



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018 AT 7.30PM
IN ASHURST VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Barrington-Johnson (Chairman), Mrs Soyke, Mrs Price, Mercieca, Parker, Milner, Mrs Jeffreys and Allen (8.00pm)

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mr C May - Clerk, Mrs K Harman - Assistant Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: There were no County or Borough Councillors in attendance.

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

18/072 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.

18/073 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Lyle, Mrs Woodliffe, Mrs Podbury and Ellery (all holidays)

18/074 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS: The Chairman declared an interest in item 8g) – LGVS grant request.

18/075 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: Cllr Mercieca said that he had been contacted by Mr Stuart Smith regarding meeting minutes which did not appear to be on the website. The Clerk said that he would look into the matter.

18/076 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on **5th March 2018** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

18/077 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: Cllr Mrs Soyke said that she was attending a meeting at TWBC the following day regarding the NPPF and would report back to Councillors. She said that many people are upset about the permitted development statistics. Commercial properties are being changed to residential because in the short term it is more viable however it reduces the business rates received by the government. She noted the works of TW Together Movement.

18/078 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: Mr Derek Robinson said that he was attending in order to answer any questions Councillors had regarding the grant request for Speldhurst's 'There But Not There' campaign (item 8F).

18/079 FINANCE COMMITTEE: In the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk reported the following:

- a) There had been a meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday 19th March 2018, the minutes of which had been circulated.
- b) Virements – there were none.
- c) Interim payments since the last meeting – From the current account: £447.72 Telephone and Broadband; £2,976 Solar patrol heads; £1,000 additional grant to St Mary’s re churchyard maintenance. From MasterCard: £15.30* cleaning material – pavilion; £36.98* trolley – pavilion.
- d) Payments made under delegated authority are starred above.
- e) **RESOLVED** to use Barge Group to install a new path behind the cricket net for £1,198, as recommended by the Amenities Committee.
- f) A grant request had been received to contribute towards the cost of purchasing silhouettes of soldiers to commemorate the end of WW1 in St Mary’s Church, Speldhurst. The figures are part of the national movement “There, But Not There”. After much discussion it was agreed by a majority to grant £1,750 towards the event.
- g) **RESOLVED** to increase the contribution to £600 towards the LGVS Fete insurance

18/080 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: Invoices verified by Cllr Allen.

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

Payee Name	Reference	Amount	Detail
ACRK	SO	50.00	Annual Subscription
BT PLC	DD	30.00	Mobile
Paul Cheater	MT1283	112.00	Pavilion cleaning
RIP Cleaning Services	MT1270	216.00	Canine Refuse
Langton Green Charitable Trust	MT1268	50.00	Officer Under lease
KCC (KCS)	MT1269	1,020.74	KCC Highways – SID pole & installation
Knockout Print	MT1274	180.00	APM Posters
Knockout Print	MT1275	90.00	Casual Vacancy posters
CWCS	MT1273	11.99	Hosting
Sunstone	MT1271	1,179.00	CCTV new cameras
M R Lawrence	MT1272	450.00	Trees
C May	MT1281	70.43	Expenses
Kate Harman	MT1280	21.60	Expenses
Mr L Cooper	MT1282	37.35	Expenses
KCC	300242	4,955.51	20mph Speldhurst
Tate Fencing Ltd	MT1284	32.46	Posts etc
Simon Goacher	MT1285	354.95	Salary Admin
N.E.S.T. Pension Scheme	MT1276	65.50	Pension Contributions
KCC (KCS)	DD	103.92	Rock salt
EDF Energy	DD	987.25	Electricity
Kate Harman	MT1278	651.18	Salary
C May	MT1279	1,807.47	Salary
Mr L Cooper	MT1277	630.03	Salary
	Total:	£13,107.38	

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices listed above, authorise the electronic payments and sign the cheques drawn on Unity Trust Bank including, if agreed under item 9a), a payment to KCC Highways towards the 20mph speed reduction in Speldhurst.

18/081 HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE: In the absence of a Chairman, the Clerk confirmed that there had not been a meeting of the Highways Committee since the last Full Council meeting.

- a) 20mph in Speldhurst Village – the final plans had been circulated and it was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with the installation of the 20mph zone in Speldhurst, as detailed on the final design and authorise the payment of £4,955.51. The Clerk was asked to point out to Highways that the signage on the plans on the entrance from the east on Speldhurst Hill was inconsistent and needed correction.
- b) TRO application for 60mph to 40mph on Speldhurst Road – the Clerk advised that the Traffic Regulation Order consultation started on 30th March and ends on 30th April 2018. If there are no objections then an ‘Has Made Order’ will be advertised then sealed. This process normally takes up to six weeks after the given date.

18/082 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG):

- a) In the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk reported that:
- b) the draft agreement between SPC and SPC (Pavilion) Ltd had been sent to Donaldson West who had come back saying they are unable to confirm its legality and advising that further advice is obtained. Cllr Barrington-Johnson suggested KALC be contacted in the first instance which was agreed.
- c) The initial investigations into the drainage of the football pitches was due to take place on Wednesday 11th April. The Clerk had been advised that if the excess water from the pitches could be allowed to drain into a farmer’s field, it would make the whole process much cheaper. It was agreed that the Clerk would clarify this information. The Clerk has been given assurances that the holes created by the investigative work will not be left open overnight.

18/083: VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL: The Clerk advised that the Notice advertising the vacancy will be up for a further two weeks. It was **RESOLVED** to use the same interview panel as for recent interviews: Cllrs Barrington-Johnson, Milner and Mrs Jeffreys. The new Councillor should be in place by the May meeting.

18/084 PARISH PLAN: The Chairman said that there was a commitment to produce a household security leaflet. Peter Brown, as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Langton Green, had compiled a leaflet in liaison with the Police. The leaflet will have both the SPC and Neighbourhood Watch logos. He asked Councillors for their comments and some suggestions were put forward which were discussed and agreed. The Clerk will contact Mr Brown regarding the amendments which will need to be agreed by NhW. It was suggested that this could be delivered with the summer newsletter.

18/085 LANGTON GREEN ALLOTMENTS: The Chairman said that he had emailed Mr Bodle again stating that as Mr Bodle’s suggested deadline of 31st March 2018 has passed, he is assuming that he is happy for the existing Allotment Association to continue until a further date is agreed and that he will be advising the Allotment Association to this end. He is still trying to arrange a follow-up meeting with Mr Bodle to discuss the matter further. Cllr Mrs Soyke suggested sending a copy of Cllr Barrington-Johnson’s email to the current Allotments Association stating that SPC would support them however in the meantime it is important they continue to keep up to date with their rent.

18/086 ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Mrs Price said that the Environment Working Group are holding a parish walk on Sunday 29th April at 2.30pm, meeting at the carpark at the Village Hall in Speldhurst and finishing at the George and Dragon pub. The walk will be of approximately 3 miles and will be in Shadwell and Sprouds Wood. She invited Councillors to attend and to try and encourage residents to attend also by possibly encouraging a family to join them. Cllr Mrs Price will send a flyer to the Clerk for printing and he will advertise it on the website.

18/087 PLANNING: Cllr Mrs Price had produced a summary of the Government’s consultation on National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and developer contributions which had previously been circulated. Cllr Mrs Price suggested that completion of the consultation be delegated to the Planning Committee which was agreed. She asked Councillors to let her know if they have any comments they would like raised in SPC’s response. Cllr Barrington-Johnson thanked Cllr Mrs Price for the summary document she had produced. Cllr Mrs Price then

went on to provide Councillors with a synopsis and answered questions on matters such as developers' contributions. The Chairman asked Councillors to email Cllr Mrs Price with any comments they would like made copying the Clerk.

18/088 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: The Clerk asked Councillors to be at Speldhurst Village Hall by 7.15pm and said that he would organise the refreshments and glasses and obtain advice regarding projecting a PowerPoint presentation. The Chairman confirmed that Cllr Milner would be Chairing the meeting in his absence.

18/089 THE BATTLE'S OVER – A NATION'S TRIBUTE: No Councillors had any feedback regarding village events to take part in this commemoration of the end of WW1. The Clerk suggested a Parish event, rather than individual village ones and a working party was organised to discuss ideas to comprise of Cllrs Barrington-Johnson, Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Soyke and Allen. Cllr Ellery would be asked if he would represent Speldhurst. Cllr Barrington-Johnson said that he understood initial enthusiasm from LGVS had waned and he would find out why and if the LGVS still intended to commemorate the event.

18/090 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: There was nothing further to report

18/091 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) **Governance** – Cllr Milner said that there had been a meeting of the Governance Committee on 26th March 2018, the minutes of which had been circulated. Several of SPC's policies had been reviewed and the amended documents had been distributed to Councillors ahead of the meeting for approval. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the policies, Standing Orders and Terms of Reference with a further two amendments suggested by Cllr Mrs Soyke (a closing bracket needed to be added to Item 3 on the grants template and to add 'Internal Audit' to the top of that document).
- b) **Planning** – Cllr Mrs Price said that there had been a meeting of the Planning Committee on 4th April 2018 which had involved consideration of an application from Speldhurst Primary School regarding an expansion which Councillors supported. She also noted that an appeal had come in for the development in Wallers.
- c) **Amenities** – In the absence of Cllr Mrs Podbury, the Clerk said that there had been a meeting of the Amenities Committee on 27th March 2018, the minutes having been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to agree the changes to the Terms of Reference.
- d) **Air Traffic** – Cllr Barrington-Johnson said that HWCAAG had been quiet. There was lots of discussion regarding a night flight trial in 2019. There was concern regarding the lack of progress or action by the Noise Management Board and this may cause groups to withdraw rather than support the group. He is attending a HWCAAG meeting on 2nd May and will report back.
- e) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner said that he had nothing to report.
- f) **KALC** – The Chairman said he had nothing to report.
- g) **Environment Workshop** – Cllr Mrs Price said that the Working Group had a meeting planned for 10th April 2018. She said that she had held a successful meeting with the Clerk when they had considered some of the Environmental Audit – they would look at the remainder of the document in phases which would be passed on to Full Council. She went on to say that the format for the website was taking shape however noted that there was no content on the ecology of the Parish and enquired if any Councillors knew anyone who may be able to help in this area.
- h) **Website Working Group** – The Clerk said that the initial six companies had been reduced to three and that the working group would meet again once Cllr Mrs Lyle returned from holiday.

18/091 – CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk noted that KCC Highways have plans to resurface the A264 Langton Road from the Hare to Farnham Lane once funding is confirmed.

18/092 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 5th MARCH 2018 – there were none.

18/093 DIARY DATES:

APRIL 2018

Monday 9th – Full Council Meeting in Ashurst Village Hall

Wednesday 11th – TWBC paperless planning training TWBC (Clerks) 10am

Thursday 12th – TWBC GDPR training 2pm (Clerk)

Monday 16th – Meeting with Speldhurst Primary School Head Teacher Stephanie Haywood (NBJ and CM) 1.30pm.

Wednesday 18th – KALC Encryption training, Ditton 9am

Thursday 19th – Co-option period ends

Monday 23rd – APM Speldhurst Hall 7pm

Thursday 26th – Internal Auditor 9am

Sunday 29th – Parish Walk 2.30pm

May 2018

Monday 2nd – HWCAAG meeting

Monday 14th – Annual Statutory Meeting of Full Council in Palmer Room, LGVH.

18/094 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

- Cllr Mrs Price enquired about the installation of solar panels on the LGVH and hoped the matter would be considered at some point. Cllr Mercieca said that the financial viability would need to be investigated thoroughly.
- The Chairman said that the next Parish Chairmen’s meeting will be hosted by David Jukes and a date has been set for 12th June 2018. He is unable to attend, and Cllr Milner agreed to attend in his place.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Chairman