



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER 2013 at 7.30pm
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, SPELDHURST VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Jeffreys (Chairman), Mrs Horne, Mrs Hull, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Soyke (arrived 7.40pm), Hemming, Langridge, Milner, Owen, Parker, Turner and Woodward

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: County Cllr J Davies and Mrs M Buckley (Speldhurst Parish Council representative on Langton Green Charitable Trust)

13/163 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Pendleton (prior engagement), Borough Cllrs D Jukes and J Stanyer

13/164 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER INTERESTS: There were none.

13/165 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: Cllrs Mrs Hull, Mrs Podbury and Milner on Gatwick.

13/166 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **5th August 2013** were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13/167 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS: County Cllr Davies reported that resurfacing of the A264 Langton Road, Langton Green is commencing on 11th September. He has received a request regarding the installation of an ISS in Langton Green. He said that he does not have funding for this and would be guided by the Parish Council. He reported that the current proposal for the street lights along the A264 is for them to be switched off permanently and that Rusthall Parish Council are making representations that they should not be switched off until midnight and be switched back on at 5.30 am. There was a general agreement that Rusthall Parish Council's proposal was supported by Speldhurst Parish Council and when the SPC had agreed with the KCC proposal that street lighting should be reduced it was on this basis. This will be discussed further at the coming Highways meeting.

13/168 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: Mrs Marianne Buckley the Speldhurst Parish Council representative on Langton Green Charitable Trust reported on Langton Green Village Hall matters; booking hours have been steadily increasing every month since the new extension was completed; a baby changing unit has been installed in the ladies toilets, a replacement chiller cabinet and six new tables have been purchased; the main hall and kitchen will be re-decorated; consideration is being given to improvements to the acoustics in the new Palmer Room and a grant request maybe forthcoming; there will be a farewell drinks party for Ron Ellis at the end of October; a hall and bookings manager is to be appointed to take over from Ron on his retirement and the AGM will be held on Thursday 3rd October at 8pm in LGVH.

13/169 FINANCE COMMITTEE – Report by Cllr Hemming

- i) Cllr Hemming reported that there has not been a meeting since the last Full Council meeting and that the next meeting will be held on 16th September
- ii) Cllr Hemming reported on one budget virement. It was **RESOLVED** that £600 is transferred from contingency to Ashurst and Blackham Sports Association for part of the grant awarded to them.
- iii) The Clerk reported on the banking arrangements for the new account with HSBC. It was **RESOLVED** that; any two of the five authorised signatories will sign cheques; any Council items held for safekeeping by the Bank be delivered against the written instruction of two authorised signatories; the Clerk is empowered to act on behalf of the Council in any other administrative transaction with the Bank, including electronic and telephone banking services; any debt incurred to the Bank is repayable on demand; the Clerk is authorised to supply the Bank with lists of persons authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Council; the account will be governed and subject to the Business Banking Terms and Conditions and that these resolutions remain in force until changed by a resolution of the Council. It was **RESOLVED** that the HSBC Mandate for Local Authority be signed by Cllr Mrs Jeffreys and the Clerk, subject to Clause 3. d) being clarified as ‘read only’ and not conferring any active powers on the Clerk. The five signatories for this account will be Cllrs Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Soyke, Milner, Hemming and Parker.

13/170 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – Invoices verified by Cllr Mrs Hull

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque/Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
<u>Notification of additional payments in August</u>			
Unity Trust Bank	AO16	1.00	Bank charges
Avangate Bitdefender	AO15	79.99	Computer security
Ashford Security	MT168	252.00	Annual CCTV maintenance
Total		£332.99	

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

GACC	118	36.00	Seminar costs
Alan D Ashby	119	125.00	Stone wall repairs
BT PLC	DD	18.00	Mobile
TWBC	DD	54.00	Non-domestic rates
Langton Green Charitable Trust	MT169	11.25	Meeting Room hire
Treework	MT170	2,112.00	Tree work at Roopers
Ashurst McDermott Hall Trust	MT171	2,600.00	Grant to A&BSA
Prestige Web Marketing	MT172	60.00	Website maintenance
M R Lawrence	MT173	220.00	Mowing & strimming
Mr L Cooper	MT174	250.00	Groundsman's duties
Mr L Cooper	MT175	31.65	Maintenance expenses
Miss K Lawrence	MT176	15.00	Cleaner
C May	MT177	1,406.41	Salary
M Flemington	MT178	651.81	Salary
C May	MT179	25.88	Expenses
M Flemington	MT180	34.30	Expenses
HMRC	MT181	731.39	NI & Tax
RIP Cleaning Services	MT182	216.00	Canine refuse
Total payments		£8,598.69	

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

13/171 HIGHWAYS: Cllr Mrs Podbury reported that the next meeting will be held on 5th September. She reported that the final decision on the modifications to the Barden Road barrier scheme will be made and if approved KCC will be given the go-ahead to install.

13/172 OCTOBER OPEN MEETING: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys reported that the clerk is trying to arrange for an officer of TWBC to speak at the start of the meeting on the 'Community Right to Buy'. Other topics for discussion will include some or all of the following; Parish Plan; Langton Green Primary School expansion and car park proposals (possibly including a talk by a Governor); LGRG pavilion; Broadband; work on the War Memorials; the precept; road safety and speed watch and Ward Walks reports if available. **Cllr Langridge was asked to design and put the posters up two weeks prior to the meeting and the Assistant Clerk will purchase the refreshments.**

13/173 LANGTON GREEN CHARITABLE TRUST: The Clerk advised that Mrs Marianne Buckley is willing to stand for re-nomination as the Parish Council's representative for another year. Mrs Buckley left the room. It was **RESOLVED** that Mrs Marianne Buckley be appointed as the representative. Mrs Buckley re-joined the meeting and was informed of the decision.

13/174 POLICE CONTACT POINTS: Cllr Hemming reported that he had attended the two recent sessions at Speldhurst Village Hall car park, that it is not a good location and that it would be preferable to move around the area session by session and this was agreed by Council. **The clerk was requested to send this feedback to the Police.** It was also suggested that a Police representative be invited to attend the Autumn Open Meeting on 14th October.

13/175 RURAL FAIR SHARE CAMPAIGN: It was **RESOLVED** that Speldhurst Parish Council will not sign the petition organised by the Rural Services Network but if councillors wished to sign it on an individual basis they were free to do so.

13/176 LOVE WHERE WE LIVE: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys will be attending the presentations on 2nd October.

13/177 KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME: Candidates for such an award were discussed and advice will be taken from KALC as to how many awards should be considered each year.

13/178 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys reported that a meeting will be held shortly with Langton Green Primary School to discuss if they have any potential user requirements for the new pavilion. She advised that Cllr Milner will represent her at the Parish Chairman's meeting on 17th September.

13/179 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- i) Governance – Cllr Mrs Jeffreys reported that a Governance Committee meeting was held on 21st August. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised Standing Orders. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised Budget Virement Policy.
- ii) Planning – Cllr Langridge reported that Planning Committee meetings were held on 12th and 28th August and the minutes have been circulated. He advised that the next meeting is on 9th September at which Dan Docker TWBC Tree Officer is giving a talk and all Councillors are welcome to attend.
- iii) Amenities – Cllr Milner reported that a Committee meeting was held on 19th August and the minutes had been circulated. He reported that a Committee meeting was also held at 7pm on 2nd September at which it was resolved to recommend to Full Council that the request for the ashes of a former resident to be scattered at LGRG be granted. It was **RESOLVED** to give permission for the ashes of Janet Rose (formerly Sage) to be scattered under a tree at LGRG in a discreet manner and with consideration to other users of LGRG. **The Assistant Clerk to advise the deceased's relative.** Cllr Milner advised that Burslem will be cleaning and re-pointing Speldhurst War Memorial on 4th September.

- iv) Footpaths – Cllr Milner reported that the footpath volunteers have been working on repairs to stiles and gates. He reported that no response has yet been received from Dr Powell regarding dealing with the fallen tree in Shadwell Wood. **The Assistant Clerk to contact Dr Powell again.**
- v) Broadband – Cllr Woodward reported that a meeting of the relevant authorities is taking place soon.
- vi) KALC – Cllr Mrs Hull reported that she is attending the KALC meeting on 4th September.
- vii) Parish Plan – Cllr Turner reported that the next meeting is on 18th September.
- viii) Environment Working Group – Cllr Mrs Hull advised that the next meeting will be held late September/October.
- ix) Gatwick working Group – Cllr Mrs Podbury reported that they have met with David Howden and that the steering group report has been sent to Greg Clark MP. Cllr Mrs Soyke advised that there is now a noise monitor at Four Winds Farm, Bidborough. Cllr Turner said it would be interesting to see the Ward Walk results on the Parish specific question about Gatwick.

13/180 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 5th AUGUST 2013: Cllr Woodward asked how the planning application for Langton Green Primary School expansion would be dealt with and Cllr Mrs Jeffreys confirmed that it will be dealt with at a Full Council meeting rather than a Planning Committee meeting. Cllr Mrs Soyke asked if the letter regarding Gatwick had been sent to Greg Clark MP and Cllrs Mrs Podbury and Mrs Hull advised that it had not as discussions by the Working Group with him meant there was no longer a need for it.

13/181 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- 1. Email from Pam Robinson of Little Courtlands, Great Courtlands, Langton Green expressing concern that the campaign regarding Gatwick airport noise may devalue properties in Langton Green
- 2. Email from KALC concerning KCC consultation on the future of children's centres in Kent
- 3. Email from Kent Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the new mobile police contact points in West Kent
- 4. ACRK Rural News Issue 130
- 5. TWBC Community Safety Unit News June-July 2013

13/182 DIARY DATES:

- 1. Wednesday 4th September – Burslem cleaning and repointing Speldhurst War Memorial
- 2. Wednesday 4th September – KALC meeting – Matfield Village Hall
- 3. Thursday 5th September – Highways Committee meeting – Office – **10.00am**
- 4. Monday 9th September – Planning Committee meeting including talk from Dan Docker TWBC Tree Officer – Ellis Room, LGVH
- 5. Monday 16th September – Finance Committee meeting – Office
- 6. Tuesday 17th September – TWBC Parish Chairman's meeting – **7.00pm**
- 7. Wednesday 18th September – Parish Plan Working Group – LGVH Palmer Room
- 8. Thursday 19th September – Parish Clerk's networking meeting – **12 noon**
- 9. **Monday 7th October – Full Council meeting – Langton Green Village Hall**
- 10. **Monday 14th October – Autumn Open Meeting – Speldhurst Village Hall, Main Hall**

13/183 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION: Cllr Langridge suggested that another litter patrol is carried out late September/October.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.42pm