



Local Government for Langton Green, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Old Groombridge

**NOTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13TH MAY 2026 AT
6.30PM FOR A 7.00PM START IN LANGTON GREEN PAVILION**

Attendance

There were 8 Parish Councillors and 4 of the Parish Council office team in attendance along with Tunbridge Wells Borough Cllr Matthew Sankey and County Cllr John Morland.

There were over 100 residents from Ashurst, Langton Green, Old Groombridge and Speldhurst.

Apologies

Apologies were received from: Cllr Dickens (family commitment), Cllr Norton (family commitment) and Cllr Littlefield (prior commitment).

Welcome

Cllr Curry opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. He explained that the Annual Parish Meeting was being held in a more relaxed and informal format this year, designed to encourage greater engagement between residents, councillors, and local community groups.

Cllr Curry welcomed the Parish Councillors, Borough and County Councillors, and thanked the many charities and community groups who attended.

Community Groups and Organisations Present.

The following organisations were represented at the meeting:

- Happy Me Dance
- Langton Green Community Sports Association
- Rob Hindmarch and Jo Eames from All Saints and St Mary's churches
- Crossways Community (Flourish Garden Project in Rusthall)
- 3H Foundation
- Speldhurst News
- Speldhurst History Society
- Langton Life
- Langton's Café
- Thrive
- Langton Green Village Society
- Speldhurst Shop & Post Office
- Langton Ladybirds
- Langton Community Lunch
- Langton Short Mat Bowels
- Kent Police
- Langton Green Village Hall
- Speldhurst Allotments

Presentation

Cllr Curry presented the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) Community Award to Cllr Rowe.

The KALC Community Award Scheme recognises individuals and groups who make a significant and positive difference within their local communities, particularly through long-term voluntary service, fundraising, and activities that enhance community life.

Cllr Rowe received the award in recognition of his significant contribution to the conversion of Speldhurst Chapel into the new Speldhurst Community Shop & Post Office, a project that has delivered lasting benefit to the community.

Council Information

Cllr Curry advised residents that an informational presentation was being displayed throughout the evening.

The presentation provided details on:

- The communities represented by Speldhurst Parish Council
- Parish Councillors
- The Parish Council office team
- The role and responsibilities of the Parish Council
- Council committees and working groups and their functions

Community Performance

Cllr Curry introduced Happy Me Dance, who opened the event with a performance. The performance was warmly received and helped set the community-focused tone for the evening.

Community Engagement

Following the performance, residents were invited to move around the room to speak with councillors, charities, and community groups. Attendees were encouraged to ask questions, share ideas, and learn more about the wide range of local initiatives taking place across the parish.

Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chair