



Esh Parish Council



Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park, Durham.
Telephone 01913736687

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Meetings

All Meetings commence at 7.00pm (excepting when following the Annual Assembly and the Annual General Meeting) in the Harry Guildford Centre, Thomas Street, Langley Park and occasionally at other locations. The choice of venue is subject to review at the Annual General Meeting held on the second Tuesday each May.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the non-confidential part of the Agenda and there is an opportunity to raise matters of interest at the end of this part of the Agenda.

Next Meetings

8th September 2009 Parish Council Meeting
13th October 2009 Parish Council Meeting
10th November 2009 Parish Council Meeting

Annual Audit

By the time Esh Leaves is delivered Esh Parish Council's accounts for 2008/09 will have been submitted to the External Auditor for approval.

Notices were displayed at various locations throughout the Parish advising residents

Summary of Income and Expenditure for Year Ended 31st March 2009

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Precept	49,727	Staff Costs	23,750
Bank Interest	2,305	Subscriptions	762
Allotments	2,500	Office (running costs)	6,289
Garage rent	1,320	Office (supplies)	380
Xmas Tree sponsor	125	Office (maintenance)	2,484
Vat Refund	8,591	Expenses	416
Esh Leaves Adverts	1,991	Audit Fees	509
Grant (NLDC)	2,235	Grass cutting	5,841
Contribution from Equal	56,170	Garage	530
Other	671	ILM Project	4,304
		Allotments	2,227
Total	125,635	Open Spaces	4,809
		Play Areas	66,253
		Donations (General)	917
		Donations (Section 137)	1,150
		Esh Leaves	5,051
		Christmas Trees Lights	4,144
		Miscellaneous	1,216
		TOTAL	131,032

Unaudited Statement of Accounts for Year Ended 31st March 2009

	£	£
Balance brought forward		41,124
Income		
Annual Precept	49,727	
Other Receipts	75,908	
Expenditure		
Staff Costs	23,750	
Other Payments	107,282	
Balance Carried Forward	35,727	

that they had the opportunity to inspect the accounts over a 4 week period.

For the benefit of our readers the Council's Summary of Accounts and Statement of balances see above:-

Chairman's Report to Esh Parish Annual Assembly, Tuesday 14th April 2009

I would like to thank the Council for their support during this year of office and present the Annual Report

outlining the main activities for the year including:-

1. New Notice Board at Langley Park

Was destroyed during a motoring incident but has now been replaced.

2. Christmas Decorations

Tree decorations and motifs provided in Langley Park and decorated trees in Esh and Quebec.

3. Play Area

The Sir Bobby Robson Park is to be officially opened in June this year and I would like to thank all the organisations who helped to make this possible.

4. Esh Leaves Newsletter

Three editions printed during the year plus one edition of Esh Leaves extra

5. Other Publications

A new edition of the "Esh Parish Walk" has been produced and I would like to thank all the people involved in producing the leaflet.

A new book was published in December 2008 "Esh Parish in Words and Verses" and again I would like to thank all people involved in the production of the book which is available for £2.99 per copy (details from the Parish Clerk)

6. Environmental Improvement Works

Local Contractors continue to carry out Grass Cutting, provision and watering of hanging baskets, maintenance work at the Allotment Sites, upgrading works at the Recreation Ground, Langley Park and

Inspections of the Council's Play Areas on a regular basis

7. New Library at Langley Park

We have continued to support County Councillor Armstrong's work in providing a permanent Library at Langley Park. The new premises in Front Street are to be opened very soon.

8. Planning Applications

Throughout the year the Parish Council has responded to 53 Planning Applications. Details of all Applications are posted on the Council's Notice Boards and together with a note of the Parish Council's response can be found on the Council's Web Site www.eshparishcouncil.gov.uk

9. Donations and Contributions to Local Projects

Local Projects receiving donations include:-

Langley Park Angling Association £200

Great North Air Ambulance £250

Friends of Langley Park School £200

Goodwill Association £200

J. Tindale (gymnastic) £200

Simply Soccer £517

British Legion Poppy Appeal £66

Langley Park Baptist Church £50

Samaritans £250

Langley Park Primary School (Xmas) £106.81

Rachel Davies (gymnastic) £150

10. Social Events

During the year the Parish Council organised the Annual

Beating the Bounds Walk and a winter walk.

11. Allotments

The Parish Council continue to carry out inspections of all allotments, providing a number of skips throughout the year to help keep the allotment sites tidy. The Parish Council keep a waiting list of anyone in the Parish Area who may be interested in renting an allotment (details from the Parish Clerk)

12. Precept for 2008/09

The Parish Council precept for 2008/09 was £36,035.00 plus a contribution from Derwentside District Council of £13,692.00. The Council Tax base for 2008/09 was 1469.

The Parish Council Precept for 2009/10 will be £37,837.00 plus a contribution from Durham County Council of £13,692.00. The Council Tax base for 2009/10 was 1479.

13. Parish Office at Langley Park

The Parish Council agreed to name the new office The Harry Guildford Centre which was officially opened by Councillor Guildford in July 2008.

14. Finally

My Thanks to Geoff Smith (Parish Clerk), Mike Ackroyd (Assistant Clerk), Lynne Rowland (Assistant Clerk), David Rider (IT Officer), for their work and support throughout the year. I would also like to thank Mrs Ackroyd (Admin Assistant) who retired from the Parish this year and

to Chris Wayman (Assistant Clerk) who left in November 2008 to take up a similar post at Buckingham Town Council.

A.J. Mollon
Chairman 2008/09

NEW CHAIR – CHRIS BLOOR

I'm very happy to be taking over the Chair of Esh Parish Council, but a bit apprehensive about following Alan Mollon who has done an excellent job of guiding the Parish Council through a number of changes over the past few years – see the report above.

A bit about myself. I've been living in Langley Park since 1995, and have been a Parish Councillor for many years. As I've recently retired from the University of Sunderland, where I lectured in the School of Computing, I now have more time to devote to my interests and to helping in the community.

I'm a keen walker and lead the 'Beating the Bounds' walk each year, as well as the Winter Walk. If there are any keen walkers out there, I'm in a group that does a walk of 8-10 miles each month and we'd welcome any one who wants to join us. I've also devised a number of walks round the Parish and these have been published in Esh Leaves.

I'd like to see more people involved in the activities of the Parish Council. If you're interested either contact

myself, the clerk or come along to observe one of our meetings, details of which are given on the front page.

BEATING THE BOUNDS

The borders of Esh Parish are safe from invasion for another year! I think the weather forecast probably put a lot of people off, but some parish councillors did turn up to participate in the annual walk. We didn't get wet, we did have some excellent refreshments part-way round and we had a jolly good natter as the walked. Not only did we check out our boundaries but we put the whole world to rights!



Parish Councillors Alan Mollon, Chris Bloor and Alison Hiles at the start of the Beating the Bounds walk

AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIPS

In establishing the new County Council for Durham, 14 'Area Action Partnerships' (AAPs) have been set up. These are seen as a means of listening to, and involving, local people. We are part of the Mid-Durham Rural West AAP.

AAPs consist of a twice yearly forum, that anyone can attend, and a Board made up

of elected members from organisations such as the county council, town and parish councils, and health, police and fire brigade, community and voluntary groups, and the public. Each AAP has a budget and an administrative team.

Our AAP was set up at a forum held on 13th May, attended by 99 people, with members of the public, parish, town and county councillors, representatives from partner organisations, community venues and community partnerships all represented on the night. The name of our AAP was decided, and the priorities set for the next six months. A full list of priorities is given on the County Council web site, but the top three priorities were:

- Road safety and highways
- Support for the community and voluntary sector
- Activities for young people

This is an exciting development, and Esh Parish Council is looking forward to working with our AAP.

If you want to get involved contact the AAP team at County Hall, tel: 0191 370 8789. The next Forum meeting will be in November.

DOG FOULING

The Parish Council continues to receive complaints about dog fouling on the pavements

and footpaths round the Parish. If you do walk your dog please be responsible and clear up any mess they make after them. Free bags for this are available from the Parish Office.

Please note that the new County Council intends to take a hard line on this and to prosecute any offending dog owners that are caught.

SIR BOBBY ROBSON PARK

After a great deal of effort by the local community and the EQUaL Partnership the 'Park' has been put back into Langley Park and we now have a facility we can be proud of. This is a plea to people who do use the Sir Bobby Robson, and our other parks, to make sure you do not leave any litter behind



Litter around the SBR Park

after your visit. Please put your litter in the bins provided or take it home with you. It would be a shame if a few anti-social people spoilt this wonderful facility for the vast majority of users who do not leave litter behind them. Please

take extra care when disposing of glass items at the park better still take it home and put it in the recycling bin.

LANGLEY WIND TURBINE FUND

Did you know that grants are available for local organisations based in our Parish, from funds set aside by the Langley Wind Turbine Farm operators EDF.

For further details contact the County Durham Foundation on **0191 3830055** or email at **info@countydurhamfoundation.co.uk** or contact the Parish Clerk

RESIGNATION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Wallace Tyrie has resigned from the Parish Council on ill health grounds. Wallace had been a District Councillor for 6 years until the new County Council was established in April 2009 and a Parish Councillor for almost 7 years.

We would like to thank Wallace for all his hard work on both Councils and to wish him well for the future.

COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

Copies are still available of our two publications Esh

Parish in Words and Verses (£2.99) and Esh Leaves (£7.50).

A big thank you to all our sellers, Langley Park and Esh Winning Post Offices, Esh Village Store, Ushaw College and to Keith Reays Newsagency, Langley Park who have sold many copies of all our publications. We are most grateful to them for their continuing support in Parish Council matters.

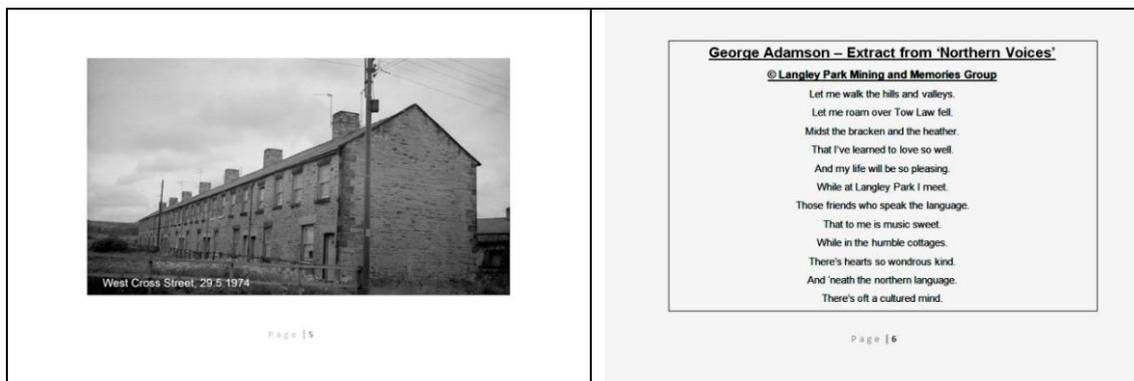
SUMMER ACTIVITIES

As this publication goes to press Simply Sport working in co-operation with Esh Parish Council are running holiday activities at Langley Park Cricket Club from Monday 27th to Friday 31st July.

LANCHESTER VALLEY RAILWAY WALK

The Countryside Warden is looking for volunteers to set up a group in Langley Park to help clear the walk of litter, bags etc. Gloves and protective clothing will be provided only time is required.

Please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.



Example pages from Esh Parish in Words and Verses