



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

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 2nd OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.30PM IN THE PALMER ROOM, LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Milner (Chairman), Mrs Lyle, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Price, Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Soyke, Kerby, Parker, Allen, Mercieca and Turner (7.35pm)

OFFICER PRESENT: Mr C May – Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillors James McInroy, and Borough Councillor David Jukes

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There was one member of the public present.

17/195 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.

17/196 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies received from Cllr Barrington-Johnson (holiday), Mrs K Harman, Assistant Clerk (illness) and Borough Cllr J Stanyer (previous engagement)

17/197 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS: There were none

17/198 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: There were none

17/199 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 4th September 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

17/200 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

- KCC Cllr McInroy reported on correspondence he had received from Greg Clark MP regarding Broom Lane. KCC Highways said that they would improve the signage warning about the low bridge but that statistics did not justify a change in the speed limit.
- TWBC Cllr Jukes said he had been in correspondence with the Secretary of State regarding the number of additional houses imposed on the Borough. He was particularly concerned with the increase and parties being able to convert offices to houses without planning permission.
- TWBC Cllr Mrs Soyke said there was a lot of misinformation circulating regarding the new proposed Civic Centre. She added that she was back on the approved list to stand for the Conservative Party next year.
- TWBC Cllr Mrs Podbury agreed with Cllr Mrs Soyke regarding the Civic Centre.

17/201 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: There was one member of the public present to observe the meeting.

17/202 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Cllr Mrs Lyle reported the following:-

- a) There has been no Finance Committee meeting since the last Full Council.
- b) Virements – there were no virements
- c) Interim payments – the following additional payments were made in September: On MasterCard £6 monthly charge; *£13.33 and *£49.19 on paint and materials; *£36.00 for lettering for the sign post and *£59.94 new key safe. From the current account £480.00 External Audit; £192.00 Playground inspection; £178.58 Additional insurance premium; £58.58 to MasterCard; £87.00 Waste disposal and £31.95 Bank charges
- d) Payments made under delegated authority are starred above.
- e) It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the purchase of a Stihl pole pruner-kombi tool at a cost of £330.00

17/203 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: Invoices verified by Cllr Mercieca

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

Payee Name	Reference	Amount	Detail
South East Water	DD	220.03	Water bill - pavilion
BT PLC	DD	30.00	Mobile
Speldhurst Village Hall	MT1130	15.90	Room Hire
LGCT	MT1131	213.90	Office electricity
M Flemington	MT1132	45.00	Salary
LGCT	MT1133	24.00	Meeting Room
Archer Signs & Panels	MT1134	483.25	Various signs
Knockout Print	MT1135	180.00	Open Meeting Posters
NEST Pension Scheme	MT1136	25.96	September pensions
Mr L Cooper	MT1137	28.26	Expenses
Kate Harman	MT1138	47.25	Expenses
C May	MT1139	111.02	Expenses
LGCT	MT1144	50.00	Office Lease
Ashurst McD Hall Trust	MT1145	24.00	Room Hire
Ranger Electrical	MT1146	410.40	Defibrillator installation
Ranger Electrical	MT1147	135.00	Outside plug
RIP Cleaning Services	MT1148	172.80	Canine refuse
NEST Pension Scheme	MT1140	25.96	October pensions
Mr L Cooper	MT1141	640.70	Salary
Kate Harman	MT1142	605.60	Salary
C May	MT1143	1,807.47	Salary
Total:		£5,296.50	

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices listed above, authorise the electronic payments and sign the cheques drawn on Unity Trust Bank.

17/204 HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE: Cllr Milner reported the following:-

- A meeting will be held on 16th October.
- Speedwatch - a session was carried out on Thursday 28th September with some success. Cllrs attending were Milner, Mercieca and Allen. The Clerk mentioned he had heard that in future the power to fine may be passed down to such sessions.
- SID – the new SID is in operation again.
- Cllr Milner will cut back the vegetation at the Speldhurst gateway.

- The Clerk reported that the 20mph zone for Speldhurst has been approved and will be installed by KCC. Cllr Mrs Podbury asked if the 20mph operations for both villages will be installed at the same time. The Clerk did not know and was awaiting further information.

17/205 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG): Cllr Mrs Lyle reported the following:-

- a) The Amenities Committee had been sympathetic to the idea of a having a company contracted to meet the maintenance obligations for the new pavilion and further work was being done to see if another quote could be obtained.
- b) She said income for the month was £1622 v expenditure of £222.
- c) Some licence renewal costs were to be expected later in the year
- d) At a Trustee meeting the issue of a 3G pitch was discussed. She said that she would prefer to have a senior Councillor to assist her in any further discussions on this issue. Cllrs Barrington-Johnson and Mrs Jeffreys were proposed and it was suggested that detailed notes were taken.

17/206 PARISH PLAN: A meeting had been held and Cllr Barrington-Johnson and Cllr Milner had reviewed the outstanding issues. A full report will be made at the November meeting.

17/207 DCLG CONSULTATION – Planning for the right homes in the right places: It was agreed to delegate this document to the Planning Committee who will report back at the November Full Council meeting. Cllr Jukes said that the Planning Officer had made a presentation on this subject to Parish Chairmen at the meeting on 5th September and asked if he could be copied in on our response.

17/208 CO-OPTION: It was agreed to form a working party to interview the candidates which would be formed of Cllrs Barrington-Johnson, Milner and Mrs Jeffreys with Mrs Lyle in reserve.

17/209 COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2018: It was agreed to use the dates proposed for Full Council and Finance Committee next year

17/210 COMMITTEE CHANGES: It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Kerby and Mrs Soyke would join the Planning Committee.

17/211 OPEN MEETING: The Open Meeting is at Speldhurst Village Hall on Monday 9th October and Councillors were asked to be at the hall from 7pm to help prepare the seating, to help with refreshments and be ready to greet members of the public.

17/212 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman had submitted a written report which was noted.

17/213 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Governance** – Cllr Milner said that he had completed the check in September and the next meeting will be held on 30th October.
 - It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the new CCTV Policy.
- b) **Planning** – Cllr Mrs Price reported that a committee meeting had been held on 25th September and a copy had been distributed. She reported the following:
 - An application to build 5 new homes on land east of Wallers in Speldhurst - the committee had objected to the application for a number of reasons but predominantly because it was greenbelt.
 - The committee also objected to the application from Groombridge Place which was retrospectively asking for a change of use of land for parking and a pay kiosk. The committee sought a clear Management Plan for the events. Cllr Kerby said that the residents were confused because Groombridge Place was still holding events without planning permission.
- c) **Amenities** – Cllr Mrs Podbury said that a meeting had been held on 18th September and the minutes had been circulated. The report on the Annual Inspection of the play area had been received and repairs were necessary on the wet pour flooring. Costs would be discussed at the Finance Meeting.

- d) **Air Traffic** – There was nothing to report
- e) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner said that he had been some correspondence from residents regarding overhanging hedges impeding footpaths. He also mentioned the graffiti and a request for a footpath to be diverted in Shadwell Woods which had been forwarded to the owner and KCC..
- f) **KALC** – the meeting had been deferred
- g) **Environment Workshop** – there was nothing to report. Cllr Mrs Price would co-ordinate with the Clerk and organise a meeting.

17/214 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 4th September 2017 – Cllr Mrs Jeffreys mentioned that the issue of duckweed in The Boundary was outstanding.

17/215 CLERK'S REPORT:

- KALC will be holding an Audit Event next April ahead of the end of year reporting. The west Kent event will be held here in the LGVH on April 18th. This was particularly pertinent to members of the Governance Committee and further details will be sent.
- LGVH is holding its 10 year anniversary celebration on 17th November. He said that all Councillors should have been contacted direct and asked that they respond.
- New PCSO Simon Fuller came and visited the office. He has 14 years' experience and has offered to join speedwatch when available.
- A FOI request has been received. It is regarding the decision to contribute £250 towards the article about local businesses in the parish: background and reasons including any request, demand, prior arrangement etc; and wants copies of any letters or documentation, with minutes; who commissioned the article etc.
- EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes in to effect on May 25th 2018
- A copy of TWBC Civic Development Project that was presented to the Parish Chairmen at the meeting on 5th September and a copy is available in the office.
- A letter from an Oil Club has been received saying that a number of members in our parish have formed a local heating oil club using www.oil-club.co.uk. They thought we might be interested in informing our local community about this so they could benefit from reducing their heating oil bills. This will be discussed at the Finance Committee.
- PLANNING: Paperless in October for a trial period of one month along with Frittenden and Pembury
- PLANNING: Training – meeting to be held on Wednesday 8th November 7pm-8pm – **open to all members**
- The Groundsman is taking extensive defibrillator and first aid training. We will investigate if he can be trained to take defibrillator training.
- The second part of the precept has been received in our account

17/216 DIARY DATES:

Monday 9th October – Open Meeting Speldhurst Village Hall 7.30pm for 8pm start

Wednesday 11th – Meeting with Langton Green Primary School Headmaster 11am

Wednesday 11th - Planning Committee Office 7.30pm

Thursday 12th – Finance Conference (Clerks attending) Ditton Village Hall 9-4

Monday 16th – Highways Committee Office 7.30pm

Friday 20th – KCC Highways Seminar, Hadlow Manor Hotel, Tonbridge (Clerk attending)

Monday 23rd – Finance Committee Office 7.30pm

Monday 30th – Governance Meeting Office 10.30am

17/217 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

- Cllr Mrs Lyle said the pavilion was now registered for non-domestic rates with the valuation office

- Cllr McInroy said Amey, KCC Highways contractor, had a workforce of volunteers for charity work. He would send the details to the Clerk

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9pm.

Chairman