

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
East Langdon Village Hall
19 November 2012

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr A Minns, Cllr N Poulton, Cllr R Walters, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion, two members of the public, two representatives from Ripple Parish Council and one representative from Whitfield Parish Council.

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest.
2. **APOLOGIES** District Cllr P Watkins, Cllr J Dyer (holiday), PCSO Parker-Brown and Community Warden G Guillou-King.
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2012 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr S Craft
Seconded: Cllr N Poulton

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Notice Board for Playing Field There was nothing further to report.

Refuse collection in West Langdon A comprehensive response has been received from DDC to the concerns raised about refuse collection in West Langdon and confirming that residents will not be fined for putting out the wrong bin for collection. A member of the Waste Services Team has been asked to visit the village on collection days to monitor the situation and observe the damage to the village green to assess the need for the use of a smaller vehicle.

Cosy Nook Cllr Shaw reported that he had contacted the Planning Officer responsible for the application with a request for a site meeting. Members were concerned to learn that this had been refused due to a lack of resources and that any such meeting would incur a charge. District Cllr Watkins has undertaken to co-ordinate a meeting without charge to the Parish Council.

Parish Plan Cllr Shaw has met with Ms Louise Matthews to complete the analysis of the data. A summary has been produced which will be augmented and circulated to the steering group.

Kent Reptile and Amphibian Group One resident has been approached concerning the setting up of a local group and a reply is awaited.

Agricultural odours Mr Mike Welham, the local NFU secretary will meet with representatives from the Council on an informal basis to see if a better understanding can be reached.

5. **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, OTHER EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND THE KALC COMMITTEE MEETING**

County Cllr S Manion Cllr Manion reported that KCC have been discussing the issues that are arising from the Dorrell inquiry into elderly care.

KALC Committee Meeting

Cllr Walters attended the meeting on 25 October when David Brazier, KCC deputy cabinet member for Highways and Waste was the main speaker. He

apologised for the quality of communication with KHS and it is hoped that the Portal will become a more effective tool. Cllr Brazier confirmed that KCC are not intending to support the implementation of 20 m.p.h. limits on minor roads unless evidence of need can be supplied through accident statistics and the support of the police. The parish caretaker scheme that has been trialled in the Ashford area has been successful. KHS will continue to cut verges once a year and where a parish deems a second verge cut to be a priority, this will need to be paid for by the Parish Council and arranged through a caretaker scheme.

Nigel Whitburn reminded members of the second round of applications for the Community Transport Fund that closes on 1 April 2013. To date grants have been in the region of £15,000 - £30,000

6. THANET COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

The guest speaker failed to arrive at the meeting and in her absence there was a useful discussion with the visiting members from other councils on the subject of community transport. The meeting learned that Kingsdown Parish Council is considering the purchase of a community bus and have approached Ripple whose members are concerned that involvement in the scheme could put the existing bus provision under threat. A Saturday service to Canterbury, provided by Stagecoach, is very popular and Langdon could benefit from a similar arrangement. It was noted that rural public transport does not provide for disabled passengers and there could be a case for having ready access to a taxi service that would not be in conflict with public transport. Discussion progressed onto the future need for links with Whitfield when the new health facilities are available and Cllr Gowland agreed that Langdon has a case for a loop to be provided to the proposed fast track service.

It was agreed that Stagecoach and / or KCC should be approached to investigate the possibility of a bus link to Canterbury and that Cllr Craft would contact Kingsdown with a view to Langdon being involved in their project.

- 7. EAST LANGDON PLANTING PROPOSAL** Cllr Shaw reported on the revised proposals for the planting scheme that had been agreed at a meeting on the Green on Saturday 17 October. A copy of the plan will be posted in the village hall for comment. Cllr Walters had contacted DDC for advice concerning the safety of the diseased chestnut tree but was informed that the tree officer is on long term sick leave and that his work was not being covered.
- 8. KCC HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION TRACKER SURVEY** Members were asked to forward their responses in part or in full to the clerk for collation.
- 9. EMERGENCY PLANNING** There has been some progress with the plan and it was agreed that the task would be completed more efficiently by a small group of members rather than at a full meeting.

- 10. 20 mph ZONES IN LANGDON** The likely response of KCC had already been heard in agenda item 5. However it was noted that there is a change in the national mood concerning road safety in rural areas and the presence of the school in East Langdon strengthens the case for some action to be taken. The clerk reported that a parent from the school had emailed the concern of a number of parents on the dangers of walking from Church Farm Mews to the school. It was agreed that the problem is the narrowness of the road which results in speeds being perceived as excessive. The school will be contacted to ask for a copy of their Travel Plan

11. CORRESPONDENCE

DDC –

- i) A letter from the monitoring Officer contained his decisions on two complaints made against Cllr Watson by her neighbours. In both cases the outcome is that “This complaint does not merit further action and this is therefore the end of the process.”
- ii) Notification has been received of the arrangements for waste collection over the Christmas period.

KCC – The Kent Lane Rental Scheme consultation produced an excellent response and the proposed scheme has been submitted to the Transport Secretary.

CPRE – Countryside Voice contained information on road safety in rural areas that was of relevance to agenda item 10 and indicated that the government is considering introducing a 40 mph limit in rural areas. A transport toolkit is available. *Given to Cllr Craft.*

KALC – Parish News contained an item on Kent Savers who are looking to set up six community access points where smaller communities can have access to savings accounts and affordable loans.

CLERKS & COUNCILS DIRECT - The newsletter had an interesting advertisement for products such as benches and planters made by Agricycle from recycled plastic. Legal Matters addressed the topic of the registration of village greens.

VICTIM SUPPORT – A request for a grant will be placed on file.

AFFINITY WATER – Views on the draft Water Resources Management plan can be given at www.affinitywater.co.uk/haveyoursay.

12. FINANCE

Approval of payments

Chq No.

789	West Langdon Village Hall (replacement heaters)	£39.98
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Receipts

Dividend		£ 0.32
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Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

Precept 2013/2014 It was agreed that the chairman, vice chairman and clerk would meet to discuss the budget so that it can be presented at the December meeting. The final date for submitting the precept to DDC is 1 February 2013.

Grants to local organisations A decision on the allocation of grants will be made in January since there will not be a meeting in February. Notices will be placed in the Parish Notice boards inviting applications by 18 January 2013.

13. PLANNING

DECISIONS BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

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
Permission granted.

It was noted that there are sixteen conditions attached.

14. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman's report Further to the discussions on speed measures in item 10, it was agreed, the lengthman be asked to carry out an audit of street signs in the parish.

Playing Field Committee Cllr Shaw will meet with the loss adjustor on 21 November regarding the accident on the slide.

Village Hall Committee The village hall was successful with its bid for a grant of £2200 to complete the replacement of doors and windows.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Transport links to Canterbury There has been a request from members of the public for a bus link to Canterbury from the parish. This had already received some discussion under agenda item 6. Cllr Minns will investigate the cost of setting up a minibus link to the fast service at Whitfield once a week.

16. NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 17 December 2012 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.47 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....