

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
East Langdon Village Hall
16 November 2015

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr J Dyer, Cllr A Minns, Cllr B Price-Stephens (left at 9.00pm), Cllr J Watson (left at 9.00pm), The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion and 2 members of the public

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** There were no declarations of interest
2. **APOLOGIES** Apologies for absence were received from District Cllr P Watkins, District Cllr K Morris and Community Warden L Kidd.
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2015 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr B Price-Stephens

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2015 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr J Dyer

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Applause Autumn Programme FB Pocket Orchestra has been booked for Friday 12 February 2016.

DDC monitoring information for Langdon The information for Langdon has been updated and forms part of DDC's Annual Authority Monitoring Report.

Street lighting Martin Mill District Cllr Watkins has confirmed that funds were allocated before the election for the replacement of the light in Roman Road.

Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 2016 Following discussion it was agreed that Langdon would fly a flag on East Langdon village green on Commonwealth Day, 14 March 2016. It was further proposed and agreed unanimously that the sum of £60 be committed for the purchase of a 60x36ins flag and a flagpole.

Proposed: Cllr B Price-Stephens

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

Christmas Party Members were disappointed that none of the younger members of the community has offered to organise a party. The hall is available on 12 December but there are no formal arrangements in place.

20mph zoning Following the Extraordinary Meeting of 15 November 2015, Mr Heaps has advised that further speed surveys would be required for any extension of the zone.

5. **REPORTS**

County Cllr Manion reported on the further savings required of Kent County Council and the pressures on funding caused by factors such as a large increase in the number of children seeking asylum and increased demands on social services by both children and an aging population.

PCSO Skirrow reported criminal damage at Langdon Primary School during half term and a road traffic collision on Guston Road probably caused by mud on the road.

Community Warden Kidd reported one case of fly tipping and an increase in dog fouling in the area.

KALC Committee Meeting Cllr Shaw reported on the recent meeting at which there had been a presentation by the Community Activities Team who are requesting a donations from Parish councils towards the funding of their youth activity bus that goes to centres where youths need to be usefully engaged.

A newly introduced Open Forum gave an opportunity for discussion on the topic of agricultural odours as a result of which Langdon's concerns will be passed to the central KALC committee.

A new programme of training events will be published in the New Year aimed at improving the knowledge of parish councillors.

KCC Parish and Town Seminar Cllr Minns reported on the recent seminar at which KHS stated they are looking for more achievable results within the limitations of their budget. There was further information on the Parish Caretaker scheme with up to £2000 available to parishes for the purchase of essential equipment. Street lights across the county will be changed to LEDs during 2016-2019 starting with residential areas (14months) followed by main routes (15 months) and town centres (9 months). An update from KHS showed the cost of top dressing roads to be £4 per square metre as against £150 when excavation is required.

6. **HEALTH AND SAFETY** First Responders have advised that, if they are first on the scene, they will use their own equipment. The campsite will be informed if the First Responders are aware of a member of the public using the equipment. It was noted that there is a grey area when potential usage would not be recorded.
7. **COSY NOOK** Mr David Robinson, DDC Planning Delivery Manager, has reviewed the history leading to the refusal of the planning application and invited contact with the new owners to discuss options for moving to an acceptable solution.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

DDC – Mr M Dawson, DDC Chartered Planner, has responded to Langdon's observations on the lack of solar panels in DOV/15/00878, Whitfield Urban Expansion, *"In the applicants' view such panels may well serve a useful purpose but would be inconsistent with the scheme's overall design objectives. However building construction methods have continued to evolve so that energy efficiency is improved and the dwellings will be highly energy efficient."*

KCC – Mr Graham Rusling, PROW and Access Manager has requested information on matters affecting Byways Open to All Traffic in the Guston area. Cllr Shaw will arrange a site meeting with Mr Rusling to inspect the damage being caused by 4x4s with a view to restricting access for vehicles

KALC – An information update from KFRS contained a request for access to community premises during protracted incidents. It was agreed that the room at Martin Mill station would be a suitable venue in addition to East Langdon village hall.

KENT POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER – A letter from the Kent police & Crime Commissioner outlined the effects of Policing and Austerity 2016/7 onwards and contained a reminder of a related conference on 9 December.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION – Further limited consultation in the Sevenoaks area has resulted in a revised date of 19 January 2016 for the publication of the final recommendations.

CLERKS & COUNCILS DIRECT – The Newsletter has been received

9. FINANCE

Approval of payments

Chq no.

926	Mr D Meadows – grass cutting EL village green	£120
927	Kent County Council – Contribution to repair of damage and installation of 6 bollards Church Lane WL	£713
928	Post Office (Dover District Council) – Contribution towards 1 public spaces protection order sign for play Area	£5

Receipts

Bank interest	£ 1.22
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Proposed: Cllr B Price-Stephens

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

Grounds Maintenance A quotation of £1515 from Landscape Services for maintenance of the playing area in 2016/2017 was considered and accepted.

Proposed: Cllr J Dyer

Seconded: Cllr B Price-Stephens

10. PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DOV/15/01007

Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling and garage (existing dwelling and garage to be demolished)

Location: The Retreat, Old Roman Road, Martin Mill CT15 5JY

The Council has no objections but comments:

- There is concern about the size of the building and its impact on the skyline. It is suggested that the impact can be reduced by building further down the slope of the site.
- There is local concern that the existing building contains asbestos and that this must be disposed of appropriately

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman The lengthman reported on discussions with Mr Paul Hubbard to implement an effective report back system on the outcome of local highway reports. The clerk requested that the lengthman investigate the responsibility for the maintenance of the village pond following a recent flooding incident in Church Lane.

Playing Field Committee Quotations are being sought for the resurfacing of the car park.

Village Hall Committee Cllr Shaw reported that an enjoyable Quiz Evening had been held on Saturday 14 November.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Waste Collection in West Langdon Mrs Baker has written to Mandy Pile, DDC Waste Services Manager, concerning the damage that continues to be caused by large waste collection vehicles to the triangle of grass at the bottom of Church Lane and the top point of the village green. It was agreed that the Parish Council will send a further letter supporting Mrs Baker and requiring that Veolia take responsibility for any damage caused by the waste disposal vehicles to the publically funded bollards.

13. NEXT MEETING Monday 21 December 7.30pm at East Langdon.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....