



**Speldhurst
Parish Council**

*Working for the
whole community*

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

**Minutes of a Highways Committee Meeting held in the Council Office, Langton Green Village Hall on
Thursday 14th January 2016 at 7.30pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Milner (Chairman), Mrs Lyle, Allen and Mercieca with Mrs Norton, Mrs Watson and Mr Wheeler

OFFICER PRESENT: Mr C May – Clerk

There were no members of the public present

1. **To enquire if anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting:** No-one present intended to film, photograph or record the meeting.
2. **To receive and approve apologies and reason for absence:** Cllr Mrs Horne (holiday), Cllr Turner (prior commitment). Mrs Waters advised the Committee that due to work pressure she would be leaving.
3. **Disclosure of Interests:** There were none
4. **Declarations of Lobbying:** There were none
5. **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Highways Committee meeting dated 9th November 2016 which have previously been distributed to all members, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Public Open Session:** There were no members of the public present
7. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:**
 - The Clerk had received a telephone call from the owner of the Post Office in Speldhurst to say that the short-stay notice had still not been installed. The Clerk has contacted TWBC who will install it as soon as possible.
 - Cllr Mrs Hull, not a member of the committee, had been contacted by a resident to say that the new double yellow lines, installed in Barden Road, have not helped alleviate congestion. This will be monitored.
 - Cllr Barrington-Johnson had reported his concern at the state of the sandstone wall in Langton Road, Langton (opposite the shops). The Clerk will establish ownership of the wall.
8. **Monitoring of recent accidents in the Parish:** The updated list had been circulated and had recently been updated by the PCSO. It was noted that there were many injuries over the year.

9. Campaign to support 20mph outside schools: The Clerk updated the committee on the progress, or lack thereof, to-date. He reported that KCC is under-resourced and does not have the man-power to support outside body funded projects. The TW Highways District Manager, Earl Bourner has suggested that SPC writes to Andy Corcoran to elevate the issue and seek a solution. Cllr Mrs Lyle said that the school had received a report (this had been circulated to Cllr Milner and the Clerk) from Linda Bell, Safety Mobility Officer at KCC regarding a crossing patrol. The assessment of the crossing opposite the LGRG was very perceptive and she asked that she be copied in on correspondence as matters progress.

10. Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs): The Clerk confirmed that the order has been placed and it was hoped that they would be operational in February.

11. To consider reports on the following issues by Village

a) Groombridge

- Cllr Milner and the Clerk attended a meeting with Village representatives on Monday 16th November and updated them on a number of issues. SPC would support their request for traffic calming and suggested they write direct to KCC Highways.
- Mrs Norton said there was a problem with drainage in Bird in Hand Street
- The Green's verges are in need of attention but she said that during the drier months they seem to restore back to normal.

b) Ashurst

- Ashurst Bridge - obscured signage: this was no longer an issue (winter) but it will be monitored.
- Mrs Watson advised of a problem concerning a drainage ditch that takes water from the road (A264) to the Mill Stream. The Clerk said he would speak to KCC Highways about the matter.

c) Speldhurst

- Barden Road – consider proposals to stop cars using the pavement. It was agreed that there was nothing further to propose at this stage and it will be taken off the agenda.
- Parking issues – see matters arising for an update on the Post Office sign.
- Stockland Green Road – the Clerk has put in a request for a sign for No HGVs.
- Speldhurst Road – a speed survey is due on the last week of January.
- Verge opposite Mead House, Speldhurst Road – the condition of the verge has been reported to KCC Highways and the issue is with their Enforcement team.

d) Langton Green

- The crossroads by The Hare – Cllr Milner and the Clerk did visit the site and agreed that a post could be installed which may deter motorists from mounting the pavement. Clerk to action.
- Broom Lane – KCC advised that there is a lit sign near the junction of the A264 advising the height restriction of the bridge.
- Lampington Row, Langton Green – the TWBC refuse collection service team have requested double yellow lines on the corner of the school to allow access. The committee had no objections and the Clerk would email the school for their opinion. He will advise TWBC when a reply is received.

12. Bus Shelters – the Clerk advised that installation is scheduled for January/ February

13. Speed watch

- a) The Clerk confirmed there will be two training sessions on Wednesday 20th January; 10.45am and 5.45pm

14. Entry Statements to villages (gateways) – there has been no progress to date

15. Review of Highways Committee's Budget – the committed amounts for the bus shelters (£1,000) and SIDs (max £7,000) should be spent before the financial year-end.

16. Items for information

Cllr Mercieca said that the gas works in Dornden Road, Monteith Close and Longmeads were taking much longer than expected.

A post has been knocked down near the Farm Shop at Langton.

20s Plenty has been launched in Langton Green

Cllr Mrs Lyle said that users of the Church Hall were parking their cars on the pavement completely blocking access on Thursday mornings and asked if the Clerk would contact the Church to ask them to park more sensibly.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman