

**MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**15 March 2010**

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr R Walters, Cllr J Watson, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion, District Cllr I Ward and two members of the public

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest
2. **APOLOGIES** There were apologies from District Cllr P Watkins and PC K Robson (rest day)
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2010 were accepted as a true record.

**Proposed: Cllr Walters**

**Seconded: Cllr Watson**

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Vacancies Two people are interested in filling the vacancies.

Seat on Village Green The proposed script has been submitted.

Registration of Common Land Mr Hyde advised the meeting that documentation relating both to the common land at Martin Mill and the Village Green at West Langdon is imminent from Melanie McNeir, Public Rights of Way Officer. He further advised that the parish council should seek to take ownership of the land adjoining the registered area at West Langdon after which it would be a straightforward procedure for it to be designated as a new village green.

Bollards Kent Highways are currently fully employed in dealing with road damage from the snow but the bollards will be inspected as soon as possible.

DDC Housing Strategy Councillors were asked to forward comments to the clerk by 22 March. It was noted that details of site allocations for affordable housing will be published in the summer and that it is important to register an interest by responding to the document.

Balfour Beatty The ban on HGVs over 7.5 tonnes using the outer lane on the A20 between Limekiln Roundabout and Court Wood junction will come into effect on Tuesday 30 March. Work is currently underway to lay the foundations for and install signs.

5. **REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE OFFICER**

In her absence, PC Robson sent a short report confirming that Langdon is still a very safe place in which to live with just one incident being reported.

6. **TELEPHONE KIOSKS** Letters were circulated to properties close to the kiosks in both East and West Langdon inviting ideas and inviting comment at this meeting. Two responses have been received regarding West Langdon the first suggesting a library and the second expressing the desirability of raising revenue by charging for advertisements in the kiosk. In East Langdon the idea of setting up a local history box has been put forward. The school has indicated an interest in being involved and it is thought that the information would be of special interest to the significant number of walkers and cyclists who visit the area.

7. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** The meeting will commence at 7.30pm. Following the reports from the chairman and local organisations, Mr Trevor Skelton will give his presentation on a Parish Plan and the evening will end with refreshments.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

DDC –

- i) In future Standards Committee reports will be sent electronically.
- ii) The chief executive, Nadeem Aziz, has replied to the parish council's letter of 25 January concerning the difficulties in the minor roads during the snow. The letter has been forwarded to Kent Highways who are reviewing their local plans

KHS – A letter from Mr Button relating to pothole repairs was dealt with by the Lengthman in his report.

MEETING PLACE COMMUNICATIONS – The Company carried out an initial consultation exercise relating to the housing development at Whitfield. A public exhibition was mounted showing the land available for development but no decisions have been made as to precise location or numbers of housing. The consultation is required by the architect, who also designed Poundbury, and the development is expected to be sympathetic to the landscape.

DAVID AXFORD – Information has been received concerning grant funding opportunities from the Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust.

WEST LANGDON VILLAGE HALL – An acknowledgment of the £500 grant from the parish council has been received. The windows have been installed and the improvement is described as immediate.

KENT CAN – Details of member benefits in the voluntary and community sector have been received.

ACRK – Oast to Coast contained details of many funding opportunities that are available. (*Given to Cllr Walters*)

9. **Approval of payments**

Clerk's Salary (Feb – Mar)	£367.13
Clerk's Expenses (Feb - Mar)	£ 79.34
Clerk's computer allowance (2009 - 2010)	£100
Clerk's broadband allowance (2009 – 2010)	£150
East Langdon Village Hall (Post Office Support final payment)	£50
Langdon Playing Field Association (insurance)	£1070.81
Cllr C Shaw (Chairman's allowance)	£60
KALC (Model standing orders)	£25

**Receipts**

Donations for seat	£90
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**Donations to charity** Requests were considered from a number of charities. Following discussion it was agreed that parishioners would not expect the precept to be spent on national charities and, given the high legal costs that had been

financed during the last two years, expenditure should be restricted to essential items.

**Quarterly finance statement** The quarterly statement was circulated and discussed. It was noted that VAT of £184 has yet to be reclaimed and that the finances have recovered from a reserve of less than £700 in 2009 to £3,000 in 2010.

**Appointment of Internal Auditor**

It was agreed that Mrs Julie Pamplin should be invited to carry out the internal audit and that she should be offered a fee of £50.

**Proposed: Cllr Walters**

**Seconded: Cllr Watson**

**10. PLANNING**

**DECISION BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**DOV/09/1069** Change of use of land to riding arena

**Location:** Reveille Cottage, Old Roman Road, Martin Mill

Full planning permission has been granted

**11. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

**Lengthman's report** The Lengthman has met with the local highways inspector who confirmed that the temporary filling of potholes is a priority to be followed by a more systematic approach when the weather improves. This was reinforced in the letter from Mr Button which also contained an offer to meet with the parish council. It was agreed that this was unnecessary at present but a meeting should be set up in the spring or summer to look at the wider issues affecting the roads in the parish.

**Playing Field Committee** The mole activity has abated and the Girls' Football School has restarted.

**Village Hall Committee** Three windows have been replaced and an application will be made to the Colyer-Fergusson Trust for a grant to repair the roof and possibly install solar panels. The possibility of a bottle bank has been discussed.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Report from County Cllr Manion** The winter snow has left Kent Highways with 31,000 potholes to fill. Temporary repairs are being undertaken currently and KHS need to be made aware of potholes. Stronger repairs will be made when the weather improves and small businesses will have an opportunity to tender for the work.

KCC are considering a Mineral and Waste Strategy as minerals are needed for new housing and waste disposal would benefit from a standard procedure throughout the county.

Renewable Energy in Kent A questionnaire had been received at very short notice from KCC requesting comments on the future for renewable energy in Kent. Mr Hyde sent a response based on the knowledge that he had accrued during the windfarm proceedings and expressed the opinion that offshore wind and biomass are appropriate for Kent.

Litter An unacceptable amount of litter from Archers court Road down to East Langdon village green will be reported to DDC. Cllr Manion is keen for the Neighbourhood Forum to invite the fast food providers for talks to reduce the amount of litter from their products.

- 13. NEXT MEETING** The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on 19 April 2010 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....