

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL

19 April 2010

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr J Beer, Cllr S Craft, Cllr R Walters, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion, District Cllr I Ward, PC K Robson, Community Warden Gordon Guiliou- King and ten members of the public

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest

1A **COUNCILLOR VACANCY** It was proposed and agreed unanimously that Mr John Dyer be co-opted to fill a vacancy on the council.

Proposed: Cllr Craft

Seconded: Cllr Walters

2. **APOLOGIES** There were apologies from Cllr Watson (work commitments) and District Cllr P Watkins.

3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2010 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Walters

Seconded: Cllr Shaw

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Vacancy There is still one vacancy.

Registration of Common Land Information has now been received from Melanie McNeir, Public Rights of Way Officer. The favoured course of action continues to be that the parish council should seek to take ownership of the land adjoining the registered area at West Langdon and contact will be made with the Land Registry to assess potential costs.

DDC Housing Strategy A response was made on behalf of the council in which it was noted that controlled building development is required in rural areas to maintain a viable community with affordable housing a priority to encourage young families to remain. Much of the existing housing stock is old and often sub-standard with poor insulation and lack of mains gas services. An improvement in out-reach services will be necessary to help elderly people remain in their own homes in rural locations.

(A full copy of the response is attached to the minutes)

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

KCC i) Mobile libraries are now operated by a single member of staff. It is noted that this is still a valuable service although the driver is not a librarian.

ii) The Kent Rail Summit on 25 March was well attended and it was noted that, although the High Speed Services have brought dramatic improvements in some

parts of the county other areas are suffering a worse train service than before.

The Summit has been criticised in the press for concentrating on services in the Maidstone area. District Cllr Ward advised that there is a move to set up a pressure group for the Dover District.

- iii) Consultations on planning applications will be sent out electronically to statutory consultees in future.

KHS – Alan Blackburn has responded to the letter sent by the Council to Nadeem Aziz concerning the difficulties experienced during the snow. The issues will be raised at a meeting when service improvements will be discussed in the light of this year's experience.

KALC – Copies of the Parish News were distributed and the section 137 limit of £6.15 noted.

CPRE – Fieldwork was given to *Cllr Walters*

6. FINANCE

Approval of payments

ACRK	£35.00
KALC	£222.21

Receipts

Precept	£11,000
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Proposed: Cllr Craft

Seconded: Cllr Walters

7. PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATION

DOV/10/00216 Renewal of planning permission DOV/05/00243 for rear restaurant extension including revised parking layout

Location: The Old Lantern, The Street, Martin

The Council has no objections and comments: Councillors are keen that this business should thrive and additional space would benefit the business. There is concern about the poor state of the approach road.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Report from County Cllr Manion The County has now allocated £4.4 million to repair potholes and new contractors have now started work.

Report from Neighbourhood Police Officer PC Robson reported a decrease in crime in the local villages with the exception of violence which was mainly domestic.

PC Robson's attention was drawn to evidence of joy riding around East Langdon village

green.

Report from Community Warden DDC is slow to respond to reports of litter along the roadsides although fly tipping is dealt with promptly. Potholes are reported regularly.

Railway Mast The owner of Glebelands reported that surveys during which soil samples were taken had caused distress to horses at his property and that the animals would not be able to tolerate the vibration that will be caused during the erection of the mast. Work has currently ceased and Cllr Walters will contact Network Rail

9. **NEXT MEETING** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 24 May 2010 in West Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....