

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
East Langdon Village Hall
18 October 2010

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr J Dyer, Cllr J Watson, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion, District Cllr I Ward and one member of the public.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest.
2. **APOLOGIES** There were apologies from Cllr Walters (holiday), District Cllr P Watkins and PC Robson, Community Warden (course).
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2010 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr Craft
Seconded: Cllr Watson

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Vacancies There continues to be a vacancy.

Seat on Village Green Mr Macintyre has approved the wording for the seat but has expressed concern about the lack of light under the beech tree. After some discussion it was agreed that the beech tree was the best site and that some of the lower branches would be trimmed to increase visibility.

New noticeboard Following discussions with local carpenters it was agreed that a further attempt should be made to effect a repair to the noticeboard at Martin and that a new 6 x A4 noticeboard will be purchased for Martin Mill.

Proposed: Cllr Craft
Seconded: Cllr Dyer

Annual Towns and Parishes Liaison Conference Cllr Shaw reported on the meeting held on 4 October 2010. The meeting was advised by the Chief Executive that plans for the effective delivery of services have been drawn up to include some shared services based on a 33% budget reduction. The planning department advised that from April 2011 all applications will be on-line and councils will no longer receive hard copies. A report on the LDF focussed on the draft masterplan for the development at Whitfield.

The Meadow A letter will be sent to DDC Planning requesting clarification about a potential change of use at the site where goods are being delivered for sale at a stall that has been erected.

Salt bins Carried forward to the next meeting.

Sholden Parish Council The geographical positions of the proposed sites has been advised and it was agreed that a letter be sent to Sholden Parish Council acknowledging their concerns but any expression of concern to DDC should await formal notice of consultation.

Erosion of verges Kent Highways have responded to the concerns about the damage to the verges caused by large agricultural machinery and are pursuing the matter with the NFU

5. **REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE OFFICER**

There have been no crime reports for the parish during the past month. PC Robson has been focussing on the playing field following thefts during the summer.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

DDC –

- i) Public Consultation on the Whitfield Urban Expansion Draft Masterplan is open until 29 November 2010. Cllr Shaw's report on a recent presentation by the developers stimulated a discussion on transport issues. It is understood that bus gates will be installed that will prevent access to Whitfield roundabout from Archers Court Road, a pinch point has been identified where the A256 joins the A2 along to the Duke of York's roundabout and concern was expressed about a possible increase in cars going to Martin Mill station.
- ii) The LDF Site Allocations Document will be the subject of public consultation for eight weeks from 28 October 2010. Some 120 new sites for residential development have been identified since the original document was produced and Cllr Shaw will meet with the planners to discuss potential changes to the plans for Langdon.
- iii) The Electronic Notification of Planning Applications has financial implications for the Council which could involve the purchase of a digital projector, possibly in partnership with another local organisation, and installation of internet access. During discussion concern was raised that the lack of hard copies would disadvantage those residents who do not have access to computers. It was noted that Aylesham Parish Council have objected to the change.

KHS - A summary of the My Kent Highways Online Parish Survey 2010 showed that responders found the system to be slow, time consuming and frustrating and use of the website for reporting faults decreased by 50% during March – July.

KALC – Parish News contained notification of the AGM to be held at Ditton Community Centre on 13 November 2010.

ACRK – Parish Plan News contained an update on the number of parish plans completed and in progress. It was agreed that a further attempt to stimulate interest in a Parish plan for Langdon would be included in the next newsletter.

THE PHILLIPS FUND – Grants are available for Conservation and Environmental Projects. *Given to Cllr Shaw*

VICTIM SUPPORT – A request for a grant will be held on file until the end of the financial year.

ERHA – The Bulletin has been received.

7. **FINANCE**

Receipts

Bank Interest £2.05

PLANNING

TREWORK IN CONSERVATION AREA - CONSULTATION

TC/10/00080 30% crown reduction to one sycamore tree, including clearance of roof and neighbouring property; also removal of two stems near base of tree

Location: The Old Vicarage, The Street, East Langdon

The Council has no objections.

9. **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

Playing Field Committee The committee has focused on details for the Christmas Fayre.

Village Hall Committee Confirmation has been received that the grant of £1700 is to be recommended for approval.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Report from County Cllr Manion Consultation is being carried out by KCC on Minerals and Waste and also on the Local Transport Plan.

KCC will be circulating a newsletter explaining how the budget is spent.

The grant day for voting on the distribution of the Member Fund was a success and was attended by 100+ people.

Registration of Common Land It was noted that the date for free registration of common land is approaching.

11. **NEXT MEETING** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on 15 November 2010 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....