



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th MARCH 2019 AT 7.30PM
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, SPELDHURST VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Milner (Chairman), Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Soyke, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Lyle, Mrs Price, Mrs Woodliffe, Ellery and Round (7.36pm)

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mr C May – Clerk and Mrs K Harman – Assistant Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Borough Cllr Julian Stanyer and County Councillor James McInroy (7.39pm) were in attendance.

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

19/047 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.

19/048 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Cllr Barrington-Johnson (illness), Cllr Pate (prior engagement) and Cllr Rowe (holiday).
Apologies had also been received from Borough Cllr David Jukes.

19/048 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS: There were none.

19/049 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: There were none.

19/050 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on **4 February 2019** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19/051 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

Borough Cllr Stanyer said that TWBC's budgets had been balanced and there will be a 2.99% increase.

Cllr Mrs Soyke said that Borough Cllr Alan McDermott, who was due to be inaugurated as Deputy Mayor in May was unable to take up the position and Cllr Mrs Podbury had agreed to stand instead. Councillors congratulated Cllr Mrs Podbury.

Cllr Mrs Soyke said she went to the judicial hearing for the CPOs needed for the new Civic Centre.

Cllr Mrs Podbury said that Peacock Farm were advertising domestic waste disposal services online and she is making enquiries. She also spoke of a campaign regarding stalking and then went on to advise Councillors that TWBC were promoting the reduction of single use plastic across the Borough.

County Cllr McInroy said that KCC have now agreed their annual budget and local taxes will increase by the maximum of 4.99%, which includes 2% for social care. KCC have still not confirmed the waste disposal levy for building materials. He said this was deemed necessary because bordering councils charge for this and residents

from neighbouring areas had been using Kent’s services because there was no charge. Cllr Milner queried whether fly-tipping instances would increase when waste disposal charges are introduced in Kent and County Cllr McInroy said that evidence suggests that it will not.

19/052 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: There were no members of the public present.

19/053 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Cllr Mrs Lyle reported the following: -

- a) A meeting of the Finance Committee had been held on Monday 25th February 2019, the minutes having been circulated prior to the meeting.
- b) Budget virements – It was **RESOLVED** on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to make a virement to transfer the balance of the contingency account £2,985.00 to the computer upgrade section to pay for the tablets, cases, se-up costs and training.
- c) Interim payments since the Finance Committee Meeting: Unity bank current account: none.
- d) Mastercard: £5.97* building materials; £35.88* building materials.
- e) Decisions made under delegated authority are starred above*
- f) Grants were all as detailed in the Finance minutes and Cllr Mrs Lyle noted the request from St Marys Church, Speldhurst towards the restoration of a Waller memorial windows. It had been agreed that this matter would be revisited once the applicant had explored further funding options.

19/054 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: Invoices verified by Cllr Mrs Price.

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

Payee Name	Reference	Amount £	Detail
Archer Signs & Panels Ltd	MT1505	£48.54	New sign
Burslem	MT1508	56.16	Additional Memorial detail
CWCS	MT1509	11.99	Web hosting
Langton Life	MT1510	250.00	Advertisement
M R Lawrence	MT1511	600.00	Tree maintenance Langton Road
Knockout P rint	MT1512	185.00	Newsletter
Paul Cheater	MT1513	112.00	Pavilion cleaning
RIP Cleaning Services	MT1514	172.80	Cleaning
Mr L Cooper	MT1515	35.50	Expenses
C May	MT1516	53.54	Expenses
Sevenoaks District Council	MT1523	180.00	Pavilion – Premises Licence
The Counselling Centre	MT1524	250.00	Grant
Langton Green Charitable Trust	MT1525	29.75	Meeting Rooms
Tate Fencing Ltd	MT1506	579.60	Repair Hot Water Pavilion
Veolia	DD	99.00	Waste Disposal
BT PLC	DD	9.60	Mobile
Mrs C J Barrett	MT1517	343.06	Salary
Mr L Cooper	MT1518	652.70	Salary
Kate Harman	MT1519	760.26	Salary
C May	MT1520	1,536.23	Salary
N.E.S.T. Pension Scheme	MT1521	72.91	Pensions
HMRC	MT1522	<u>2,688.75</u>	Tax and NI Q4
Total:		<u>£8,727.39</u>	

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

19/055 HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE: The Clerk said that he had been in communication with a resident regarding the siting of the new advisory sign who had also written to KCC to make a complaint. He had been advised that the sign would be working however this was unconfirmed.

19/056 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG):

- a) **Pavilion:** Cllr Mrs Lyle said there was nothing to report.
- b) **Formal agreement between SPC and SPC Pavilion Ltd:** LGCSA appear reluctant to change the current agreement, however Cllr Mrs Lyle continues to explain the need to LGCSA and for the decision to be required in writing.
- c) **Drainage proposal:** LGSCA was finding it difficult breaking down the information required by the FA for the grant application. The FA's Regional Pitch Advisor will visit the site on March 7th which will hopefully help move the application along. They are also awaiting planning permission. Cllr Mrs Price voiced concerned regarding the use of weed killer, particularly with regard to the site to the west of the pitches which is a local nature conserve, and the possible killing of earthworms. Cllr Mrs Lyle said that she had been advised that the consultant would be requested to visit to explain to SPC why this was necessary, if desired. Councillors agreed the company would be asked to minimise the use of chemicals as far as possible. It was noted that maintenance costs would have to be considered well in advance of any expenditure. The question of whether the Rude Mechanicals would be able to visit this summer was discussed and Cllr Mrs Lyle agreed to enquire if Langton Green Primary School would be able to host the production as a one-off.

19/057 PARISH PLAN: Cllr Milner advised that the Parish Plan working party had met and gone through the actions to date and Cllr Barrington-Johnson was putting together a summary.

19/058 NEWSLETTER: The printed newsletter was reviewed by Councillors and an error was noted. Only 250 copies had been printed for local shops, village halls etc.

19/059 MEETING WITH TWBC PLANNING DEPARTMENT: It was agreed that in the absence of Cllr Barrington-Johnson, this item would be delayed until April's meeting.

19/060 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: There was nothing to report

19/061 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) **Governance** – Cllr Milner said a meeting was scheduled for 20th March when a number of policies and Standing Orders would have their annual review.
- b) **Planning** – Cllr Mrs Price said that an appeal had been received for 3 Knowle Close, Langton Green. The LGRG drainage project and also the Bradleys site applications were discussed amongst others. SPC supported the Bradleys application and TWBC would be contacted to ensure the adjacent field was removed from the Brownfield site register.
- c) **Amenities** – Cllr Mrs Podbury said that a meeting of the Amenities Committee had been held on 13th February which had been very busy. A review of the play area equipment with a playground consultant was agreed now that the playground is ten years old.
- d) **Air Traffic** – there was nothing to report
- e) **Environment Working Group (EWG)** – Cllr Mrs Price was looking to hold a meeting this month.
- f) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner said that a footpath on the LGRG needed to be redirected which appeared straightforward.
- g) **KALC** – there was nothing to report.
- h) **Website Working Group (WWG)** – The Clerk said that the new website was up and running and contained all the important information. There were currently a few glitches which Hugo Fox were working on and there would be the opportunity to add more features in the near future. It was noted that the Planning tracker will be a helpful tool once it is up and running. The new Administration Assistant will concentrate on social

media.

19/062 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 4th FEBRUARY 2019: There were none.

19/063 CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk said he had received a thank you letter from Speldhurst VH thanking SPC for the grant towards the new decking.

19/064 DIARY DATES: March 2019

Tuesday 12th – Parish Chairman's meeting; TWBC 7pm

Friday 15th – Planning Conference, Lenham VH (all day)

Tuesday 19th - Planning Meeting 7.30pm

Wednesday 20th – Governance Meeting 10.30am

19/065 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

- Cllr Mrs Soyke asked for an update on the Speldhurst Shop. There had been three presentations to residents when the Community share scheme was explained. Shares were £25 each and tax relief of 30% could be claimed. The deadline was 23rd March.
- Cllr Mrs Price had received a letter from a resident complaining that large lorries were speeding along Furzefield Avenue in Speldhurst. Cllr Ellery said that his neighbour had complained to him about the size of lorries on Barden Road and also cars speeding. Cllr Milner noted a recent incident in Ferbies with an articulated lorry. It was agreed this would be added to the next Highways agenda.
- The Assistant Clerk advised Councillors that work on the MUGA on Speldhurst Recreation Ground was due to commence in coming weeks and would be ready by the Easter holidays.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Chairman