

ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park on **Tuesday 14th April 2015** commencing at **7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: B. Armstrong, S. Bell, R. Bowyer, L. Finch, G. Hawxwell, K. Heartfield, M. McGaun, A. Mollon, P. Mollon and R. Moralee
County Councillors J. Armstrong, Jason Cooper and I. Dowson (Residents)

Officers: G. F. Smith (Clerk) and L. Rowland (Deputy Clerk)

053/15 Appointment of Chairman

There were two nominations for Chairman of the meeting, Councillor Bowyer and Councillor Hawxwell. Following a vote (show of hands) it was agreed that Councillor Hawxwell would act as Chairman for the meeting.

Councillor Hawxwell took the Chair

054/15 Apologies

Members agreed the following apologies:-

Cllr J. Carr – (Family commitments)

Cllr M. Sands (Medical reasons)

055/15 Chairman's Statement – The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

The Clerk read out the Statement

056/15 Declaration of Interest

Councillor B. Armstrong declared an Interest in agenda item 11 – Planning
Councillor R. Bowyer declared an Interest in agenda item 11 – Planning application (D)

057/15 Representation by residents

1) Mr I. Dowson, 31 Front Street, Langley Park had written a letter to the Parish Council which he wished to raise the following:-

a. Use of mobile phone by Councillor B. Armstrong at the Special Parish Council meeting held on 24th March 2015. Councillor B. Armstrong responded (use of mobile phones and computers are allowed to be used in Council meetings for data retrieval etc).

b. Rudness from staff, putting off the public from coming to the Parish room. The Clerk denies the accusation and will speak to Mr Dowson after the meeting.

c. Councillor B. Armstrong following Mr Dowson whenever he tries to speak to people in private in the Institute Building, He alleges she always follows him in and discusses private business. Councillor B. Armstrong denied this allegation.

County Councillor J. Armstrong made a statement regarding the state of dress of Mr Dowson, following which Mr Dowson responded. The Chairman stopped any further discussion.

2. The Clerk read out a letter from Mr. M. Berry, 4 Hazelwood Court, Langley Park regarding the state of the site of the Old All Saints Youth Centre and the timescale of demolition and development of the site. He also raised concerns regarding the amount of flytipping that is taking place on and around the site.

County Councillor J. Armstrong responded that the County Council had issued the demolition order and had also appointed a contractor to carry out this work (copies of these documents were displayed in the Parish Office window) which is scheduled to commence late April/early May 2015.

Councillor Hawxwell responded that a litter picking team had recently cleared the area of any rubbish.

The Clerk agreed to confirm this information to Mr Berry.

058/15

Pact Meeting

No report Next meeting is on the **24th June**, 29th August and 28th October 2015 in the Miners Institute Building

059/15

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 10th March 2015

These minutes were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chair

060/15

Minutes of the Special meeting 24th March 2015 – Item withdrawn

061/15

Reports

(A)Parish

1) Resignation of Parish Councillors

Members agreed to accept the resignation of the following Councillors:-

Susan Rothwell, Malcolm Renneberg and Anne Hancock.

Clerk to inform the County Council's Returning Officer.

2) Updates of Projects

The Clerk updated Members on the following outstanding projects:-

- Fencing at the Recreation Ground, Langley Park
- Sign for the Sir Bobby Robson Park, Langley Park
- Lease for Council owned garage
- Use of container at the Industrial Estate
- Esh Play area
- Setting the Budget

Clerk to produce a report on the above for the Parish Council meeting in May

3) Citizens Advice Bureau – outreach service in Langley Park (increase in contribution) refer this to the Parish Council meeting in May

4) Date set for External Audit of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2015 is **15th June** 2015. Annual Return to be approved at the Parish Council meeting in June.

B) County Council

County Councillors J. Armstrong reported on the following:-

- Kingsway - Flooding
- Demolition of the All Saints Youth Centre

C) Chair - No report

D) Members – No report

- 062/15 Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park**
- Gas bill £2,000.00
 - PAT Testing of equipment
 - Bede School – maintenance of IT equipment
 - Fencing for rear garden – to be collected by Jeremy Cassidy
 - Building will be closed on a Tuesday and Thursday (lack of volunteers)
- 063/15 Esh Parish Environment Issues – Action Plan 2014/15**
Clerk to review Plan and report to the Parish Council meeting in May
- 064/15 Financial Statement and Report**
Members agreed to the following: -
Vouchers report 171 to 180 should be paid
- 065/15 Planning Matters**
- A) Planning Application DM/15/00699/AD by Mr Mohammadi for retrospective permission for erection of illuminated intermittent sign at 2 Front Street, Langley Park
Decision – Objection (not appropriate type of sign)
- B) Planning Application DM/15/00716/FPA by Mr Lawson for erection of single storey rear extension at 3 Eldon Close, Langley Park
Decision – No objection
- C) Planning Application DM/15/00163/FA by Ms Quigley for conversion of disused Fire Station to retail unit.
Decision – Clerk to contact Planning Officer for further information on type of Business will be using this unit.
- D) Planning application DM/15/0563/FPA by Mrs Farrey for change of use of land from agriculture to equestrian use, Realignment of public footpath, Construction of stable building store, fencing to demark public footpath and external arena at land off Front Street, Wilks Hill, Quebec.
Decision – Members objected to the diversion of the Public footpath
- 066/15 AAP/PCC/SCF**
Next AAP Board Meeting 13th May 2015 at Brancepeth (6pm)
Next PCC meeting is the 16th May 2015 at Brandon (10am)
Next SCF Meeting is the 29th May 2015 at Peterlee (2pm)
- 067/15 Date and time of the next meeting**
Tuesday **12th May 2015** (Meeting of Electors followed by the Annual General Meeting followed by the Ordinary monthly meeting) at the Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park commencing at 7.00pm.

The meeting finished at 8.03pm