

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park on **Tuesday 13th January 2015** commencing at **7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: S. Rothwell (Chair), B. Armstrong, S. Bell, R. Bowyer, J. Carr, I. Finch, A. Hancock, G. Hawxwell, K. Heartfield, R. Hughes, A. Mollon, P. Mollon, R. Moralee and M. Renneberg.

Also Present: County Councillor J. Armstrong, G F Smith and resident (Mr I. Dowson J, Eckersley, J. May, R. Funnell, J. Carter, L. Green, S. Forster and C. Elliot)

001/15 Chairman's Statement – The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014
The Chair read out the Statement

002/15 Representation by residents
Mr I. Dowson, 31 Front Street, Langley Park had written the letter to the Parish Council which he wished to discuss with Members.
Copies of the letter were circulated to all Councillors present at the meeting.
The Chair informed Mr Dowson that he had 10 minutes to raise the concerns on the letter, the items included:-

- Funding for hanging baskets
- Funding for Christmas decorations for the lamp posts
- Rent for Parish Room
- Funding for the Miners Institute Building
- 106 Money (planning applications)
- Use of IT room at The Harry Guildford centre
- Lack of action by the Parish Clerk on complaints received from Mr Dowson

Mr Dowson also handed to the Chair a petition/survey that had been conducted in Langley Park.

003/15 Councillor Vacancy – Appointment of Mrs L. Finch, 16 Lilian Terrace, Langley Park.
Mrs Finch signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor, countersigned by the Parish Clerk and witnessed by the Councillors present at the meeting.

004/15 Declaration of Interest
Councillors B. Armstrong declared an Interest in agenda item 16 – Planning Applications
Councillors Finch, Heartfield and Moralee declared an Interest in agenda item 6 – 1 minutes (Allotments)

005/15 Pact Meeting
No Report

- 006/15 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 9th December 2015**
 Amendment Minute 167/14 Langley Park Miners Banner page 3 £500 should read **£5000** (Insurance cover).
 Subject to the above amendment the minutes were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair
- 007/15 Setting the Precept for 2015/16**
 A report by the Clerk was circulated at the meeting, showing the present Precept and 0%, 2.5%, 5% and 10% increases in the Council Tax.
 A) Members agreed to increase the Precept by 5% (Councillors Bell, Heartfield and Moralee voting against the proposal).
 B) The Precept for 2015/16 would amount to £76229.56 plus DCC Grant of £6969.00, Total Income £83198.56. Example of Band D Council Tax £58.35 per Annum.
 C) Members agreed to review the budget following the elections in May 2015.
- 008/15 Reports**
(A) Parish
 The Clerk reported on the e-mail received from Steve Ragg, CDALC on 12th January 2015 regarding the use of electronic means of providing summonses to Parish Councillors. The Statutory Instrument (The Local Government (electronic communications) (England) order 2015 is to be implemented on the 30th January 2015
 Members agreed to: -
 a) Review the method of provision of Summonses to Councillors
 b) Reflect any changes in the Council's Standing Orders
B) County Council
 County Councillor J. Armstrong reported on the following:-
 - Repairs to fencing – Langley Park/Esh Village
 - All Saints Youth Centre, Langley Park
 - Car parking at Aged Miners Homes, Langley Park – Officers working on the provision of hard standing
 - Improving gym facilities at Langley Park Primary School
 - Cost for the provision of a road crossing near the Primary School
 - Use of Speed Visors for Langley Park**C) Chair - No Report**
D) Members
 i) Children's party held in The Miners Institute Building, Langley Park
 Councillor Renneberg thanked the Council for the donation and informed the meeting that 45 attended, everyone had a great time and enjoyed meeting Father Christmas.
- 009/15 Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park**
 Councillor B Armstrong updated the meeting on the following:-
 - Interim Year End Accounts with the Auditor
 - Volunteers were urgently required following the recent resignations

- 010/15 Langley Park Miners Banner**
Members agreed the following:-
- Pay the Insurance Premium of £53.00 to cover the banner for £5000 for one year from Zurich Municipal (Council's Insurance Company) as from 25th January 2015.
 - For the loan agreement to be signed by two Councillors and send to the Durham Miners Association

- 011/15 Esh Parish Environment Issues – Action Plan 2014/15**
 Councillor Hancock updated the meeting on items which needed to be followed up with Martin Briscoe (DCC), take the following items forward for discussion: -
- Litter campaign (including Civic pride)
 - Bulb planting sessions (including Schools)
- Councillor Hancock to work with Andy Coulthard on the above matters and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

- 012/15 Councillor Vacancy**
 The Clerk reported that one vacancy still exists for a Councillor. He has had two applications from: -
 Mr Mike McGaun, 4 Phoenix Close, Langley Park, and
 Mr Clive Hepworth, Langley Park
 Members agreed to interview the candidates prior to the next Parish Council meeting (10th February) commencing at 6.30pm

- 013/15 Working Relationship with other Organisations (including residents)**
 Ongoing (use of Parish Newsletter and Notice Boards etc)

- 014/15 Financial Statement and Report**
 Members agreed to the following: -
 Vouchers report 123 to 141 should be paid
 Expenditure costs 1st April to 31st December 2014

Details	Amount (£.p)
Staff Costs	19120.43
Admin/General	12379.48
IT Costs	3347.76
Environment	12579.58
Donations	1100.00
Newsletter	950.00
Christmas Lights	66.00
Miscellaneous	17431.13
Vat	2942.02
Total	<u>£69,916.40</u>

- 015/15 Esh Play Area**
 The Parish Council had agreed to cashflow the project, manage payments, apply for any vat refunds and be the managing body in relation to any funding application.
 Members agreed to review any further funding contribution until they had agreed the budget (after May's Election).

a) Planning Application 14/03753/TP by Prof Ian Stone for felling of one sycamore tree (TPO95) at 2 Wallnook Court, Wallnook Lane, Langley Park
Decision – No Objections

017/15

AAP/PCC/SCF

Next AAP Board Meeting 14th January 2015 at Langley Park (6pm)
Next PCC meeting is the 17th January 2015 at Lanchester (10am)
Next SCF Meeting is the 13th February 2015 Venue tba (2pm)

018/15

Date and time of the next meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of Esh Parish Council is on Tuesday **10th February 2015** at the Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park commencing at 6.30pm.

Signed by the Chairman.....page 4

The meeting finished at 8.20pm