

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF SPELDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2008 at 7.30pm

IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE HALL

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Crundwell, Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Paulson-Ellis, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Soyke, Ellis, Jukes, Palmer, Parker, Stevens and Wheeler

6 Members of the Public  
Richard Williams (Courier Reporter)

### 2012 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Mrs Waters (unwell)  
Cllr. Dixon (recovering from operation)

### 2013 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

The clerk asked the Chairman to inform the Meeting that a proposal had been received from the Langton Green Charitable Trust regarding Item 5

Cllr. Mrs Soyke - Personal - Ashurst Play Area  
Cllr. Mrs Soyke - Personal - Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall (grandchild attends Nursery School)  
Cllr. Ellis - Personal – Paved Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall (Trustee - Langton Green Charitable Trust)  
Cllr. Jukes - Personal – Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall (grandchild attends Nursery School)  
Cllr. Palmer (having spoken with the Monitoring Officer) - Personal - Paved Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall (Parish Council Representative on the Langton Green Charitable Trust)  
Cllr. Parker - Personal - Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall (Trustee – Langton Green Charitable Trust)

**2014 MINUTES:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008, having previously been distributed to members, were approved and signed.

**2015 Guest Speaker Police Sergeant Pete Heaton – P.A.C.T.** (Partners and Communities Together)

P.A.C.T. is a Police led initiative involving the community and partners (i.e. Parish Council, Highways) working together on joint concerns. Three priorities need to be established via the Parish Council Surgeries. These will be put to our Police Community Support Officer who will work with `partners` to try and resolve them.

Police Sergeant Heaton asked that P.A.C.T. be a regular Agenda item to enable the Parish Council to feed back information.

Cllr. Crundwell thanked Police Sergeant Heaton for attending the meeting.

## **2016 AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1989 Paved Patio Area outside of Langton Green Village Hall**

As this item was to be discussed in closed session Cllr. Crundwell asked that members of the public leave the room.

A brief discussion took place regarding the proposal received by Langton Green Charitable Trust and Cllrs. Ellis, Palmer and Parker declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest and left the meeting.

The discussion continued in closed session.

The meeting was re-opened.

### **1988 Middlefield – Planning Application**

Nothing to Report

### **1887-7 Play and Teen Areas**

Cllr. Mrs Soyke updated the meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that the 106 Monies from the Grange Development should be put towards this project and the clerk was asked to write to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

An Official Opening of the Play Area would be arranged towards the end of June 2008.

### **1939-7 Langton Green School – Safer Crossing Area – Grant**

It was unanimously agreed to fund this project to a maximum of £13,526.

The Parish Council had applied for a £5,000 Grant from Kent County Council - strict time limit of 31<sup>st</sup> March when everything should be in place.

The Parish Council's solicitor had been instructed to act in connection with the Easement.

### **2017 106 Monies – Recommendation of Planning Committee**

Cllr. Palmer advised the meeting that 106 monies are claimed from developers to enable money to be put back into the Community and is specifically for use within the Parish.

Cllr. Palmer asked that approval be given to the Planning Committee for them to formally raise with TWBC 106 monies on developments of 2 or more houses. This was unanimously given.

### **2018 Independent Internal Audit**

This had been carried out and signed off. The balance held by the Parish Council as at 10<sup>th</sup> February 2008 was £65,015.63.

## **1825-3 Ashurst Village Play Area / Registering of Common Ground**

Cllr. Mrs Soyke confirmed that in 1910 Mrs Johnston owned Burrswood Estate. Edwin Johnston purchased various bits of land which were known as `waste of the manor` and were probably included in the piece that the Parish Council were interested in. It was agreed that we should go back to the Public Rights of Way Officer asking how we prove this.

## **1975 – Parking Concerns – Parish Council signs**

It was agreed to obtain an estimate for 3 signs to be placed outside the retail shops in Langton Green and on the corner of Northfields (near to the doctors` surgery).

## **1960 Parish Council Surgeries**

Cllr. Mrs Jeffreys, Mrs Podbury and Ellis had attended the surgery with the clerk and were joined by PCSO Ray Nuttall and five members of the public (at varying times).

Issues raised :

PCSO Ray Nuttall – very interested in attending the Parish Council Surgeries. He expressed concerns that dogs had been seen chasing sheep and asked if we would place notices in the village magazines asking that dog walkers be extra vigilant keeping dogs under control or on leads, particularly during the lambing season.

Mrs Heather Ford – concerns regarding the uneven pathway in Barden Road, storm drain covers and overgrown hedges.

Dan Davison – Twitten opposite Langton Green Recreation Ground - flooding.

Concerns regarding school children crossing the road from Langton Green Recreation Ground to the Twitten.

Nick Critchlow – Neighbourhood Watch in Speldhurst – PCSO Ray Nuttall would provide contact details.

Also expressed concerns with regard to the uneven road and pathways in Barden Road.

Peter Brown and Paul Harvey – Parish Councillor vacancies

Cllr. Ellis (on behalf of the Langton Green Charitable Trust) asked if the Parish Council would give consideration to placing `NO BALL GAMES` signs outside of the Village Hall.

Items Brought Forward from previous Surgeries not covered under Agenda Items

November 2007

- Condition of roads and footpaths in Speldhurst

December 2007

- Push for 20mph speed limits outside both Langton and Speldhurst schools

- White line marking when exiting LGRG
- Overgrown and muddy footpath along Speldhurst Road (just before Burnt House Lane)

### **2004 Parish Councillor Vacancies – Procedure**

The clerk had previously forwarded the procedure to all Councillors and Cllr. Crundwell updated the meeting.

### **2005 Annual Parish Council Meeting – Format and Guest Speaker**

County Councillor Keith Ferin, Cabinet Member for Highways had agreed to attend as Guest Speaker.

Topics to be considered for discussion :

How do we get Highways to carry out maintenance work ?

As a key objective KCC are encouraging people to walk – how do we get a Pedestrian Crossing outside of the Langton Green Recreation Ground – leading to the Twitten – particularly for Langton school children and with the increase of users to the Village Hall and the new Play and Teen Areas ?

**1965 Conservation Area** – The proposed work in Langton Green Conservation Area, as submitted by Brian Hayward, was agreed. The clerk was asked to chase the quotation for the fencing around Groombridge Green.

### **2017 MATTERS FOR UPDATING from the Minutes dated 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008**

**1887-4 Highways Projects** Cllr. Mrs Podbury and the clerk had met with Andy Smart. More changes are taking place within Kent Highways over the next two months. A number of issues had been raised with Andy which would be fully reported on at next meeting.

**1896-12 Local Crime Community Sentence** Nothing to report.

**1925-3 Parish Plans** Nothing to report.

### **1935 Heathgate Corner**

Nothing to report

**1952-3 Parish Council Web Site** New site up and running which the clerk would update. Suggestions for a picture that represented the Parish Council

**1978-6 Hollonds Farm** – Cllr. Mrs Paulson-Ellis and Crundwell had met with Paul Cole on site. Hollonds Farm is in Administration and urgent attention should be requested to resolving the access road and containers. Clerk was asked to contact Alan Bringloe asking for the restoration of the site to its previous state particularly as it is in a Conservation Area.

**2001 Speldhurst Hill Footpath** - Nothing to report.

**2002 PIPKIN – Report by Cllr. Mrs Joy Podbury** - Nothing to report

## **2003 TWBC – Expenditure Questionnaire - Completed.**

**2007-2 Ashurst Traffic Lights** - The clerk was asked to continue to chase Highways with regard to the traffic lights at Ashurst. Cllr. Mrs Soyke asked for consideration to an Interactive Speed Sign and a Speedwatch session would be arranged within the Village.

**2011-1** Cllr. Crundwell and the clerk had met with Cliff Worcester regarding the hanging of the gates to the entrance of LGRG. Cllr. Crundwell would obtain a quotation for the welding.

**2011-3** Bund and gate on land adjacent to Rusthall House – awaiting report from Paul Cole.

## **2018 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

1. Speldhurst Village Fete – thank you for grant for marquees.
2. Langton Green Flower Club – request to plant a tree near to the Village Hall in remembrance of the late Mrs Mollie Ovenden.
3. Mr Gamage – letter from the Environment Agency. The clerk was asked to contact David Levett at TWBC.
4. Langton Green Charitable Trust – request for a speed hump just inside of the gates to the LGRG.
5. TWBC – Probation Services offer of help with painting jobs. Cllr. Mrs Podbury reported that Speldhurst Village Hall had taken advantage of this service in the past which had not proved worthwhile.

## **2019 DIARY DATES**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – Ashurst Village Hall 10.30am – 12 noon

## **2020 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning.** Cllr. Palmer reported on the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2008, the Minutes having previously been distributed to Councillors.

The application for Pixie Cottage had been withdrawn and Highfield had been refused.

The Appeal for Summerfield had been granted.

**Finance.** Cllr Mrs Jeffreys reported that a sum of £150 had been agreed for re-alignment of the outer fence at the new Play Area. The Finance Committee were meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**Footpaths.** Cllr. Stevens reported that a working party was planned and asked that the clerk send out the Adopters letters.

Cllr. Stevens was continuing to chase KCC for news on the Maple outside of 8 Southfields.

**Recreation.** Nothing to report.

**K.A.P.C.** Cllr. Mrs Soyke reported that KAPC had changed its name to KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils). Cllr. Mrs Podbury would attend the next meeting on 12 March 2008.

#### **2021 ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID – February 2008**

1.	KALC	£ 193.86	Planning Day
2.	Treework	£ 517.00	Canopy lift roadside trees
4.	RIP Cleaning	£ 98.70	Canine refuse bins
5.	LGCT	£ 26.13	Hire of Hall
6.	Speldhurst Village Soc.	£ 188.60	Retirement Expenses
5.	Cllr. Ron Ellis	£ 17.32	Key Cutting (Pavilion)
6.	KALC	£ 6.00	Good Councillor Guides
7.	Nick Burgess	£ 51.57	Speldhurst Web Site
8.	Speldhurst Village Hall	£ 24.00	Hire of Hall
9.	Pauline Lambell	£1235.34	
10.	Pauline Lambell	£ 138.57	Stamps, cartridges, photocopying
13.	Inland Revenue	£ 453.60	Tax / NI
TOTAL		£2,950.69	

Cllr. Jukes left the meeting at this point – 10pm

#### **2022 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

1. Cllr. Mrs Jeffreys asked that consideration be given to the Parish Council's representatives on the Village Halls.
2. Cllr. Mrs Soyke asked if the Trustees would consider soundproofing the kitchen area as this had proved successful in Ashurst Village Hall.
3. The clerk was asked to contact Kent Highways regarding the cutting back of hedgerows by the bus stop opposite Third Street.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

**CHAIRMAN**