



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

Minutes of an Amenities Committee Meeting held in The Council Office, Langton Green Recreation Ground on Monday 21st September 2015 at 7.30pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Hull (Chairman), Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Soyke, Allen and Turner

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mrs M Flemington – Assistant Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were no members of the public

1. **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
2. **To accept and approve apologies and reasons for absence:** Mr C May - Clerk
3. **Disclosure of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests:** There were none.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying:** Cllr Mrs Podbury declared that she had been lobbied about horse riding in Pocket Park. Cllr Mrs Soyke declared that she had been lobbied about the Hornbeam tree on The Green at Langton Green.
5. **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on **29th June 2015** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
6. **Public Open Session:** There were no members of the public present.
7. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:**

Trees in the Village Competition 2015 – The Assistant Clerk reported that Cllrs Mrs Hull and Parker showed the Kent Men of the Trees judge round Langton Green on 20th August. Cllr Mrs Hull's report had been circulated.

Tree for Stonewall Park Road – The Assistant Clerk reported that the replacement tree has been approved by the Finance Committee and it will be planted in the forthcoming planting season.
8. **Parish Council Land:**
 - a) **Langton Green Recreation Ground (LGRG)**
 - 1) Langton Green Village Hall – The problem of flooding from the roof of the Hall over the canopy outside the office during heavy rain is being looked into by the Trustees of LGVH.

An email had been received from a resident expressing concern that on more than one occasion village hall hirers had been smoking and drinking in the Children's play area. This has been responded to by the Parish Council and the Trustees of the Village Hall.

- 2) Sports Clubs – The Sports Club is working towards an anticipated start date on the new pavilion in November. It is noted that no storage for either football or cricket club equipment has been provided for in the design.
 - 3) Children's play area – The annual playground inspection was carried out by Craigdene on 10th August. There are no items requiring immediate attention. A schedule of works and timescales for items requiring monitoring and attention in due course will be prepared.
 - 4) Use of LGRG by Langton Green Primary School – further information is awaited from the School.
 - 5) Car parks – Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee and Full Council that CCTV is installed in LGRG car park in accordance with option 1 of the quotation provided by Sunstone in the sum of £6,707.20.
 - 6) Groundsman – The Groundsman continues to do an excellent job.
 - 7) Recycling – There are no particular issues at present although it was noted that at other sites in the Borough cardboard and paper and different glass colours are being mixed.
 - 8) Trees – It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that an arboricultural survey of all the trees at LGRG (and Pocket Park and land transferred from TWBC) is carried out at a cost of £1,320.
 - 9) Trees – It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that the trees at LGRG which overhang Speldhurst Road and obstruct the double decker buses be cut back at a cost of £380.
- b) **The Green at Langton Green** – It was **RESOLVED** not to reduce the height of the hedge adjoining the Vicarage.
- c) **The Green at Groombridge**
- 1) It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that £500 is granted to Old Groombridge Community Group towards their project for Christmas lights on The Green.
 - 2) It was **RESOLVED** to agree to Old Groombridge Community Group's request to site a Christmas tree on The Green.
- d) **The Pocket Park at Speldhurst**
- 1) Trees - It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that an arboricultural survey of all the trees at Pocket Park (and LGRG and land transferred from TWBC) is carried out at a cost of £1,320.
 - 2) The second reinstatement carried out by Clancy Docwra contractors following the South East Water emergency repair works appears satisfactory.
 - 3) It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that a new larger 'no horse riding' sign is purchased for Pocket Park.
- e) **Signs on Council land** – There were no issues to report.
- f) **Transfer of land from TWBC**
- 1) It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance Committee that an arboricultural survey of all the trees on land transferred from TWBC (and LGRG and Pocket Park) is carried out at a cost of £1,320.
 - 2) Once all the land transfers have been completed the Parish Council will maintain these areas of land.
 - 3) It was discussed and agreed in principle to write to the residents of the Boundary regarding SPC taking over this land from TWBC.

9. Public Rights of Way:

- 1) It was agreed not to site the dog waste bin outside Speldhurst School at the present time.

- 2) The Assistant Clerk reported that it is not possible to fix the sign to the existing barrier on the footpath between Speldhurst Village Hall and that a post will have to be installed for the sign to be fixed to.

10. Trees in Furzefield Avenue: The broken stakes will be removed from the trees and it was agreed that they do not need replacing.

11. Ashurst Notice Board: Following discussion it was agreed that further consideration needs to be given to the size and location for the new notice board in Ashurst.

12. Financial Review: The financial papers were discussed in terms of budget, expenditure to date and expenditure for the remainder of the year.

13. Items for information: There were none.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm

Chairman