



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 6th JULY 2015 at 7.30pm
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, SPELDHURST VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Barrington-Johnson, Mrs Horne, Mrs Hull, Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Soyke, Allen (arrived 7.40pm), Milner, Parker, Turner and Woodward

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mr C May – Clerk and Mrs M Flemington – Assistant Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were two members of the public present.

15/136 TO ENQUIRE IF ANYONE PRESENT INTENDS TO FILM, PHOTOGRAPH AND/OR RECORD THE MEETING: No-one present intended to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.

15/137 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Mrs Podbury County Councillor John Davies, Borough Councillors David Jukes and Julian Stanyer (all prior engagements)

15/138 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS: Cllr Barrington declared an interest in Agenda item 15 – request by Langton Green Village Society (LGVS) to place a Christmas tree on Council land opposite The Hare (he is a member of the LGVS committee)

15/139 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: There were none.

15/140 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **1st June 2015** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. It was **RESOLVED** that the notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **27th April 2015** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15/141 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS: Cllr Mrs Soyke reported that the Borough Council Planning Committee meeting scheduled for this week has been cancelled.

15/142 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: There were two members of the public present.

Peter Brown is a member of the West Kent Neighbourhood Watch Association Executive Committee. He reported that he had sought further clarification following the question at the Annual Parish Meeting regarding cyber-crime not being dealt with by the Police. He raised this at the Executive Committee meeting on 13th May and Chief Inspector Dave Pate advised that because of the budget reductions they cannot deal with cyber-crime from the start but that Action Fraud acts as a screen and does pass on to the Police cases that they consider merit Police involvement.

Katrina Lyle is a Governor of Langton Green Primary School. She apologised on behalf of the school for the chaos in the car park on sports day on Wednesday 1st July and it was agreed that measures need to be in place when the school holds future events that will involve parking for long periods. She enquired about the progress with the campaign for 20mph outside the school and offered to help push this forward. The Clerk said that this was now a priority for the Council and the school would be notified if help was required. She reported that there had been some incidents crossing the Speldhurst Road from the Twitten and asked if it was possible for a crossing to be installed. The Clerk would investigate the possibility a crossing when discussing the 20mph zones but said that the school had a responsibility to find and employ a crossing person. She advised that the new school entrance will be in use from 7th July.

15/143 FINANCE COMMITTEE – Report by Cllr Mrs Soyke

- a) A Committee meeting was held on 22nd June and the minutes have been circulated.
- b) There had been no budget virements since that meeting
- c) There had been no interim payments since that meeting
- d) One payment had been authorised under delegated authority; £51.80 for engraving the school awards.
- e) It was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the revised Terms of Reference.
- f) After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to ask Victim Support for information on whether they have supported residents in the Parish in the last year before considering the grant application.
- g) It was **RESOLVED** to purchase signs for the four defibrillators at a cost of £39 each.
- h) It was **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Barrington-Johnson as a signatory for the Council to replace Cllr Owen who has resigned.

15/144 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – Invoices verified by Cllr Mrs Horne

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque/Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
-------------------	-------------------	--------------------	---------------------------

Notification of additional payments in June

Archer Signs and Panels Ltd	MT566	99.90	LGRG sign – no coaches
KCC (KCS)	DD	293.20	Photocopier

Payment made by ALTO pre-paid card

Sainsbury's	AO63	10.15	*Petrol
The Hare	AO64	44.95	Refreshments
Pitchcare Sales	AO65	69.18	*Weed killer
Unity Trust Bank	AO66	1.00	Bank charge
Quick Fix UK Ltd	AO67	51.80	*School awards

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

BT PLC	DD	33.00	Mobile
Langton Green Charitable Trust	MT567	48.00	Meeting room PPWG
KALC	MT568	25.00	New Cllr induction course
KALC	MT569	72.00	Clerks' Conference
Chiddingstone Parish Council	MT570	98.15	HWCAAG contribution
Safeplay Playground Maintenance	MT571	991.85	Repair to playground equipment
Langton Life	MT572	250.00	August Langton Life Page
Premiere Digital	MT573	1,254.00	PPWG leaflets and boards
Premiere Digital	MT574	60.00	PPWG Open Day boards
M R Lawrence	MT575	230.00	Mowing
Ashurst McDermott Hall Sports	MT576	290.00	Raft Race Insurance

Viking Direct	MT577	143.89	Stationery
Donaldson West	MT578	43.00	Land Registry fees
Tate Fencing Ltd	MT579	230.40	Oak finger posts
Miss K Lawrence	MT580	15.00	Cleaner
Broker Network Ltd	MT582	2,191.11	Insurance Aug 2015-16
Mr L Cooper	MT583	404.00	Groundsman's duties
Mr L Cooper	MT584	234.00	Footpath clearance
Mr L Cooper	MT585	21.65	Expenses re maintenance
C May	MT586	1,467.20	Salary
C May	MT587	76.27	Expenses
M Flemington	MT588	700.48	Salary
M Flemington	MT589	35.10	Expenses
HMRC	MT590	767.74	Tax & NI
EDF Energy	DD	196.37	Pavilion electricity
PCC of Speldhurst, Ash & Groom	MT591	1,600.00	Churchyard maintenance
Speldhurst News	173	10.00	Broadsheet subscription
M R Lawrence	MT592	275.00	Mowing
RIP Cleaning Services	MT593	172.80	Canine refuse collection

Total payments **£11,936.01**

*Payment made under the Clerk's delegated authority

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices listed above, sign the cheques and authorise the BACS in Unity Trust Bank

15/145 HIGHWAYS: A Committee meeting was held on 15th June and the minutes have been circulated.

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the revised Terms of Reference.
- b) It was **RESOLVED** to spend up to £7,000 on the installation of SIDs throughout the Parish.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk progress the installation of 20mph zones near the schools as a matter of priority and advise the Council of the costs involved as soon as practicable. The Clerk was asked to enquire if a 20mph zone warranted particular Police attention.

15/146 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES: The Clerk reported that the two vacancies have been advertised for the required period and there has been no call for an election. It was **RESOLVED** to advertise the vacancies for co-option and a small working group be established, comprising of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr Mrs Jeffreys to interview candidates and make a recommendation to Council.

15/147 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG):

- a) The Clerk reported that the Premier League & the Football Association Facilities Fund has granted £384,000 to the Langton Green Community Sports Association towards a new pavilion and that the Sports Club will be submitting a new planning application.
- b) The Clerk reported that work on the remaining footpath between the car park and Winstone Scott Avenue will start shortly and probably before the end of term.

15/148 TRANSFER OF LAND FROM TWBC: It was **RESOLVED** to authorise Cllr Barrington-Johnson to sign the transfer document for the remaining parcel of land at Langton Green.

15/149 LOVE WHERE WE LIVE AWARDS: It was **RESOLVED** to endorse the nomination made by Cllr Jukes and to nominate another person for the TWBC Love Where We Live Awards 2015.

15/150 LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY: It was **RESOLVED** to grant permission to Langton Green Village Society to place a Christmas tree on Council land at The Green opposite The Hare.

15/151 NEWSLETTER: The draft newsletter had been prepared and circulated by the Clerk and this was approved by Councillors for printing and distribution by Councillors and volunteers.

15/152 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Barrington-Johnson reported on his recent visits to Speldhurst and Langton Green Primary Schools. The notes of these meetings have been circulated. He reported that he attended the Parish Chairmen's meeting where TWBC urged Parish Councils to monitor themselves properly.

15/153 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) **Governance** – no meeting had been held since the last Full Council.
- b) **Planning** – a meeting was held on 8th June and the minutes have been circulated. Planning training is being held at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council on 23rd July. Cllr Mrs Horne reported that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council have granted planning permission for B1 office use on the old dairy buildings in Barden Road in spite of the Parish Council Planning Committee recommending refusal in favour of residential.
- c) **Amenities** – a meeting was held on 29th June and the minutes have been circulated.
 - i. It was **RESOLVED** to reimburse the Groundsman approx. £30 to upgrade his public liability insurance to enable him to carry out council business.
 - ii. It was **RESOLVED** to apply fertiliser and herbicide on Langton Green Recreation Ground at a cost of £450.
 - iii. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a sign for the barrier on the Speldhurst allotments footpath at a cost of approx. £54.
- d) **Air Traffic** – no meeting had been held since the last Full Council. Cllr Barrington-Johnson reported that the Davies Commission report voted unanimously for Heathrow, however, the report stated that Gatwick is still considered to be a credible option. He said that a new airport in the future was the best option.
- e) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner reported that routine clearance of seasonal vegetation by KCC has been reduced almost to nothing. He reported that he has cleared the vandalised tree in Shadwell Woods, carried out footpath improvement work at Bullingstone Woods/Danemore Park, is doing clearance and tidying work in Pocket Park and that Speldhurst is trying to organise a group of volunteers to carry out some tasks.
- f) **Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC)** – there was nothing to report.
- g) **Parish Plan Working Group** – Cllr Turner reported that the Langton Green Open Day was held on 20th June. A working group meeting was held on 1st July and the minutes have been circulated. The next meeting is on 15th July. The Clerk reported that the Big Lottery Fund is to award a conditional grant of £5,950 towards the questionnaire analysis.
- h) **Environment Working Group** – no meeting had been held since the last Full Council. The next meeting is deferred from July until the autumn.
- i) **First World War Working Group** – there was nothing to report.
- j) **Security** – there was nothing to report.

15/154 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 1ST JUNE 2015: There were none.

15/155 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

1. Email dated 1st June from the Firework Company regarding their services to Councils
2. A21 Pembury to Tonbridge Dualling Scheme update dated 2nd June from Highways England and Balfour Beatty on work undertaken in May and work to be carried out in June including details of night closures
3. Letter addressed to Cllr Mrs Jeffreys at home from Citizens Advice Bureaux with details of their advice bus and skype service
4. Card from Sally Anne Gathern to say thank you for her KALC Community award given to her at the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April
5. Email dated 22nd June from ABSA giving advance notice of some form of official opening for the new pavilion during September – date and details to be confirmed
6. Email dated 23rd June from KCC advising that following the recent consultation the Libraries, Registration and Archives service will be moved to a trust
7. Sussex Community Rail Partnership Summer Newsletter June 2015

8. ACRK Oast to Coast Magazine Summer 2015
9. Copy of email dated 23rd June from K & J Pallas to Julia Soyke regarding a Contingent Destruction Order relating to a dog in Ashurst
10. KCC Inside Track Newsletter dated 24th June
11. Email dated 25th June from the PCC of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst thanking SPC for the grant for churchyard maintenance for Speldhurst and Groombridge
12. Letter dated June 2015 from TV Licensing requesting that we check we do not need a TV licence for the Office!
13. Notification of the KALC – Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and SECAMB events on 22nd July at Whitfield, Dover and 23rd September at Staplehurst
14. Notification from KCC Highways of temporary road closure and diversion at Ashurst railway bridge for up to 3 nights between 22.00hrs and 05.30hrs from 8th July

15/156 DIARY DATES:

Monday 6th July – Full Council meeting – Speldhurst Village Hall, Committee Room

Tuesday 7th July – Planning meeting - Office

Wednesday 15th July – Police Contact Point – St Mary’s Lane, Speldhurst – **12noon – 1pm**

Wednesday 15th July – Parish Plan Working Group meeting – LGVH – **7pm**

Saturday 18th July – Parish Plan Working Group meeting – LGVH – **9am**

Wednesday 29th July – Police Contact Point – St Mary’s Lane, Speldhurst – **12noon – 1pm**

Monday 3rd August – Full Council meeting – Speldhurst Village Hall, Committee Room

15/157 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

Cllr Milner reported that KCC have re-lined the white lines in Barden Road.

Cllr Mrs Soyke reported that she has replied to the letter item 9 listed in correspondence, advising that she has no authority to monitor the use of a public footpath.

Cllr Woodward reported that some residents do not appear to be aware that they have to subscribe to super-fast broadband.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9.07pm

Chairman

