



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

## **Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting**

**held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 at 7.30pm In Speldhurst Parish Office, Langton Green Village Hall**

---

**Members Present:** Cllr Turner, Ellery (from 7.35pm), Leach, Littlefield and Barrington-Johnson.

**Officers Present:** H Chater – Clerk and S Neve – Deputy Clerk (Minutes).

**1. Election of Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Turner be elected as Chair.

**2. Election of Vice-Chair**

**RESOLVED** that Cllr Dickens be elected as Vice- Chair, written consent having been provided in her absence.

**3. To enquire if anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting**

The Clerk would be recording the meeting for the purpose of accuracy of the minutes. The recording would be deleted once the minutes had been signed off at the next meeting.

**4. To accept and approve apologies and reasons for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Dickens (Due to family commitments).

**5. Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes, previously forwarded to Members were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**6. Disclosure of Interests**

There were none.

**7. Declarations of Lobbying**

There were none.

**8. Public Open Session**

Two members of the public were present.

- Storage unit for the Nursery trolleys – This item was brought forward to allow a Langton Green Village Hall Trustee to present his views. - It was resolved that the originally proposed location, under the canopy by the bike rack, be approved as a trial run. If any concerns are seen with this location, then an alternative location would need to be found.

The Langton Green Village Hall Trustee left the meeting at 7.40pm.

## **9. Financial Review**

Councillors noted the budget report for Amenities.

## **10. Items for Expenditure 2026**

Councillors noted the possible cost implications relating to the drainage issue at 2 The Walks.

## **11. Parish Council Land: Amenities Topics**

- a) **Langton Green Recreation Ground (LGRG) including carparks, playgrounds and the Pavilion**
  - Road Safety Figures – Councillors expressed doubts about their effectiveness due to lack of supporting data. The Deputy Clerk will gather before and after installation evidence from other parishes. Once received, the item will be referred to the Highways Committee.
  - Salt bin in the car park at LGVH – A resident had raised concerns about the icy conditions of the carpark in the winter. The Deputy Clerk confirmed, following advice from the Council’s insurers, that the area should not be gritted due to Council liability. The Deputy Clerk would contact the resident with an update. The Winter Weather Policy would also be updated and published on the website.
  - Playground equipment – A resident had raised concerns regarding the roundabout swing. It was agreed no action to be taken; the equipment had passed inspection in February.
  - Basketball court access. – It was agreed that a path should be installed. The Deputy Clerk will obtain more information on the three quotes obtained to ensure the best option. Once the information is the preferred quote obtained the matter would be referred to Full Council.
  - Dead Tree near basketball court. - It was found through a tree survey obtained by the Deputy Clerk that nothing needed to be done at this time. The Groundskeeper will continue to monitor the tree on their weekly checks.
  - Pond in the Boundary – Resident raised concerns about potential overflow of banks. It was resolved that no issue is currently identified. The Groundskeeper would continue weekly monitoring. The resident has been advised of findings.
  - Langton Green Recreation Ground public conveniences – It was noted that a resident queried lack of public toilets. The Langton Green Pavilion is open 7 days a week with access to toilets. The Deputy Clerk would respond to the resident confirming this.
  - Langton Green Recreation Ground pitch maintenance – It was noted that costs for mowing were expected to increase. Deputy Clerk has received very different quotes, so more information is required to assess like for like costs.

b) **Speldhurst**

- Request for dog waste bin – It was resolved that two new dog waste bins be installed in Shadwell Woods, Speldhurst. The cost of installation is £226.62 +VAT per bin, with an ongoing waste collection cost of £16.89 per month per bin. The Deputy Clerk will identify suitable and accessible locations and refer to Full Council.
- Roopers – It was resolved that the Parish Council will fund a bi-weekly mow of the area. It was also noted that ongoing mowing at Pocket Park would continue, while ensuring the wildflowers are left undisturbed.

c) **Old Groombridge**

- 2 The Walks – The drainage issue involves complex ownership, private property, Parish Council land and a Kent County Council outflow. It was resolved that the Deputy Clerk will continue liaising with the resident and the KCC officer investigating responsibility.

12. **Policies** – The following policies were reviewed, updated, and will be submitted to Full Council for approval:

- Park bench
- Signs on council land
- Weed control
- Winter Weather

All four policies will be reviewed every 3 years.

13. **Items for Information**

- Bullingstone Lane drainage issue raised by resident is a work in progress with Kent County Council.
- Updated action grid – All items from previous meeting have been completed.
- Date of next meeting – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026 at the Speldhurst Parish Council Offices at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 8:35pm.

**Chair**