



*The Council of the
Parish of Esh*

The Miners Institute, Church Street, Langley Park, Durham, DH7 9TZ

0191 3736687

Clerk : Leeanne Owens

Chairman : Cllr Joseph Thompson

**The Council of the Parish of Esh Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on
Wednesday 05th January 2022 at The Miners Institute.**

Meeting commenced at 6:05pm

Extra Ordinary Meeting

1. Record of attendance

Cllr. Joe Thompson (Chair), Cllr. George Hawxwell, Cllr. Linda Bushell, Cllr. Ollie Moat, Cllr. Ruth Hughes, Cllr. Kathryn Thompson, Cllr. Edwin Simpson, Cllr. Jillian Crumbie.

Clerk: Leeanne Owens

2. Apologies for absence

Resolved by Council to accept apologies of absence from the following members:

Cllr. Mike McGaun	Work Commitments
Cllr. Ian Dowson	Personal Commitments
Cllr. Louise Dudden	Personal Commitments
Cllr. John Duddy	Volunteering Commitments
Cllr. Allison Wardman	Isolating due to Covid-19

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

4. Budget and Precept 2022-2023 Preparations

The Clerk provided Councillors with the Budget information she has drafted for financial year April 2022 – March 2023 which she has based on current spend and also information based on what has happened in the past.

Various discussions took place on the information and the Clerk agreed to break down the budget for the Miners Institute Maintenance and Improvement and include costs for Gas and Electricity, Water Charges, Phone Calls, etc as separate budgets.

As part of the discussions Councillors discussed the information received from the Clerk on the Section 106 funding the Parish are able to apply for. It was confirmed that to enable the Parish to apply for this funding an application needs to be made that relates to sport and leisure. All Councillors agreed that the project they are all interested in is the possibility of a park being created at the Recreation Ground.

Further discussions took place on the budget for the new financial year, and it was confirmed by both Cllr. Ruth Hughes and Cllr. Linda Bushell that repairs to the Miners Institute need to be considered when setting the new budget. In addition, ring fenced money was discussed, and Councillors were keen to ring fence some money to put towards the proposed park at the Recreation Ground, however it was noted that at present the idea to create a park in this area, has not been consulted on and this does need to happen to enable this idea to move forward. Chair, Cllr. Joe Thompson advised that from his understanding a public consultation to discuss the park will possibly take place at the end of January and as soon as a date is received, this can be published.

In addition to discussing the budget for 2022-2023 the Clerk shared information on the Precept to Councillors and advised Councillors that she needs to send the agreed Precept to the relevant team at County Hall by the 26th January 2022. Discussions took place in relation to the Precept with the information provided and Chair, Cllr. Joe Thompson voiced his concerns that he is against putting the Precept up, citing the pressures of energy prices continuing to rise and the general state of the economy, due to Covid-19. All Councillors in attendance at the meeting agreed and were in favour of not increasing the Precept and confirmed that they were happy for the Clerk to complete the necessary paperwork to confirm this.

Resolved That the Clerk will continue to work on the budget preparations for Financial Year 2022-2023 and bring this information to the next meeting for further discussion;

Resolved That the Clerk completes the necessary paperwork in relation to the Precept to enable this to be paid to the Parish, in the new financial year.

5. Date of next Ordinary Meeting

The next Ordinary meeting of the Council is to take place on Wednesday the 9th February 2022, 6pm at Esh Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 7:45pm

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE