



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd JULY 2018 AT 7.30PM
IN THE PALMER ROOM, LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Barrington-Johnson (Chairman), Milner, Mrs Soyke, Mrs Lyle, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Woodliffe, Mercieca, Ellery and Rowe

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor James McInroy was in attendance.

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

18/145 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.

18/146 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Cllr Allen (work commitments), Cllr Mrs Price (illness) and Cllr Mrs Jeffreys (prior engagement)
Borough Councillors David Jukes and Julian Stanyer also sent their apologies.

18/147 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS: Cllr Mrs Lyle had previously registered that she is a Governor of Langton Green Primary School.

18/148 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: there were none.

18/149 MINUTES: It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on **4th June 2018** and the Notes of the **Annual Parish Meeting** on 23rd April 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

18/150 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR: Mr Pate was co-opted onto the Council. Cllr Pate then took his seat with Councillors, signed the declaration of acceptance of office and it was **RESOLVED** that he be assigned to the Highways and Planning Committees. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Pate to SPC and said that he was looking forward to working with him.

18/151 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:

- a) County Cllr McInroy reported that the pot holing blitz is continuing and that the County Council were anticipating having to spend more than originally budgeted to achieve long-term repairs and deal with the backlog of improvements. More resurfacing work is to be carried out in the County and he mentioned the recent work on Forest Road and that St Johns Road will be completed in August, but this will be carried out at night.

- b) Cllr Mrs Podbury said that she now has an electronic tablet supplied by TWBC as they move towards being paperless.

18/152 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: Mrs Marianne Buckley was attending but did not wish to speak.

18/153 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES INCLUDING KALC REPRESENTATIVE: The Clerk had circulated a list of suggested new Committee memberships which were agreed. It was **RESOLVED** that Committee membership remain as detailed in the updated list (attached) and that Cllr Barrington-Johnson remains as the SPC KALC representative.

18/154 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Cllr Mrs Lyle reported the following:

- a) There had been a meeting of the Finance Committee on Wednesday 27th June, the minutes having previously been circulated.
- b) Virements: £1,965 to cover the cost of additional CCTV and £1,750 for the grant towards the TBNT. It was **RESOLVED** to transfer these amounts from the contingency account. The Committee decided that the £2,400 for the drainage survey should come from the funds for Sports Clubs. There was also an adjustment to the book-keeping system which involved the Ear Marked Reserves (EMR) being corrected on the summary sheet to show the correct figure of £60k.
- c) Interim payments since the last Full Council meeting: From the current account: none. From MasterCard: £12.00* Land Registry enquiry and £12.89* petrol.
- d) Payments made under delegated authority are starred above.
- e) After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to accept the Committee's recommendation and grant £8K to Langton Green Primary School towards the refurbishment of the toilets. £5k to come from budgeted funds and £3k from contingency.

18/155 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: Invoices verified by Cllr Mrs Woodliffe.

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

Payee Name	Reference	Amount	Detail
BT PLC	DD	30.00	Mobile
BeSure	MT1334	42.00	Replacement battery
BeSure	MT1335	236.10	Replace LED emergency light
BeSure	MT1336	649.47	Takeover Lighting and Alarm
Langton Life	MT1337	250.00	Magazine article
CWCS	MT1338	11.99	Web hosting
Direct Waste Services	MT1339	250.00	Pavilion waste removal
KALC	MT1340	72.00	Employment Law course
M R Lawrence	MT1341	140.00	Mowing LG
M R Lawrence	MT1342	180.00	Mowing Speldhurst
Parish Online	MT1343	240.00	Annual Map Licence
St John's Church, Groombridge	MT1344	1,000.00	Maintenance Grant
PCC All Saints' Church	MT1345	1,000.00	Maintenance Grant
Viking Direct	MT1346	25.07	Stationery
Mr L Cooper	MT1347	16.65	Expenses
Kate Harman	MT1348	13.50	Expenses
C May	MT1349	57.05	Expenses
EDF Energy	DD	702.37	Electricity bill
Speldhurst CofE Primary School	300245	5,000.00	Grant re classroom extension
RIP Cleaning Services	MT1355	172.80	Canine refuse
Ashurst McDermott Hall Trust	MT1356	24.00	Meeting rooms
Tunbridge Wells Glass Works	MT1333	272.70	Pavilion door repair

N.E.S.T. Pension Scheme	MT1350	66.08	Pension payment
C May	MT1351	1,843.51	Salary
Kate Harman	MT1352	653.50	Salary
Mr L Cooper	MT1353	630.03	Salary
Zurich Municipal	MT1354	2,059.66	Insurance

Total: £15,638.48

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

18/156 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 and that he anticipated one being held by the end of July. He reported the following:

- a) The gateways are now all installed. There had been a complaint from the landowner regarding the gateway on Etherington Hill, Speldhurst, however KCC confirmed that Highways rights supersede those of the landowner. The Clerk is going to look at alternative options for the gateway by the Water Tower in Langton Green which had received complaints. Cllr Milner enquired about the policy on verge cutting to keep the gateways visible. The Clerk said that the Groundsman will cut the verges that are safe however those which are dangerous to get to will need to be cut back by Highways.
- b) 20mph in Speldhurst Village –Siting of the signs on Speldhurst Hill is being investigated further but should be installed within 2-3 weeks. A large vegetation cutback has been ordered on Penshurst Road. The Clerk said he is still awaiting news regarding Langton Green.
- c) 60-40 TRO – We are advised this will be undertaken in August.

18/157 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG): Cllr Mrs Lyle reported the following: -

- a) Meetings had been held to discuss various pavilion matters. The income over expenditure for the previous financial year was approximately £7,500, which included income from the café of £13,220. No real maintenance was carried out during that year so this financial year will be different with some initial set up costs. Cllr Mercieca had obtained a quotation for a legionella assessment to be carried out and information about a thermostat. Alarm and lighting tests have been arranged to be carried out next week. Other maintenance issues such as drains and gutters were under consideration.
- b) A meeting is being arranged with LGCSA regarding the drainage options on the recreation ground.
- c) After inconclusive legal advice relating to SPC Pavilion Limited’s position as ratepayer, it has been agreed to seek a formal consent or variation to the sub-lease of the land and premises from LGCSA, to allow the council to grant a sub-lease on limited terms to SPC Pavilion Limited.

Cllr Mrs Soyke enquired if a legionnaires survey had been carried out in the LG Village Hall. Marianne Buckley said that a decision had been made by the Management Committee not to use the showers in the Village Hall.

18/158 PARISH PLAN: The Chairman reported the following: The updated Neighbourhood Watch Household Security newsletter final copy was circulated. This would be distributed with the Newsletter.

18/159 LANGTON GREEN WAR MEMORIAL: The Chairman said that it had been discovered that the War Memorial in Langton Green had five names missing. This should be updated before the anniversary of the end of the war later in the year. The Diocese was approached as the memorial is on church land however the parish council has a responsibility for the maintenance of all memorials. He suggested that the Council pays for the amendments. The proposal is for a brass plate with the names of the soldiers plus the cost of installation. It was agreed in principle to fund the addition to the memorial. Cllr Milner suggested giving the war memorials in the parish a ‘spring clean’ and he agreed to check the memorial in Speldhurst. Cllr Barrington-Johnson will check the one in Langton Green.

18/160 NEWSLETTERS: The Clerk circulated a first draft. It was noted that the paragraph on air traffic was already out of date and the Chairman agreed to update it. Councillors were asked to provide any comments on the newsletter to the Clerk by the end of the week.

18/161 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: There was nothing to report.

18/162 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) **Governance** – Cllr Milner said that there had not been a meeting of the Governance Committee since the last Full Council meeting and therefore there was nothing to report.
- b) **Planning** – In the absence of Cllr Mrs Price, The Clerk said there is currently an appeal going through against an enforcement order for Peacock Farm. Residents have voiced concern about submitting comments. Submissions to the Inspector will be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting. Cllr Mrs Soyke noted that the planning application was regarding Change of Use without Planning permission.
- c) **Amenities** – Cllr Mrs Podbury said that she had been to a Commons meeting talk on Ash Dieback. The Tree Officer was still giving the advice that Ash Trees with Ash Dieback should be left in the hope they would recover. Cllr Milner reported damage to a plaque and also a water outlet in Pocket Park.
- d) **Air Traffic** – There was nothing to report. The Terms of Reference agreement was deferred.
- e) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner said that he had been contacted by the owner of the land next to Shadwell. The clink gate had been broken and Cllr Milner would remove it. He will contact the owner to see if a replacement gate can be installed.
- f) **KALC** – The September meeting is to be held in Rusthall. There was nothing else to report.
- g) **Website Working Group** – The Clerk said that the initial work had been done however further work is needed to take the website forward. It was agreed a meeting would be held.

18/163 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 4th JUNE 2018 – Cllr Mrs Lyle asked for an update on the type of bin decided upon for Langholm Road. The request from LGVS was for a dog bin and the Council had previously agreed to pay for a dog bin to be emptied.

18/164 CLERK'S REPORT: There was nothing to report.

18/165 DIARY DATES:

July

Thursday 5th – CM/JS attending Transport Meeting – The Big Conversation @ Hadlow Manor

Friday 7th – Langton Green Fete

Tuesday 10th – Planning Meeting

Monday 16th – Unaudited Annual Return to be taken down

August Monday 6th – Full Council meeting at Committee Room, Speldhurst Village Hall

All meetings are in the office and start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

18/166 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

James McInroy advised that the expansion for Speldhurst Primary School had been approved. He will check what the timings are. Cllr Mrs Soyke suggested an update is put in the Newsletter.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman

COMMITTEES 2018-19¹
Chairmen in bold

Committee		Committee	
Finance		Planning	
Katrina Lyle		Judy Price	
Richard Ellery V-C		George Mercieca V-C	
Joy Podbury		Lynn Jeffreys	
Lynn Jeffreys		Harry Allen	
Julia Soyke		Julia Soyke	
Rupert Milner		Richard Ellery	
Millie Woodliffe		Alan Rowe	
		Dave Pate	
Amenities		Highways	
Joy Podbury		Joy Podbury	
Julia Soyke		Katrina Lyle	
Harry Allen		Harry Allen	
Lynn Jeffreys		Dave Pate	
Millie Woodliffe		Richard Ellery	
Alan Rowe		Millie Woodliffe	
		4 MoP	
Governance		Air Traffic	
Rupert Milner		Neil Barrington-Johnson	
Lynn Jeffreys		Julia Soyke	
George Mercieca		Joy Podbury	
Neil Barrington-Johnson		Alan Rowe	
Katrina Lyle		Plus 3 MoP	
Working Group		Working Group	
Environment		Parish Plan Implementation	
Judy Price		Neil Barrington-Johnson	
Harry Allen		Rupert Milner	
Plus 6 MoP		Judy Price	
APM		Staff	
Tbc		Neil Barrington-Johnson	
tbc		Lynn Jeffreys	
tbc			
Pavilion Management		Website	
Katrina Lyle		Katrina Lyle	
George Mercieca		Judy Price	

¹ The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are ex-officio members of *all* committees and can attend any meeting in a voting capacity