

Speldhurst Parish Council

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

Minutes of a Parish Vision Committee Meeting held in the Committee Room, Speldhurst Village Hall on Thursday 29th October 2009 at 11am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr. Mrs Podbury (Chairman)
Cllr. Mrs Soyke
Cllr. Langridge
Mr J Syers
Mrs L Dollimore

OFFICER PRESENT: Chris May – Clerk

Action points in bold italics.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Mr C Pendleton
- 2. Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest:** None received
- 3. Declarations of Lobbying:** None received
- 4. Minutes** of the meeting dated 1st October 2009, copies having previously been forwarded to Members, were approved and signed.
- 5. Matters Arising:** The Chairman wanted to record the committee's thanks to Chris Pendleton for his outstanding work in updating **all** of the comments from the people who had visited **all** of the Open Days. It was a fantastic job.
The general feedback was that the Open Days had been a success and had been enjoyable to hold. There were some disappointments; the turnout in Ashurst was mostly from one part of the village; the relatively low turnout in Langton and the lack of youth attending. The feeling was however that the main issues had been raised and whole event made the Parish Council be seen as proactive.
The Clerk was asked to send the invoices to Carl Adams of ARCK so that the grant from CIRK could be paid.
Cllr Langridge had a quote for 2000 12 page A4 brochures - £1,152.00
Cllr Langridge was keeping a case study of the project.
- 6. Financial Update:** The Chairman queried the budget because money paid out made the overspend more than first thought – it was because she had included VAT.
- 7. Open Days:** Speldhurst review: It was considered the best Open Day – the Village Hall being in walking distance of many residents and because of that (and lobbying by Cllr Mrs Podbury) it was well attended, but she was disappointed that there were very few young people there.
Langton Green review: The car park was full because of football matches and there were other events going on in the main hall and the turnout was disappointing but constructive comments were received. The comments would be evaluated at the next meeting when the questionnaire would be started.
Quick fixes: Groombridge – hedges to be cut back along B2110 and drains on the Groombridge hill to be reported.
Ashurst: ***Cllr Mrs Soyke to liaise with David Crundwell about the footpaths.*** Grass verges need to be cut more often – Cllr Mrs Soyke explained that the corners of the exit from the Village Hall need to be cut back regularly and that the drain at the corner is in the wrong place causing water to flood down the hill. ***Clerk to report.***
Some road signs are covered by vegetation and pot holes need to be reported.
The Clerk requested exact locations to enable these problems to be reported (signs and potholes).
Speldhurst: Highways maintenance was the big problem – ***the Clerk was asked to chase up the results of the traffic survey.*** The school sign on Langton Road has the graphic of two children but

needs "SCHOOL" written underneath. (**Clerk to report**) The drains in Barden Road, Speldhurst Hill, Franks Hollow Road and Stockland Green Road all need reporting/chasing. A "SLOW" sign near Barden Mill was required – exact location required. The pavements in Roopers were covered in moss and were very slippery. The streets in all villages needed clearing of leaves etc. There were sat nav problems with Burnt House Lane and Barden Road.
All the above would be reported by the Clerk.

Recycling was an issue – we should contact TWBC to see if glass is to be collected. TWBC Conservation Officer needs to be contacted about Bradley Mill which is in disrepair and there is concern that the owners are allowing this to happen. Dog mess is a Parish wide problem. Contact TWBC for some proper signs to try and deter owners allowing their dogs to mess on pavements etc. Traffic signs eg "THINK SPEED" to be purchased (from TWBC?) to make motorists slow down. Litter working parties in all villages were needed.
All the above would be discussed with TWBC by Cllr Mrs Podbury.

8. Questionnaire: Cllr Langridge would start work on the questionnaire.

9. Items for Information: There were none.

The next meeting would be in about two weeks – date to be advised and would be in the form of a working party to work on the questionnaire without the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

Chairman