

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
West Langdon Village Hall
20 May 2013

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

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS There were no declarations of interest

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Shaw was re-elected as chairman.

Proposed: Cllr J Watson

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

Cllr Minns was re-elected as vice-chairman.

Proposed: Cllr N Poulton

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

Cllr S Craft was re-elected as Lengthman for the Parish.

Cllr C Shaw was re-elected as Village Hall Representative

Cllr A Minns was re-elected as Playing Field Representative

It was agreed that a KALC representative would not be appointed but attendance at meetings would be shared among members.

3. APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Dyer (holiday), County Cllr S Manion, District Cllr P Watkins, Community Warden G Guillou-King (training day)

4. MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2013 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

5. MATTERS ARISING

Cosy Nook Cllr Shaw reported that Richard Smith from KHS will be contacting the owners to discuss traffic flow and sight lines.

Parish Plan A final pre-production mock-up of the plan needs to be made and checked before going to print. R K Media have quoted £775 ex VAT for a run of 300 copies with an additional 100 available for £180 ex VAT. It was agreed that the quotation be accepted.

Proposed: Cllr S Craft

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

Emergency Planning There is no further progress on the plan. Members were reminded of the agreement to check fire hydrants during the summer months.

Agricultural Odours A letter has been sent to Mr Welham at NFU asking for feedback on the earlier discussions held with Robert Walters.

Del Ranch DDC Senior Investigation officer, Paul Francis, has visited the site and reported that the deposit of hardcore is to form a better vehicular access to the

rear of the site and does not appear to require planning permission. Members expressed concern that work is being carried out at the rear of the property and a new building can be seen. The concern will be forwarded to Mr Francis.

Four Winds The owners of Four Winds have raised a number of concerns about the apparent lack of maintenance to the bank by KHS and the damage that is being caused by HGVs. Cllr Shaw will make contact with Mr Donovan to discuss the issues. The hedgerow is now in a tidier state.

Road Signs The sign at the bottom of Hollands Hill has been replaced. It was noted that many of the signs are dirty and KHS will be contacted to ask if a cleaning service is available. It was agreed that an audit of road signs will be carried out at the same time as the fire hydrant inspections.

Councillor vacancy There has been an expression of interest in the vacancy.

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

County and District Councillors County Cllr Manion reported that he intends to use the “You Decide” format for distributing his member grants and that application forms are available from Shuna Body at KCC.

Other External Agencies PCSO Parker-Brown reported that there had been no significant reports of criminal activity in the parish. The Tuesday coffee morning had been a useful forum for raising awareness of DDC’s Energy Deal.

KALC Committee Meeting Cllr Shaw reported on a useful talk on Emergency Plans by a team member from Staplehurst from whom a template can be requested. The importance of keeping information on names and skills in a public place was emphasised.

The launch of KLM at Manston had been well received. There will be an airshow at Manston on 22 June.

Health and Safety Training Cllr Minns reported on this worthwhile training session run by KALC at Lenham on 16 April. His report is attached at Annex A.

Police Commissioner Meeting Cllr Minns attended the meeting at Faversham on 24 April. The Commissioner was concerned that the public is confused about the use of 999 and 101. An emergency that is happening in the present should be reported on 999 but an incident that has already happened or a non-emergency must be reported on 101. There is a charge of 15p for all 101 calls. Cllr Minns’ report is attached at Annex B.

7. **EAST LANGDON VILLAGE GREEN** The chairman outlined the history of grass cutting on the village green which, in recent years, has been undertaken by Mr Walters. Mrs Pound and Mr Waller have indicated their willingness to help and other volunteers are being sought. It was noted that West Langdon village green is also maintained by volunteers and it was agreed that the Parish Council should offer to reimburse the cost of fuel used during these tasks.

8. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY VEGETATION CLEARANCE** The Public Rights of Way and Access Service has indicated that budget cuts mean there will not be any planned vegetation clearing in the parish this year. This will impact on ER44 and 45, ER48 and ER50. During discussion it was noted that the footpaths

need to be walked regularly to keep them open and those that are do not need additional maintenance. It was agreed that clarification is needed:

- i) Who is responsible for the footpaths?
- ii) Is KCC responsible for the clearance of growth on the footpaths?
- iii) Is the clearance programme just reactive?

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

DDC –

i) Residents are invited to sign up to an Energy Deal between DDC and iChoosr to obtain a better deal for gas and electricity. The closing date is 3 June and an auction will be held on 4 June between competing energy suppliers.

ii) The Playing Field Committee has responded to the Public Consultation on Draft Parks and Amenity Open Space Strategy

iii) A series of school visits to primary schools has been launched with the aim of “Raising Awareness of Environment for the Future.” Talks concentrate on the importance of putting litter in the bin, cleaning up after pets and keeping our district clean, tidy and safe for the future.

CTIL A proposal has been received for the siting of three additional antennae to the existing O2 site at Waterworks Lane, Martin.

The Council had no objections.

KALC – A Community Awards Scheme has been launched to give recognition to those that have made a significant contribution to their own community with the aim of making a presentation at the 2014 Parish Council AGM. It was agreed that nominations should be requested through the newsletter.

CPRE – The current issue of Kent Voice has been received. *Given to Cllr Craft.* A Transport Toolkit poster will be displayed in the village hall.

ACRK – Free loft and cavity insulation is available to those in receipt of eligible benefits including child tax credit and state pension credit.

Clerks and Councils Direct – The May newsletter has been received

St Johns Ambulance Mr Patrick Marsh is willing to talk to the Parish Council about defibrillators. It was agreed that he be invited to speak at either the June or July meeting.

Tilmanstone Parish Council Following the publication of the scoping opinion for a wind turbine at Barville Farm, an extraordinary meeting has been called for Monday 27 May to which representatives of adjoining parishes are invited. It is hoped that a representative from Langdon can be present and it was agreed that the view of the Council is that Langdon continues to object to the installation of large scale wind turbines in the neighbourhood.

10. **FINANCE**

Presentation of accounts year ending 31st March 2013 The accounts for the year ending 31 March 2013, copies of which are attached, were approved.

Annual governance statements It was agreed that the requirements of the Audit Commission had been met during the year 2012/2013

Internal Auditor's report The internal auditor was satisfied that all financial arrangements were satisfactory and there were no recommendations for action.

Proposed: Cllr S Craft
Seconded: Cllr J Watson

Renewal of Parish Council Insurance The three year contract with Came & Company expires on 31 May 2013. A quotation had been requested at the invitation of AON insurance, previous insurers for the Council, but without response. After some discussion it was agreed that a further three year contract would be taken out with Came & Company who have provided very good support for the Council.

Proposed: Cllr A Minns
Seconded: Cllr N Poulton

Approval of payments

Chq no

808	Broker Network Ltd (Parish Council insurance)	£289.99
809	Mr C Shaw (Materials for erection of noticeboard)	£ 27.12
810	St Augustine's church (Strimming of churchyard)	£ 50.00
811	Mrs J Pamplin (Internal auditor's fees)	£ 60.00
812	KALC (Course fees)	£ 72.00
813	Mr A Minns (Travel expenses – courses)	£ 85.80

Receipts

Precept	£11,000
VAT Refund	£ 491.87

Proposed: Cllr S Craft
Seconded: Cllr N Poulton

11. PLANNING
PLANNING APPLICATIONS
DOV/13/00324

Proposal: Renewal of planning permission DOV/10/00216 for rear restaurant including revised parking layout

Location: The Old Lantern, The Street, Martin, Dover CT15 5JL
The Council had no objections.

DECISIONS BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL
DOV/13/00147

Proposal: Dismantle one Ash and one Sycamore tree

Location: Land at Leaze Wood, Waterworks Lane, Martin, CT15 5JW
Permission granted

EAST SIDE FARM The Planning Officers report showed that a detailed examination of the site had been undertaken and the negative impact of the proposed barn conversion on the listed farm house building had been carefully assessed.

12. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Playing Field Cllr Shaw reported that the “springer elephant” had been pulled over but not damaged. The wooded steps to the slide have been cleaned and the bark topped up on the safety surface. The play area continues to be well used.

Village Hall The AGM has taken place and it was agreed that hire fees will be raised with effect from 1 November 2013 to offset increased electricity costs.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

East Langdon Parish Hall Cllr Poulton enquired about the permitted uses of the hall and whether it can be used for activities such as band practices and discos. Cllr Shaw replied that these have caused problems with neighbours in the past but he will discuss the matter with them again.

Neighbourhood Watch There was some discussion on the merits of having a scheme in the parish and it was agreed that the opinion of parishioners will be invited in the next newsletter.

Village Signs Mr Miller again requested that a “West Langdon” sign be sited near to the junction with Archer’s Court Road. It was agreed that a price will be obtained from KHS.

West Langdon Pond Mr Miller informed the meeting that KHS have dug out the pond.

Station Road Martin Mill A resident had expressed concern about safety matters during the moving of static caravans into Hawthorn Farm. Cllr Shaw has spoken with the manager and further discussions will take place.

Newsletter A request in the newsletter for a large planter has produced the offer of both an animal feeder and an old bath. It is intended that the receptacle will be situated on East Langdon village green and be filled with colourful plants.

14. NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on 17 June 2013 in East Langdon village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....