

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
East Langdon Village Hall
21 December 2015

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr S Craft, Cllr J Dyer, Cllr A Minns, Cllr J Watson, The Clerk, County Cllr S Manion and 4 members of the public

1. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** Cllrs Shaw and Minns declared their interest as members of Langdon Playing Field Committee in agenda item 9, cheque no. 936 for replacement swings.
2. **APOLOGIES** Apologies for absence were received from District Cllr P Watkins, District Cllr K Morris, Cllr PB Price-Stephens (family commitments) and Community Warden L Kidd.
3. **MINUTES** The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 4 November 2015 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr S Craft

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2015 were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr J Watson

Seconded: Cllr J Dyer

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Street lighting Martin Mill Discussions continue at DDC about the replacement of the light in Roman Road. Mr Grayland has communicated his concern about the lack of lighting in the station area where a DDC owned light has been out of order for more than a month. County Cllr Manion advised that KCC are obliged to repair the light but will only do so if the defect is reported by DDC. It was agreed that a map showing defective lights will be prepared and submitted to DDC in the New Year.

Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 2016 Registration for the event has taken place and the flag and flagpole have been purchased.

Waste collection – West Langdon The bollards have been installed but there have been ongoing issues with waste collection following the change to a small vehicle. Local residents are pursuing the matter with DDC and Veolia.

Cosy Nook The owner of Cosy Nook has not responded to Mr Robinson's invitation and it was agreed that the matter will no longer be an agenda item.

Damage to BOATs Cllr Craft has been in contact with Mr Rusling. Mr Fuller has also expressed interest in Byeways Open to All Traffic and it is hoped that a site meeting can be arranged in the New Year.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service KFRS has acknowledged the offer of Langdon Parish Hall in the event of a protracted incident and further information is awaited.

5. **REPORTS**

County Cllr Manion reported that savings of a further £17m have to be made in the 2016/17 budget. The government has made significant resources available for the creation of a lorry park but more work is needed before a final decision is reached.

Community Warden Kidd reminded the community to be good neighbours and look out for the elderly and vulnerable at this time of year.

Policing & Austerity Conference Cllr Minns reported on the conference where the ability to respond to a security threat was an important issue. It will be necessary to provide training for additional armed police the cost of which is calculated to add £5 p.a. to a band D council tax bill.

A number of efficiency packages have been introduced including the issue of bodycams to officers. These have proved successful in modifying both the behaviour of people confronting officers and of the police themselves leading to fewer complaints. Officers are also being issued with tablets allowing for more rapid access to information and a more efficient use of time.

There will be Police Commissioner elections in May 2016.

Cllr Minns also reported on a meeting at DDC with the chief constable who had been unaware that PCSOs were no longer attending Parish Council meetings.

6. **HEALTH AND SAFETY** There were no matters arising.
7. **REFUGEE CRISIS** Mr Hyde reported on a meeting called by the St Margaret's Benefice to discuss practical responses to the refugee crisis whether it be humanitarian needs in Calais or support for Syrian families soon to be housed in the Dover area. Representatives from Langdon Parish Council were also present. Links have now been established with the Community Development Officer at DDC and with Leisure Fayre from whom urgently needed items can be purchased and shipped direct to L'Auberge des Migrants, a respected charity in Calais.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

DDC –

- i) Invest in Dover and St James's Development – publications outlining the opportunities and progress have been received. *Given to Cllrs Craft and Watson.*
- ii) Town and Parish Grant – a reduction of 32.3% is expected.
- iii) Licensing notifications – a new email notification system is operational but it was agreed that the parish council does not need to receive updates.

KCC – North Dover YOU DECIDE grant applications close on 15 January and the event will be held on Saturday 20 February.

KALC –

- i) Recommendations for New Year 2017 Honours List – the closing date for recommendations is 4 February 2016.
- ii) Audit arrangements for smaller authorities from 2017 – NALC has produced a Factsheet on the establishment of a Sector Led Body to procure audit for smaller authorities.
- iii) The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has issued a consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning policy Framework.
- iv) DCLG has published documents on the provisional local government finance settlement. They confirm that referendum principles will not be extended to Parish Councils in 2016 – 2017.

CPRE -

- i) Fieldwork has been received. *Given to Cllr Dyer.*
- ii) Countryside Voice has been received. *Given to Cllr Shaw.*

LORD LIEUTENANT OF KENT – An invitation has been received to the Annual Civic Service at All Saints Church Maidstone on Tuesday 15 March 2016.

KENT POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER – The Commissioner has advised that 37 additional firearms officers are required to meet the government's request for an increase of 50% giving rise to an average increase in council tax of £5 for which a formal consultation has been launched.

9. FINANCE**Approval of payments****Chq****no.**

929	Clerk's salary Oct – Dec 2015	£561.67
	Clerk's expenses Oct – Dec 2015	£ 33.77
	Purchase of Commonwealth Flag	£ 27.96
930	Post office - PAYE	£140.4
931	Post office – DDC council election charges May 2015	£ 91.69
932	Commercial Services Trading Ltd – 2 nd half year grounds maintenance	£316.87
933	Mr A Minns – purchase of flagpole	£ 26.99
	- Travel expenses Policing & Austerity Consultation Event	£ 43.20
934	St Mary's church West Langdon – grass cutting	£200
935	Mr C Shaw – newsletter printing	£ 30
936	Mr C Shaw - replacement swing seats (Playdale)	£121.22

Receipts

Bank interest £ 1.24

Proposed: Cllr S Craft
Seconded: Cllr J Dyer

Quarterly Financial Report The report was circulated and discussed. Playing Field Maintenance shows a saving of £559 resulting from a lower number of cuts than expected. £250 remains unspent in the Community Orchard budget and quotations will be sought for clearance of overgrown hedges. Cllr Shaw advised that quotations are awaited for resurfacing the carpark at the playing field and installing a gate.

10. PLANNING**PLANNING APPLICATIONS****DOV/15/01118**

Proposal: Erection of a detached single garage

Location: Lantern Cottage, The Street, Martin CT15 5JR

A decision was made between meetings under section 6 Standing Orders.

The Council has no objections but comments:

- The amended application will allow for a turning space that the Council considers important for highway safety reasons.

DOV/15/00449

Proposal: Change of use and conversion of barn to residential dwelling, extension to barn (amended description)

Location: Site at Eastside Farm, The Street, East Langdon, Dover, CT15 5JF

The Council has no objections.

Concerns were expressed that the beams which could be of architectural or historic value are uncovered at the back of the building. The front is covered with a tarpaulin but the area at the back is uncovered with the beams exposed to the elements. The Conservation Officer will be notified.

APPLICATION WITHDRAWN**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

NOTICE OF APPEAL**DOV/13/01106**

Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/X220/W/15/3138584

Proposal: Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays to generate electricity for export to the national grid together with associated landscaping, boundary fencing and infrastructure including inverters, transformers, substations, cabling, cctv security system and completion of access track from Langdon Top Road

Location: Old Engine Shed Field, Sutton Court Farm, (Land between Pineham & East Langdon

Dover District Council has received an appeal Appeal under Section 78 for the above application. The appeal will be determined by the First Secretary of State or by an Inspector appointed by him following an exchange of written correspondence and a site inspection. The deadline for written representation is 13 January 2016.

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman The lengthman reported an increase in the number of potholes in the parish. A number of signposts have been replaced.

Playing Field Committee The noticeboard has been pushed over and builders foam sprayed on a picnic bench. Cllr Watson will report the vandalism to PCSO Skirrow.

Village Hall Committee Electrical testing has been carried out and faulty emergency lights replaced.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Defibrillator training Cllr Minns reported that both Guston and St Margaret's parish councils have expressed interest in attending a training session. Cllr Minns will liaise and arrange a session at which the training will be given by Mr John Rivers.

Site at Westside The ground adjacent to 21 Westside has been cleared and a planning application for up to 15 homes is expected.

13. NEXT MEETING Monday 18 January 2016 7.30pm at East Langdon.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Date.....