



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

**Minutes of a Finance Committee Meeting held in the Council Office, Langton Green Recreation Ground on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.30pm**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllrs Owen (Chairman), Mrs Horne, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Soyke, Milner, Parker and Pendleton

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

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

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. **Apologies for absence:** There were none.
3. **Declarations of Pecuniary or Other Significant Interests:** There were none.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying:** There were none.
5. **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting dated **20<sup>th</sup> October 2014**, copies having previously been forwarded to Members, be approved and signed as a correct record.
6. **Public Open Session:** There were no members of the public present.
7. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:**
  - The Clerk reported that the expenditure limit under s137 of the Local Government Act 1972 for 2015-16 is £7.36 per elector.
  - The Finance Committee meeting dates for 2015 have been circulated. The next meeting is on 30<sup>th</sup> March.
  - The Clerk reported that acknowledgement of the precept request has been received from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC). Parish Council Chairmen have asked TWBC to publicise the increases in Parish Council precepts in terms of the amount they impact a band D property and not just by percentage increase.
  - The Clerk reported that weekly updates on the progress of the playground installation at Speldhurst Recreation Ground are being received.

- 8. Interim Payments:** The Clerk reported that there had been no interim payments. The payment of £5,496 to Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) for the defibrillators was inadvertently missed off the list for Full Council. An updated list has been provided.
- 9. Budget Virements:** The Clerk reported that there had been no budget virements.
- 10. Financial position as at January 2015 and review of expenditure vs budget to-date:** The Clerk had circulated all the financial papers and the position after ten months of payments and receipts was noted by the Committee.
- 11. Banking and reserves:** The committee noted that the Council's funds were held in three separate accounts. It decided not to change the banking arrangements at this time and to review the situation at the next meeting ahead of the first instalment of the precept in the new financial year.
- 12. Committee and Working Group expenditure:**
  - a) The Clerk reported on three items of expenditure authorised but not yet invoiced; £1,650 for traffic surveys from Kent County Council (KCC), £450 for white lining in the existing car park at Langton Green Recreation Ground (LGRG) from Abbott Construction and £1,100 for tree maintenance work at LGRG from Treework.
  - b) It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a mobile phone to be owned by the Parish Council and used by the contracted Groundsman (primarily for photographing items of possible concern to the Parish) at a cost of up to £80.
  - c) It was **RESOLVED** to transfer £500 to the Air Traffic Committee to cover increased expenditure arising from matters such as membership of the High Weald Councils Aviation Action Group and leaflet production.
- 13. Grant requests:**
  - a) It was **RESOLVED** to spend up to £60 to hire a room and the kitchen at Langton Green Village Hall to provide facilities for the Rude Mechanicals outdoor theatre production on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015.
  - b) It was **RESOLVED** to grant £2,500 to Speldhurst School towards the cost of their proposed new classroom provided that they get planning permission and funding from the Diocese. **The Clerk would write confirming this.**
- 14. Financial Regulations:** These were approved by Full Council on 12<sup>th</sup> January and have been circulated to Members. The clerk advised that there are some items in the regulations to be implemented by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.
- 15. Items for Information:** There were none.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman