

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
West Langdon Village Hall
9 May 2011

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr A Minns, Cllr R Walters, Cllr J Watson, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion and six members of the public.

1. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AND UNDERTAKINGS

Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Undertakings together with statements of financial interests were completed by: Cllr C Shaw, Cllr A Minns, Cllr R Walters and Cllr J Watson. Cllr J Dyer, on holiday, had completed his declarations prior to the meeting.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN & REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr C Shaw was re-elected unopposed as chairman.

Proposed: Cllr R Walters

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

Cllr R Walters was re-elected unopposed as vice-chairman.

Proposed: Cllr C Shaw

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

Cllr C Shaw was elected unopposed to represent the Council on the Langdon Parish Hall committee.

Cllr A Minns was elected unopposed to represent the Council on the Langdon Playing Field committee.

Cllr R Walters was elected unopposed to represent the Council on KALC.

Cllr R Walters was elected unopposed as Lengthman for the Parish.

3. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

Mr S Craft was co-opted to fill one of the vacancies on the Council.

Proposed: Cllr R Walters

Seconded: Cllr J Watson

Carried unanimously

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS There were no declarations of interest.

5. APOLOGIES There were apologies from Cllr Dyer (holiday) and District Cllr Watkins.

6. MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr R Walters

Seconded: Cllr C Shaw

7. **MATTERS ARISING**

Parish Plan A steering group of twelve members has been formed and has met on two occasions. The group aims to prepare a questionnaire for circulation in September 2011 and it has been agreed that a 50% return is necessary to give the group a mandate to proceed with producing a Parish Plan. A meeting has been arranged with the DDC Head of Planning to advise him of the project and to seek clarification on any legal implications for developing a Plan.

Street lighting A survey of street lighting has shown that most lights are strategically important as they mark either a corner or a junction. It was agreed that the response to DDC's letter of 15 December 2011 would be that Langdon Parish Council's preferred option is to keep existing lighting but investigate opportunities for savings.

Phone box electricity supply A response is awaited from BT. Members were in favour of a suggestion that the East Langdon phone box be moved to the village green where it would fulfil a useful role as an information centre.

Postal deliveries A letter will be sent to Royal Mail expressing concern about the lateness of postal deliveries in the parish.

8. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND OTHER EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

County Cllr Manion reported on the work that continues to be undertaken by KCC to drive down costs while maintaining services. A review of library services to out-lying areas is underway.

Cllr Manion urged those present to continue to report defects to KHS.

Applications for the next round of Member and Community grants can now be made.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

KCC Members commented on the very good presentation and content of the Kent Farmstead Guidance and Kent Downs AONB Farmstead. Cllr Shaw produced a response to the questionnaire on behalf of the council.

CPRE Fieldwork contained information on Neighbourhood Planning which could be of relevance to the Parish Plan. (*Given to Mrs Miller*)

KENT COUNTY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION The annual newsletter has been received

DOVER COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS An appeal for funds towards the purchase of a 4x4 vehicle will be considered at the end of the financial year.

COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS SERVICE Changes in the contracts for vegetation clearance on the Publics Rights of Way were agreed. It was noted that some footpaths such as ER49 are kept clear by residents and that the willingness of parishioners to become involved in footpath clearance could be explored in the Parish Plan questionnaire.

HELEN SPIEGELBERG The welfare of the ducks on and around the village pond is a matter of concern as is the absence of ducklings this year and Mrs Spiegelberg suggested that a duck house in the middle of the pond would be of benefit. It was agreed that an approach would be made to the residents of Church Farm Mews to ask their views on the matter since the pond is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. The cost of a duck house will be explored.

10. FINANCE**Approval of payments**

Broker Network Ltd (Came & Company insurance)	£297.84
Mr C Shaw (newsletter printing)	£ 21.50

Proposed: Cllr S Craft**Seconded: Cllr R Walters****11. PLANNING****PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

DOV/11/00290 Part retrospective application for the installation of a flue, creation of a vehicular access and excavation works together with the re-building of boundary wall

Location: Cosy Nook, The Street, Martin

The council has no objections and is in approval of the application.

KCC/DO/0188/2011 Creation of a fenced-in external play area and the alteration of 2 window openings to form door openings

Location: Langdon Primary School, The Street, East Langdon CT15 5JQ

The council has no objections.

12. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman's report The top dressing of The Street in East Langdon will be undertaken shortly. In response to a question by a member of the public, the lengthman will draw the attention of KHS to the existence of a soakaway on the corner of Church Lane.

Playing Field Committee A successful family event was held on the field during the afternoon following the royal wedding. The bouncy castle, funded by the council, had been popular.

A picnic table which had been given as a memorial has been stolen. It was suggested that furniture needs to be indelibly marked and that parishioners, through the newsletter, should be asked to be more vigilant and to report any suspicious activity.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Village signs A request was made for village signs to show the location of West Langdon. It was suggested that the creation of village signs could form an appropriate project for the Diamond Jubilee.

14. NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 20 June 2011 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....