



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

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 1st DECEMBER 2014 at 7.00pm
IN THE ELLIS ROOM, LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs Jeffreys (Chairman), Mrs Horne, Mrs Hull, Mrs Podbury, Mrs Soyke, Langridge, Milner, Owen, Parker, Pendleton and Turner

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor John Davies (arrived 7.35pm), Borough Councillor David Jukes and Borough Councillor Julian Stanyer (arrived 8.07pm)

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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were four members of the public present

14/260 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.

14/261 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Barrington-Johnson (holiday) and Cllr Woodward (prior engagement)

14/262 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 12 – Transfer of land from TWBC. Cllr Parker declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda items 11 c) – request by Langton Green Village Society to use the LGRG car park for fete parking and 11 d) – email response to the Chair of the Trustees of the Village Hall.

14/263 DECLARATIONS OF LOBBYING: Cllr Mrs Podbury declared she had been lobbied on agenda items 18 d) – Gatwick/Air Traffic and 18 c) v) – resurfacing of footpath between Speldhurst Village Hall and Barden Road. Cllr Langridge declared he had been lobbied by residents regarding school parking in Lampington Row.

14/264 MINUTES: RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on **3rd November 2014** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

14/265 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS: There was nothing to report.

14/266 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION: There were four members of the public present.

Katrina Lyle said that she will supply information from surveys at Langton Green Primary School (LGPS) for the 20mph outside schools consultation.

Marianne Buckley said that she is following the discussion regarding the re-siting of the notice board at the Parish Council Office/Village Hall.

Alex Cornelius Head teacher of LGPS gave an update on the school expansion and car park improvements. He advised that the school has extended its opening hours to alleviate some of the traffic problems and is considering running a breakfast club in the future.

The fourth member of the public did not wish to address the meeting.

14/267 FINANCE COMMITTEE – Report by Cllr Owen

- a) There has been no meeting since the last Full Council. The meeting on 8th December has been cancelled and the next meeting will be held in January or February.
- b) Cllr Owen requested that one budget virements be approved; a transfer of £5,500 from contingency to pay for the defibrillators. It was **RESOLVED** that the transfer be made.
- c) The Clerk reported on four interim payments and it was **RESOLVED** to approve these (see list below).

14/268 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – Invoices verified by Cllr Turner

<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Cheque/Ref</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
<u>Notification of additional payments in October</u>			
Unity Bank	AO51	0.50	Bank charge
Lenco Motor Spares	AO52	28.73	Post reflectors
Citizens Advice Bureaux	MT440	1,000.00	Grant
BT PLC	DD	33.50	Mobile
Total payments		£1,062.73	

To authorise the payment of invoices as listed

Langton Green Charitable Trust	MT441	24.00	Meeting rooms October
Safeplay Playground Maintenance	MT442	622.20	Playground repair
Miss K Lawrence	MT443	15.00	Cleaner
Cleartrack Ltd	MT444	540.00	Trees at The Green
Barcham	MT445	435.60	Supply of trees
Alison Hillman	156	161.50	Internal audit
HMRC	MT446	725.60	Tax & NI
M Flemington	MT447	668.72	Salary
M Flemington	MT448	27.45	Expenses
C May	MT449	1,408.45	Salary
C May	MT450	84.36	Expenses
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	DD	55.00	Non-domestic rates
Prestige Web Marketing	MT451	180.00	Website maintenance
Mr L Cooper	MT452	340.00	Groundsman's duties
RIP Cleaning Services	MT453	172.80	Canine refuse
The Mayor's Charity Account	155	60.00	Charity donation
Total payments		£5,520.68	

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices listed above, sign the cheques and authorise the BACS in Unity Trust Bank

14/269 HIGHWAYS: Cllr Langridge reported that the next Committee meeting is on 5th December. A letter had been received from a resident of Speldhurst Road concerning safety of children crossing by The Hare (see correspondence) and will be discussed at the meeting. Cllr Langridge and the Clerk attended a meeting with Rusthall Parish Council regarding the use of Broomhill Road by heavy traffic. Complaints have been received from

residents of Winstone Scott Avenue regarding parking by school parents and Cllr Langridge has been monitoring the situation. **The Clerk to ascertain whether County Councillor John Davies has reached agreement with Town and Country Housing regarding the installation of bollards.** Cllr Mrs Podbury reported that the barriers in Barden Road are due to be painted black. **The Clerk to follow up with KCC Highways.**

14/270 LANGTON GREEN RECREATION GROUND (LGRG):

- a) It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minor variation to the pavilion lease.
- b) Following the update on the KCC works on the school expansion and car park improvements it was **RESOLVED** that the whole of the additional car parking should be opened as soon as possible.
- c) It was **RESOLVED** to grant permission to Langton Green Village Society to use car parking for Fete on 4th July 2015
- d) A letter received by email from the Chairman of the Trustees of Langton Green Charitable Trust regarding car parking had been circulated. The response was discussed and agreed and will be sent by the Clerk.

14/271 TRANSFER OF LAND FROM TWBC: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys left the room for the discussion and decision and Cllr Milner took the Chair. The Kent High Weald Partnership survey report on the pond at The Boundary had been circulated and the Clerk confirmed that TWBC have agreed to give SPC £1,000 as one-off payment to cover the cost of the recommended cutting back of trees overhanging the pond. It was **RESOLVED** that the transfer of the land goes ahead on this basis and that the Clerk will speak to Came & Co about insurance. The Clerk confirmed that the transfer of the land at Ashurst is going ahead.

14/272 KALC COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME: Two suggestions for nominations were made by Councillors and it was agreed to vote on this matter at the January Full Council meeting.

14/273 LANGTON GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY: It was **RESOLVED** to grant permission for the Langton Green Village Society to site their Christmas tree on Council land at The Green.

14/274 WEBSITE: It was **RESOLVED** that Prestige Web Marketing will continue to administrate the website at the increased rate.

14/275 RE-SCHEDULING OF JANUARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING: It was **RESOLVED** to re-schedule the January Full Council meeting from Monday 5th January to Monday 12th January.

14/276 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Mrs Jeffreys reported on the Parish Chairmen's meeting held at TWBC on 25th November; the transfers of assets are progressing well, the budget consultation is open until 16th January, the Street Cruiser bus is being temporarily withdrawn and the cultural and learning hub is being developed. TWBC would like the Council to help promote the ice skating and would like feedback on the provision of NHS dentists via the Clerk.

14/277 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) **Governance** – Cllr Parker reported that there has been no meeting since the last Full Council. The next meeting is on 19th January 2015. A good report was received from the Internal Auditor.
- b) **Planning** – A Committee meeting was held on 10th November and the minutes have been circulated. The next meeting is on 3rd December. Cllr Mrs Horne reported that things are improving gradually with planning e-consultation
- c) **Amenities** – A Committee meeting was held on 24th November and the minutes have been circulated. The two new trees at The Green, Langton Green were planted on 11th November.
 - i. It was **RESOLVED** to re-evaluate the Groundsman's contract in accordance with the recommendation of the Amenities Committee
 - ii. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a new supply of dog bags at a cost of £400 and it was **RESOLVED** that the purchase of dog bags in the future will be an administrative expenditure.

- iii. It was **RESOLVED** to carry out the work on the trees at LGRG car park in accordance with the tree report at a cost of £1,100.
 - iv. It was **RESOLVED** to delegate the decision to grant temporary consent for signs on Council land to the Clerk.
 - v. It was **RESOLVED** in principle to contribute 50% of the cost of the re-surfacing of the footpath between Speldhurst Village Hall and Barden Road by KCC Public Rights of Way. Cllr Mrs Hull reiterated the safety concerns and the need for a barrier before the Barden Road end of the path.
- d) **Air Traffic** – Cllr Barrington-Johnson’s report on the two recent Gatwick meetings had been circulated. Cllr Milner advised that he is attending the Aviation Environmental Federation AGM on 4th December and will report on the Airspace Policy talk. Borough Councillor David Jukes said that TWBC is holding a Full Council meeting on 7th January to debate Gatwick and will issue a statement thereafter.
- e) **Footpaths** – Cllr Milner reported that the fallen tree in Shadwell Wood has been cleared from the footpath.
- f) **KALC** – there was nothing to report.
- g) **Parish Plan Working Group** – A meeting was held on 19th November and the notes have been circulated. The next meeting is on 15th January. A leader is still required.
- h) **Environment Working Group** – Cllr Mrs Hull reported that letters have been sent to the three schools asking if they would like a tutorial from a CPRE ecologist (funded by the Parish Council) on how to manage school wildlife surveys and projects.
- i) **First World War Working Group** – Cllr Langridge reported that a decision will be made on the grant application to the War Memorials Trust for the restoration/rebuilding of the War Memorial at St Mary’s Church in the next five months.
- j) **Security** – Cllr Langridge referred to his report on his visit to Goudhurst to look at their CCTV installations. It was agreed to put consideration of CCTV in the parish on the agenda for the next Amenities and Highways Committee meetings.

14/278 OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 3RD NOVEMBER 2014:

Cllr Mrs Jeffreys referred to the issue of the buses in Speldhurst. It was agreed to consider asking if a parish council notice could be put in the Doctors’ Surgery asking patients not to park in a way that prevents the bus turning. Borough Councillor David Jukes said he would ask the ‘flying’ traffic warden to attend.

14/279 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

1. KALC Parish News
2. Kent Police & Crime Commissioner November 2014
3. Kent County Council Inside Track Issue 220
4. Letter dated 7th November from The Royal British Legion thanking SPC for the donation to the 2014 Poppy Appeal
5. Letter dated 10th November from St Mary’s Church thanking SPC for the churchyard maintenance grant
6. Email dated 19th November from KCC regarding the KCC Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30 submission
7. Email dated 24th November from Mike Wheeler giving an update on the grant for the disabled toilet – installation is now finished and pictures sent to show the improvements
8. Letter dated 24th November from RBS Rialtas (accounting support) advising us that their Managing Director Geoff Howard has died suddenly
9. Letter dated 26th November from Richard Weston from Speldhurst complaining about the inconsiderate parking along the road outside the LGRG on Saturday mornings (copied to TWBC, Police and KCC Highways)
10. Emailed letter from Roger Mallett, Chairman of LGCT Trustees about the same subject above
11. Thank you from The Guides for the grant

14/280 DIARY DATES: all meetings are at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday 3rd December – Clerks’ networking lunch – Brenchley – 12.30pm

Wednesday 3rd December – Planning meeting – Office

Friday 5th December – Highways meeting – Office – **9.30am**

Monday 8th December – Finance meeting – Office - CANCELLED

Tuesday 9th December – KALC TW - Lamberhurst

14/281 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

Cllr Pendleton asked if responses have been received from EasyJet and British Airways – they have not to date.

Cllr Mrs Horne reported that Speldhurst Post Office and Store was awarded third place in Community Rural Retailer of the Year.

Cllr Mrs Jeffreys thanked all Councillors and the Clerks for their work during the year.

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Chairman