

**MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**West Langdon Village Hall**  
**17 September 2012**

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr J Dyer, Cllr A Minns, Cllr R Walters, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion, Community Warden Gordon G Guillou-King, PCSO K Parker-Brown and eight members of the public.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest.
2. **APOLOGIES** District Cllr P Watkins and District Cllr K Morris
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 12 August 2012 were accepted as a true record.

**Proposed: Cllr J Dyer**  
**Seconded: Cllr A Minns**

4. **MATTERS ARISING**  
Councillor Vacancy Mrs N Poulton has confirmed her interest in filling the vacancy.  
Cosy Nook In response to a question from a member of the public, the chairman outlined the progress with the planning application to date and confirmed the Council's support for the proposal. It was noted that the road is impassable for large agricultural vehicles when cars of necessity are parked outside Cosy Nook and in the privately owned layby opposite.  
Noticeboard for Playing Field It was agreed that a suitable heading for the noticeboard would be "Langdon Parish" ensuring that the facility can be widely used.
5. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, OTHER EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND THE CLERKS CONFERENCE**  
County Cllr S Manion Consultation is now underway on the KCC budget for 2013 – 2014 with the aim of achieving zero increase.

There has been a good response in East Dover to the Community Projects funding and an event will be held to determine the allocation of the funds.

Members of the public and the Community Warden expressed concern about the charges that have been levied on the collection of green waste that has resulted in a large increase both in the amount of garden refuse that is taken to the recycling centre and in fly-tipping. Cllr Manion recommended composting as the best solution. Concerns were also expressed about the number of vehicles, five, that are required to collect refuse from the small hamlet of West Langdon. Councillors added that a similar situation had been noted in East Langdon, though here the reason was believed to be the separate refuse contract for the School. Either way, there seems to be a massive increase in vehicle-miles compared with previous years.

In response to a question about speeding on rural roads, Cllr Manion advised that the radio is currently running an advertising campaign on rural safety.

PCSO PCSO Parker-Brown reported that the owners of the property from which the loud music had emanated had been unaware of the disturbance that had been caused and were very apologetic. They have also been advised of the legal restrictions on the hours during which fireworks can be set off.

There have been two crimes in Martin Mill; a burglary and damage to a property. It is a matter of concern that both householders are elderly.

The two recent haystack fires were in close proximity and near to the road but at present there is nothing to suggest arson.

Community Warden Mr Guillou-King is giving support to the two victims of crime and advising on appropriate security items.

Representatives of community safety, the fire service and police will be present at the East Kent ploughing match in St Margaret's on Wednesday 26 September.

Mr Guillou-King continues to offer free security marking for equestrian equipment and one parishioner has recently made use of this service.

Community Transport Roadshow Cllr Minns reported on the roadshow that was held at Lenham on 3 September. He recommended that Thanet Wheels be invited to give a presentation at the next Council meeting and it was agreed that an invitation will be sent to neighbouring parish councils.

6. **LOCAL FIRES** This item was dealt with in PCSO Parker-Brown's report.
7. **EAST LANGDON PLANTING PROPOSAL** The meeting considered a proposal for the planting of daffodils and crocuses on the village green with rambling roses along the bank adjoining Jossenblock. It was agreed that an indication of cost is needed before a decision can be made.
8. **SAFETY ON RURAL ROADS** This item was dealt with by County Cllr Manion in his report.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE**  
DDC – A reply has been received from the Senior Environmental Protection officer to the concerns raised about odours from the fields in the parish. He advised that waste material should be incorporated into the ground within 24 hours of spreading but the problem is compounded by fields in close proximity being fertilised on different days. DDC has no plans to change the current code of practice.

KCC – There are new arrangements at Household Waste Recycling Centres that are intended to prevent misuse by traders. These include a reduction in the size of acceptable trailers, a limit on soil rubble and hardcore and charges for tyres and asbestos.

KALC –

i) Parish News included an article from KHS giving guidance to homeowners about the maintenance of vegetation that borders footpaths and the highway. A summary has been included in the newsletter.

ii) KALC will respond to a six week consultation on Council Tax Base Funding for Local Precepting Authorities. The reduction in funding from Central Government has implications for Parish and Town Council precepts.

iii) The KALC Finance conference will be held at Lenham on Saturday 20 October 2012.

CPRE – Fieldwork has been received and was given to *Cllr Walters*.

KHS – The next Parish and Town Council seminar will be held on Wednesday 10 October 2012 at The Holiday Inn, Ashford.

NATURAL ENGLAND - The draft proposals for improving coastal access from Ramsgate to Folkestone have been on view in local libraries. The consultation ends on 9 November 2012.

CASE - A workshop on applying for funding from the Big Lottery will be held at the Landmark Centre on 20 September 2012.

BBC TV The One Show The show is looking for community projects across the UK that need a helping hand. It wants to use its influence to galvanise volunteer efforts in different schemes for a new weekly feature on the programme in coming months.

## 10. FINANCE

**Appointment of External Auditor from 2012/13** The Audit Commission has confirmed the appointment of Littlejohn LLP as external auditor for five years from 2012/13.

### **Approval of payments**

#### **Chq no**

782	KBS Sound – (P.A. System)	£378
783	Clerk's salary (July – September)	£568.62
	Clerk's expenses (July – September)	£ 54.57
784	HM Revenue & Customs (July – September)	£225
785	Craigdene Ltd (Playing field inspection)	£108
786	East Langdon Village Hall (P.O. rent 1 Apr – 22 Sept)	£125
787	Mr A Minns (Travel expenses x 2 conferences at Lenham)	£ 98.80

**Proposed: Cllr S Craft**

**Seconded: Cllr R Walters**

**To consider an application from West Langdon village hall for a grant towards the cost of replacing heaters** A grant application for £39.98 towards the cost of new heaters was discussed and agreed. It was noted that grants are usually considered at the end of the financial year but the approach of winter required the hall to be comfortable for those who use it.

**Proposed: Cllr R Walters**

**Seconded: Cllr S Craft.**

**Quarterly Finance Statement** The quarterly finance statement was circulated and discussed. It was noted that £393 remains in the 2012 Celebration budget.

## 11. **PLANNING**

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

#### **DOV/12/00680**

**Planning** (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

**Planning** (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990

**Proposal:** Removal of corrugated metal roof and replace with Kent peg tiles

**Location:** Langdon Abbey Barn, West Langdon, Dover CT15 5HJ

The Council has no objections and comments, "The Council positively supports the application and is pleased to encourage the preservation of this important building."

#### **DOV/12/00691**

**Proposal:** Erection of stables, a detached barn, construction of hard standing and vehicular access (existing stables and barn to be demolished)

**Location:** Site on West side of East Langdon Road, Martin, Dover CT15 5JJ

Following discussion that took account of the changes and enhanced statements in the new submission, it was again agreed by a majority decision that the Council continues to object to the proposal and comments:

The Council objects to the height of the proposed barn which would impact adversely on the landscape when exiting the village of East Langdon.

#### **DOV/12/00596**

**Proposal:** Erection of an oak framed canopy

**Location:** 1-2 Langdon Abbey Villas, Sutton Road, West Langdon, Dover CT15 5HL

The Council has no objections and comments, "The proposal will offer a welcome improvement to the built environment."

## 12. **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

**Playing Field Committee** Modifications have been carried out on the wooden sleepers adjacent to the slide in response to the Craigdene annual inspection and the report of an accident. A quotation for £2,000 has been received for the lopping of the leylandii trees and an application has been submitted for a Small Community project grant.

Village Hall Committee An application has been submitted for a Small Community project grant towards the cost of replacing the remaining wooden windows.

Cllr Shaw reported the death of Mrs June Beer and, on behalf of the community, expressed his gratitude for the many years of service that she had given to the hall as both key holder and cleaner.

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

DDC Wind Turbine A member of the public reported that the turbine at DDC, installed in 2007 at a cost of £92,000, stopped working on 27 April 2012 and cannot be repaired as the firm that installed it has gone into liquidation.

Land at Roman, Archers Court Road, Whitfield It was reported that the building has now been connected to the mains water supply. The land is used as a motor cycle race circuit on Sundays.

Fast Broadband Mrs N Poulton circulated details of VFast Internet Ltd, a company offering super-fast broadband. The company will assess the suitability of the parish in response to just fifteen expressions of interest. Guston is already benefiting from this service but vegetation impedes the signal in East Langdon.

**14. NEXT MEETING** The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 15 October 2012 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....