Older People and Community and Volunteer Sector.

Quebec

Themes include: - Road Safety and Highways, Environment, Community Safety, Transport, Communication, Community and Volunteer Sector and Access.

ESH.

Themes include: - Road Safety and Highways, Environment, Community Safety, Regeneration, Children and Young People and Communication

Members agreed to:-

- a) Accept the Reports
- b) Place copies on the Council's Web Site
- c) Copies available from the Parish Clerk (on request)

146/14

Reports

a) Parish

1. Quality Parish Council Status

Copy of an email from Steve Ragg (CDALC) dated 29th October 2014 was circulated prior to the meeting.

Members agreed to:-

- i) Register for the new scheme
 - ii) Opt for the Foundation Stage (initially)
 - ii) Consider Gold and Quality Gold Status at a later date
2. Outstanding Matters – Update Report

The Clerk reported that the report was not available but would continue to work on this matter and send a copy to all Councillors as seen as it is complete.

3. Environment Issues at Esh Village

- Additional sign (no dogs allowed) on the Village Green – still outstanding, Clerk to again chase up the contractor or seek an alternative company.
- Replacement of litter bins – ordered awaiting delivery
- Additional Litter bins – Clerk to contact relevant DCC officer

4. Amended Tenancy Agreement for allotment gardens – Langley Park Allotment Association.

The Clerk reported that he had received a copy of the above mentioned document and suggested that the changes were acceptable.

Members agreed to accept the Clerk's recommendations and for the Clerk to inform the Allotment Association.

5. IT Classes held on Monday Afternoon (2pm – 4pm) The Clerk reported that the classes organised by DCC was to be Ofsted Inspected very soon and were temporary located in the back of the main hall of the Miners Institute Building (1.30 to 3.30pm). It was suggested that the Councils IT Class time to be moved to 3.30pm to 5.30pm and the DCC class be re-located into the IT Suite for the duration of the present scheme (two terms) and review at a later date. Members agreed to the Clerk's recommendations.

6. Environment update (Wetlands and Recreation Ground)
Councillor Heartfield circulated photographs showing the improvements made to the above two projects.

b) County Council

County Councillor J Armstrong reported on the following:-

- Road Safety Issues (meeting held 4th November 2014)
- Esh Village Play Area
- Medium Term Financial Plan
- Housing at The Haven, Langley Park
- All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park

County Councillor B Armstrong reported on the following:-

- New Funding (£23,000) – Sport and Leisure Facilities
- Complaints from Residents of Garden Avenue, Langley Park

c) Chair

- Wished to thank the group involved in the organising of the WW1 Commemoration events but was disappointed at the Police Response regarding road closure.
- Meeting with Local Resident
- Meeting with Parish Clerk
- Lack of progress on moving equipment etc from storage unit

d) Members

Esh Play Area (Councillor Sands)

Councillor Sands presented a copy of a financial management and funding request prepared by Groundwork NE & Cumbria dated 10th November 2014.

The Clerk agreed to the following:-

- Copy the report to all Councillors
- Prepare a report for the next Parish Council meeting
- Place this item on the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

147/14

Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park

The Clerk reported that he had a meeting arranged with the Council's Solicitor (Meikles) for Tuesday 18th November 2014 to progress the completion of the lease for the building.

Councillor B Armstrong updated the Members on the financial situation (satisfactory) of the Partnership.

148/14

Langley Park Miners Banner

Letter sent to David Hopper, Secretary, Durham Miners on 29th October 2014, awaiting response.

- 149/14 Esh Parish Environment Issues – Action Plan 2014/15**
Councillor Hancock updated the meeting on various items but would produce an updated action plan to the next Parish Council meeting. Seat survey report had been sent to Martin Briscoe (DCC) by the Deputy Clerk. Arranging a meeting with Head Teacher, Langley Park Primary School regarding litter education programme.
- 150/14 Councillor Vacancies**
- Awaiting a response from Mrs Finch regarding a suitable Interview date.
 - Two vacancies still exist
- 151/14 Working Relationship with other Organisations (including residents)**
Ongoing, to be reviewed each Parish Council meeting
- 152/14 Financial Statement and Report**
Members agreed the details of the Financial Statement and for vouchers 93 to 106 should be paid, a copy of the voucher report will be attached to these minutes.
- 153/14 Wood View Community Centre**
The Clerk had circulated a copy of “legal matters – Community Assets” by Paul Clayden, Chief Executive of Local Councils Advisory Service prior to the meeting.
No further updates
County Councillor J. Armstrong informed the meeting that the Assets Department (DCC) would be advertising the sale of the building/land on an open market contract.
- 154/14 Planning Matters**
- a) Planning Application DM/14/02893/COL by Mr R. Smith and M. Riley for an application certificate of lawful development for operational development of existing car sales office and workshop building at Valley View, Hill Top, Esh
Members to send any comments on this application to the Parish Clerk before the closing date 1st December 2014
- b) Planning application DM/14/03265/FPA by Mr R. Hidson for the erection of two storey side extension and widening of driveway to front of 15 Davis Crescent, Langley Park
Members to send any comments on this application to the Parish Clerk before the closing date 1st December 2014
- 155/14 AAP/PCC/SCF**
Next AAP Board Meeting 12th November 2014 (Ushaw Moor) at 6pm
Next PCC meeting is the 22nd November 2014 at Langley Moor (10am)
Next SCF Meeting is the 21st November 2014 at Sedgelyfield (2pm)
- 156/14 Date and time of the next meeting**
The next Ordinary Meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday 9th **December** 2014 at the Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park commencing at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 8.00pm