

The Council of the Parish of Esh DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 23rd March 2021, Langley Park. The Remote Meeting commenced at 19.03pm.

Ordinary Meeting of the Council

1) Record of Attendance

Cllr Stefan Aal, Cllr Linda Bushell, Cllr Ryan Drion, Cllr Ruth Hughes
Cllr Ollie Moat, Cllr Edwin Simpson and Cll Donna Smailes
Cllrs Moat & Smailes attended remotely.
County Cllrs Bev Coult and Arnie Simpson attended remotely

2) Apologies for Absence

None

3) Declaration of Interests

Cllr Ollie Moat – Item 13

4) Minutes of previous meeting of Council Friday 13th November 2020.

Resolved to agree as a true record.

5) County Councillors Report.

Cllr Bev Coult report was very comprehensive and covered the following items
Covid 19, Lateral Flow Tests, City Parking, 14 AAP's to share 1.4 million in funding,
Empty Properties, resurfacing C62, 20 mph zones, Trees opposite Finings Avenue,
Planning, ASB Issues, Dog Fouling and Littering, The Council of the Parish of Esh were
thanked for their support during the last year.

6) Opportunity for the public to raise matters of interest.

A letter was received from a resident of Esh thanking The Council of the
Parish of Esh for their hard work and reopening of the Esh Play Park.

7) Parish Update.

Our Parish Clerk officially left the post on the 31st December 2020. External factors played
a key role in this. We wish our Clerk all the best in her future endeavours and with thanks
for all the work that she carried out on behalf of the Council of the Parish of Esh.
Remembrance Sunday under Covid 19 restrictions were organised and well received. ,
Christmas Lights and Trees were supplied with one exception due to Risk Assessment and

Insurance concerns. New lights were installed in the village with thanks to Unique Creative Hair and Beauty who kindly offered to provide the electricity needed. Trees and Lights were in place longer than anticipated due to the challenging Covid 19 restrictions that were in place.

The Miners Institute works were delayed due to an Asbestos Report being required. The Main Hall has now been completed. The Old Kitchen has now been removed and work will start on the 12th April.

Peterlee Fire Company carried out their annual inspection. The old emergency lighting has been replaced. A fire extinguisher service took place and new signage and new hooks added. C.D.S carried out the annual service on the alarm system and all zones and alarms have been reprogrammed. The Miners Institute will remain closed until all works have been completed.

Cllr Ryan Drion and Cllr Linda Bushell have kept the day to day running of the Institute up to date.

Esh Play Park was due to open on the 27th March 2021. However, we were able to reopen on the 3rd March after the new fencing, gate and noticeboards were erected. Our thanks to Cllr Ryan Drion and Cllr Ollie Moat who removed the temporary fencing to the lockup. However, this did incur a charge of £40.00 as a flatbed lorry was required. A full park check, litter pick and signage fitted before reopening. Our thanks to Cllr Bev Coult who provided blue bags, dog signage and litter bin stickers.

Sir Bobby Robson Park has been closed since December. In our last ROSPA report the Skate Park required work to be carried out but due to Covid 19 this was not possible. We are awaiting a quote. Durham Spray Paints have been in touch and a Youth Project with DSP has been suggested. This will be discussed in a meeting with DSP.

The Old Recreation Ground. Anti social behaviour is an ongoing problem. Some areas that were used as dens have been cleared. Cllr Ryan Drion, Cllr Bev Coult, the Police, and Wardens have been involved. Drug paraphernalia has been photographed and cleared from the sites. During the snow Quad Bikes were reported on site. The persons involved have been contacted. New signage is in the process of being placed in all parks.

8) Planning Applications Received

One regarding a proposed commercial building in Quebec.. Cllr Edwin Simpson and Cllr Ollie Moat have objected.

9) Complaint COM 288 – NO FURTHER ACTION (Information Only)

10) The Old Recreation Ground- Anti Social Behaviour Concerns

Quote in from Olivers Tree Services for the additional works. Once completed Shaun will keep areas cut back. It has been agreed that Wardens will carry out regular patrols.

11) Langley Park Community Spirit/ Durham Spray Paints- Lockup Wall

Overall the community supports this project. Cllr Ryan Drion to contact DSP with regards to the content for the wall facing the Cricket Club. It was felt that this should be a reminder of Langley Park's Heritage. Whilst the wall facing the Community Garden will be left to the Community Garden Group to instruct DSP. Resolved to contact DSP.

12) Sir Bobby Robson Skate Park.

Quote to be sent out to us next week. The company that provided the skate area originally was Maverick Ind. Ltd. They will be contacted this week. Resolved to bring the quotes to a meeting when received.

13) Durham Spray Paints- Sir Bobby Robson Skate Park Youth Project-Grant

It was resolved to agree the grant of £300.00 as requested. And to add a further £700.00 from the Youth Budget.

A grant request had also been received in time for the agenda but had been omitted. The grant request for £300.00 was for Quebec Village Hall.

It was resolved to agree to this request.

Our apologies for omitting from Agenda.

14) EQUAL Partnership- The Miners Institute.

Resolved to advertise for a Parish Clerk, for 8 hours a week. The Clerk will work from home. This will free another large room for use by the Community. Resolved to close the two EQUAL accounts. Resolved to contact the Charities Commission with regards to the third account. Resolved to call another meeting in order to have further discussions with regards to the management of the Miners Institute

15) Budget 2020/2021 Provisional Figures.

The actual payment figures to date were handed out, No budget for 2021/2022 has been raised. CDALC have been contacted in this matter.

16) Bank Reconciliation/ Payments made to date.

Resolved to accept as a true record

17) Date of next Ordinary /Remote Meeting - to be confirmed

No date set.

Meeting closed at 20.41