

## ESH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Esh Parish Council meeting held at The Miners Institute Building, Langley Park on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016** commencing at **7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors: G. Hawxwell (Chair), B. Armstrong, J. Armstrong, R. Bowyer, I. Dowson, K. Heartfield, P. Mollon, R. Moralee, M. Sands and A. Simpson

**Also**

**Present:** F. Quinn, J. Miller, K. Thompson, M. Reynolds, L. Birbeck, J. Cooper, Q. Blakey, J. Dixon (Residents), D. Rider (It Officer) D. Robson PCSO and S. Curnow (Durham Police)

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

**109/16**

**Apologies**

Cllr B. Coult (Holiday)  
Cllr S. Cheal (Medical)  
Cllr L. Finch (Holiday)  
Cllr M. McGaun (Work commitments)

**110/16**

**Declaration of Interest**

Cllr B. Armstrong – agenda item 19 planning applications

**111/16**

**Police Report**

PCSO Robson report on the following matters of concern:-

- Damage caused to SBPR she updated the meeting on the on going investigations regarding the vandalism to the site and the lack of CCTV evidence.
- Old Recreation ground following information received the Police investigated the use of a “camp” in the wooded area, investigations are continuing
- Questions and Answer session

**112/16**

**Representation by Residents**

**Mining Memorial Statue at Langley Park**

- Julie Dixon presented a cheque for £410 towards the legal costs for the lease which the Parish Council was to be the Lease Holder.
- Recreation Ground, Langley Park residents raised concerns around the mismanagement and lack of public consultation specifically the football field (grass cutting and planting of trees). Members agreed that an urgent meeting be called with a representative from natural England, Parish Councillors and residents as soon as possible.
- Cleaning issues in Langley Park (M Berry resident) a meeting had taken place with Martin Brisco (DCC) on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and it was agreed that they would be a regular sweeping of the area in front of the shops in Langley Park.
- Grass cutting in Langley Park (Tony Holden 27 Middridge Road) the Clerk read out an email from Mr Holden dated 13<sup>th</sup> June regarding the state of grass verges in Langley Park (DCC Contractor) and the state of the footpath and walls around the War Memorial (DCC responsibility)

- 113/16 Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Members agreed the minutes as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 114/16 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Members agreed the minutes as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 115/16 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016**  
Members agreed the minutes as a true record and signed by the Chairman

**116/16 Reports**

**A) Parish**

- 2016/2018 National Salary Award the following agreements has been reached:-  
New pay scales for 2016/17 to be implemented immediately and backdated to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 (1%) and new pay scales for 2017/18 to be implemented from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 (1%)
- Photocopier proposal Clerk to update at the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

**B) County Councillors**

Councillor B. Armstrong reported on the following:-

- New Job Club proposed for the area (may be located at Esh Winning due to a block on DCC funding for the Institute Building at Langley Park.

**C) Chair's – Update on meeting of small council's forum**

**D) Members Reports**

- Meeting with Natural England (Councillor Dowson)  
Councillor Dowson raised concerns over the delay in arranging a meeting with Officers from Natural England. The Chair would arrange a meeting as soon as possible (25<sup>th</sup> June 2016)
- Allotment Road (Councillor Dowson)  
Councillor Dowson raised concerns over the delay in retrieving the information from the storage container. The Clerk would carry out a search for the documents as soon as possible.
- Health and safety checks on play areas (Councillor Dowson)  
Councillor Dowson raised concerns of the lack of inspection reports from previously inspected sites. The Clerk informed the Members that this detail was held by the contractor (Jeremy Cassidy) and he would contact Mr Cassidy to obtain this information. Councillor Dowson asked if Mr Cassidy could attend the next Parish Council meeting and this item be placed on the agenda for further discussion.
- Use of Lease for obtaining funding for the Miners Institute Building (Councillor Dowson) – Councillor B. Armstrong responded that where a lease was required for funding the works to the building, the original lease signed by the Langley Park and District Community Association was used and funding was obtained.
- Stone Wall at the recreation ground (Councillor Dowson)  
Councillor Dowson raised concerns regarding the lack of progress with this matter. Councillor Bowyer queried why the Parish Council was involved in this as it was not their property or responsibility. It was agreed to check the recreation ground

Management plan with Ailson Hiles (Natural England) and report back to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting. County Councillor J Armstrong suggested that the wall may be the responsibility of Durham County Council?

- Wasting of public money (Councillor Dowson)  
No discussion
- Dog fouling Councillor (Heartfield/Coult)  
Members agreed to restrict the issuing of dog bags to 2 packets per customer per visit.

**117/16 Miners Institute Building, Church Street, Langley Park**  
Members agreed for the Clerk to send CISWO a copy of the surveyor's report from J W Wood for their consideration.

**118/16 Miners Lamp at Langley Park**  
Possible re-location to front of Miners Institute Building, the Members required further information as the original agreement was to place the lamp in the Wetlands site and a planning application had been completed for this site. County Council Members Initiative Fund had been allocated for this siting in the Wetlands. It was agreed for further discussions at the next Parish Council meeting.

**119/16 Quebec & District Village Hall Association**  
Councillor B Armstrong updated the meeting on the latest position of the Committee and building. Members agreed to await any further details and remove this item from the agenda.

**120/16 Cross Keys, Esh – Asset of Community Value**  
The Clerk reported that the building had been listed as an Asset of Community Value.  
Members agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

**121/16 Mining Memorial Statue at Langley Park**  
No further update on the lease from the County Council, Councillor B Armstrong agreed to contact the relevant Officer and chase this up as a matter of urgency.

**122/16 Councillor Vacancy**  
Awaiting response from Mr Clive Hepworth, Mr Jason Cooper has declined the offer and Mr Alan Madrell, 6 Aged Miners Homes, Langley Park has indicated he is interested in the vacancy.  
Clerk to update at the next Parish Council meeting.

**123/16 Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**  
Deferred until Special meeting (arranged for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016)

**124/16 Recreation Ground, Langley Park**  
**Fencing** (Details received from Addison's, surveyors acting for T H Mace & Sons) concerns as follow:-

- The new fencing is erected in the wrong place, should have been positioned on the other side of the drainage ditch
- Removal of scrap wire, posts etc – left by the Contractor  
Wheeling's/rutting in the silage fields cause by the Contractor

Members agreed for the Chairman/Clerk to check out the concerns, meet with contractor and Natural England and report back to the next appropriate Parish Council meeting.

- Football Field – members agreed to continue with the grass cutting until this can be resolved with Natural England.
- Trees – Councillor Dowson asked for the Clerk to cancel the order for the trees with the Woodland Trust.

**125/16 Sir Bobby Robson Park, Langley Park**  
The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Wicksteed stating that the repairs should be completed by the end of June.  
Outstanding Item – tidy site, including grass cutting (DCC)

**126/16 Financial Statement and Report**  
Members agreed for vouchers 19 to 28 be paid

**127/16 Planning Applications**  
A) DM/16/01307/FPA by Langley Park Environment Group for siting of Miners Lamp artwork at Stobilee Wetlands, North of River Browney and East of Riverside Industrial Park, Langley Park.  
Decision – No Objections  
B) DM/16/01811/FPA by Mr and Mrs Bainbridge to erect timber Summerhouse within front garden area at 25 Langley Street, Langley Park.  
Decision – No Objections

**128/16 AAP/PCC/SCF**  
Next AAP Board Meeting **13<sup>th</sup> July** 2016 at Satley (6pm)  
Next PCC meeting is the **20<sup>th</sup> June** 2016 at Langley Moor (10am)  
Next SCF Meeting is the **29<sup>th</sup> July** 2016 at Horden (2pm)

**129/16 Date and time of the next meeting**  
The next Ordinary meeting to be held on Tuesday **12<sup>th</sup> July** 2016

## **IN PRIVATE (CONFIDENTIAL)**

**130/16 Retirement of the Clerk**

The meeting finished at 9.05 pm