

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
West Langdon Village Hall
19 September 2011

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr J Dyer, Cllr A Minns, Cllr R Walters, The Clerk, District Cllr K Morris and four members of the public.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** Cllr Walters declared an interest in agenda item 8a and was not involved in determining the Council's response.
2. **APOLOGIES** There were apologies from Cllr J Watson (unwell), District Cllr P Watkins and County Cllr S Manion.
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 15 August 2011 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr J Dyer
Seconded: Cllr A Minns

4. MATTERS ARISING

Parish Plan Cllr Walters reported that most questionnaires have been distributed and no negative reactions have been encountered.

Jubilee Celebrations It was agreed that there should be one event for the whole parish ideally involving the school. During discussion it was suggested that the celebration be concentrated into a short period of time with activities for children such as street theatre. There was considerable interest in the idea of commissioning commemorative mugs for presentation. A meeting of interested parties will be called in October

Councillor vacancy There continues to be a vacancy.

Waste collection There is no further information available at present about the timetable for the start of the new system in Langdon.

East Langdon Telephone Box The chairman advised that Mr McGoldrick has offered to paint the telephone boxes and varnish the notice boards at East and West Langdon.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, OTHER EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND KALC CONFERENCE

District Cllr K Morris Cllr Morris reminded the meeting that the closing date for local community grants has been extended to 30 September 2011.

Following consultation, parking charges will no longer be refunded for those using the Leisure Centres.

The Middle Deal / Sholden housing development has been deferred.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

DDC – The Annual Liaison meeting will be held at DDC offices on Wednesday 23 November at 6.00pm.

KCC –

- i) Cllr Shaw will respond to the consultation on KCC's Countryside

Access Improvement Plan.

ii) County Councillor Nick Chard's notes on meetings of the HOSC advised that there will be public consultation on the future of maternity services in East Kent.

iii) Cllr Shaw will respond to the consultation on Young people's Services in Kent

iv) The Highways Agency has advised that the works on the Roundhill tunnel will be in place until after the New Year. The procurement, delivery and installation of the bridging joint required will take between 5 and 6 months.

KALC –

i) The Finance Conference will take place at Lenham Community Centre on Friday 7 October 2011.

ii) Cllr Walters will respond to the consultation on the Draft National Planning Policy Framework.

ACRK –

i) The Annual Meeting of ACRK will take place on Thursday 11 October 2011 in Dunkirk Village Hall at 5.30 pm.

ii) The Village SOS Active competition has funds of between £10,000 and £30,000 for the brightest ideas for new community enterprises that will make a difference.

iii) Rural news advised that ACRK has teamed up with the independent company "Make it Cheaper" who specialise in getting the best energy deals for businesses which include charities and community organisations. Further details will appear in the next edition of Oast to Coast.

CPRE – Countryside Voice contained a letter indicating a drop in crime rate in an area where street lighting had been turned off at night. *(Given to Cllr Walters)*

EMAILS – A resident has passed on information about the nuisance caused by campers in the copse where the footpath (FP 45/44) runs from Langdon Court to the playing field. The police and community warden were informed.

CLERKS AND COUNCILS DIRECT - The current edition provided useful sourcing information for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee mugs and for salt bins.

THE PARKING SHOP – A business that specialises in products such as grit bins, dog waste and litter bins and speed watch equipment.

7. FINANCE

Report from External Auditor The External Auditor's Report for the year ending 31 March 2011 has been received. There were no matters highlighted for attention.

Approval of payments

Clerk's salary (3 months)	£537.42
Clerk's expenses (July - Sept)	£ 10.10
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	£ 48.00
Audit Commission	£162.00
East Langdon Village Hall (P.O. rent 25 weeks)	£125.00

Proposed: Cllr J Dyer

Seconded: Cllr R Walters

Quarterly Financial Statement

The quarterly statement was circulated and discussed. It was agreed that the future of the money currently ringfenced for the windfarm will be reconsidered when the 2012/2013 budget is discussed.

8.

PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DOV/11/00739 Erection of a pitched roof to existing porch

Location: Ingestre House, The Street, East Langdon

The Council had no objection to the application.

DOV/11/00742 Construction of an access road

Location: Field 41A, Langdon Court Farm, East Langdon

The Council had no objection to the application but comments:

- The access road to be for the use of agricultural vehicles only.
- The stark outline of the track to be softened with grass seeding

DOV/11/00748 Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic garden

Location: New Brompton – Land adj. Sutton Road, West Langdon

The Council had no objection to the application.

9.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman's Report The Lengthman reported that the pavement at the bottom of Westside is obstructed by an overgrown hedge that is causing difficulty to pedestrians especially those taking children to school. The Clerk will write to the householder.

Wire fencing that had been a hazard on the Guston Road has now been removed.

Playing Field Committee The Autumn Fayre raised £107. An application will be made for a Small Communities Grant towards the £3,500 that is needed to make safe the surround and access to the slide.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Morning Bus Services in East Langdon The bus to Deal leaves at 9.24 am which is a difficulty for residents with concessionary bus passes who either have to walk to Martin Mill where the bus leaves at 9.30am or pay 85p to travel to Martin Mill. It was agreed that a letter be sent to KCC.

Green Waste Collection DDC will be contacted to enquire into the lack of collection from properties on Guston Road.

Martin Mill Station There has been some local concern about the future of Martin Mill station in the light of financial cuts. It was agreed that feedback from the Parish Plan questionnaire will be useful in the compilation of any correspondence that might prove necessary. It was also noted that our MP is taking an active interest in the provision of rail services in the constituency.

Salt Bins A letter will be sent to Kent Highways to enquire whether the criteria for the siting of salt bins have changed and if free salt/grit supplies will be offered to Councils again this year.

- 11. NEXT MEETING** The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 17 October 2011 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....