

MINUTES OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING
East Langdon Parish Hall
January 20th 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr C Shaw (Chairman), Cllr A Minns, Cllr S Craft, Cllr S Willett, Cllr B Price-Stephens, Cllr J Watson, Clerk (D Willett), KCC Cllr S Manion, DDC Cllr M Bates and 4 members of the public.

1 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr C Shaw - Item 8 Finances: Chairman's allowance

2. ABSENCES and APOLOGIES

Cllr J Dyer – holiday

DDC Cllr O Richardson – Car breakdown

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16th December 2019 were accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman.

Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr S Willett

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Solton Manor – See item 10. Planning

West Langdon village green and memorial seat

On East Langdon Green the circular memorial seat which surrounds a large birch tree is being damaged as the tree girth increases. The seat, which is dedicated to the late parish councillor Pam Macintyre, cannot be enlarged. A proposal is to relocate the memorial seat to West Langdon Green as the Macintyre family home is at West Langdon. The family will be consulted before any decision is made. A replacement seat is being considered, possibly sited in a south-facing direction which offers views of the church and historic farm buildings.

East Langdon Village Pond and Highway Flooding– Cllr Shaw met with KCC Highways engineers to discuss the on-going flooding around the green. Options may include digging new soakaways on the green and cleansing the existing silt trap at the head of the Church Farm Mews pond. A project report is expected after preliminary test bores of the green are completed. The re-opening of an old run-off ditch at the junction of Waldershare Lane and Church Lane is not an option for KCC as the land is privately-owned although a local solution is a possibility.

Martin Mill Parking issues – No constructive responses have been received back from southeastern. The parish council is determined to hold southeastern to account for the parking issues and urge local residents to continue displaying the “Resident’s Parking” notices to enable accurate parking surveys to be made.

KCC –Website hosting and creating an accessibility-compliant site. Several parish councillors recently attended a KALC seminar explaining the new legislation which come into force on 1st September 2020 for all local government public websites. KCC and other web-hosting companies offer compliant services with a range of designs and support which the council will review before making a decision.

KCC 20mph Speed Roundels markings in East Langdon. Generally well received, with only one resident who questioned the adverse visual impact on the village environment.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The true level of road traffic incidents occurring in rural lanes not being reported may be much higher than police statistics suggest. Parishioners are requested to report incidents to the clerk and an article will be placed in the next parish newsletter.

6. REPORTS

County and District Councillors

Cllr S Manion: KCC's 5 year plan is out for public consultation until 17th February.

An increase of 1.97% in Council Tax is being considered for the Kent Fire and Rescue Service in 2020-21.

Cllr O Richardson: It is hoped that the DDC draft Local Plan (HELAA) will be presented to parishes in February for consultation over a 6 week period. A meeting is being requested with southeastern to discuss the parking concerns at Martin Mill station.

Cllr M Bates. A revised Council Tax scheme is being considered to work alongside the Universal Credit system. Local Plan meetings to be held by DDC at the end of March.

DDC car parking charges are being revised as follows: an increase in parking charge period from 5pm to 6pm. DDC car parks which are currently free in rural locations will move to a charge tariff of £1 minimum for 2 hours. DCC has deferred the decision to include the St Margaret's village car park in the new charging scheme following strong local protests. A full consultation will be launched in about 12 weeks before a final decision is made.

Parish Risk Reports – No new reports

7. CORRESPONDENCE

KCC Weekly Pothole Update

VE Day celebrations 8th May to 10th May

Removal of Operation Brock

Monthly bus services report for December 2019

KALC DOVER AREA COMMITTEE MEETING - 29TH JANUARY 2020

KCC Public Health media release: Dry January and Beyond With 'Know Your Score'

KALC NEWS December 2019

HEALTH AND WELL BEING CONFERENCE - 6TH FEBRUARY 2020

Parish Highways Improvement Plan

KALC Community Awards Scheme 2020

Kent County Council Select Committee on Affordable Housing

WEEKLY UPDATE ON SMP M20 PROGRAMMED WORKS - 13th-19th JANUARY

Kent Downs AONB tree packs

Tackling Domestic Abuse Forum | Tuesday 31st March 2020 | Central London

NALC Newsletter

NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN

NALC CHAIRMAN'S OPEN LETTER TO ALL COUNCILLORS

NHW Crime reports

8. FINANCE

Approval of payments Resolution 20-01/01

Chq No.

1141	Philip Wilson Tree risk assessment West Langdon	£ 200.00
1142	KALC Web Accessibility Workshop (3 attendees)	£ 216.00
1143	Chairman's Annual Allowance	£ 100.00
1144	East Langdon Parish Hall Post Office support grant	£ 260.00

1145	Langdon Playing Field Insurance annual grant	£1450.00
1146	PC meetings fees East Langdon Hall (10 x £20.00)	£ 200.00
1147	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd Playing Field Safety Inspection	£206.40

Receipts Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr S Craft

Resolution carried

Receipts

NatWest Bank Interest bank statement not received to date.

October – December 2019 Quarterly Financial Statement

Resolution 20-01/02: That the financial statement for the period October – December 2019 be accepted as an accurate statement of accounts and signed by the chairman.

Proposed: Cllr B Price-Stephens

Seconded: Cllr J Watson

Resolution approved unanimously.

Budget Preparation for 2020-21 and Precept Demand

A budget of £18,200 had been set for the financial year 2020-21 at the December 2019 council meeting (Resolution 19-12/02). This budget was increased by £1520 on 2019-20 to reflect expected running costs, parish maintenance projects and new initiatives. Changes to legislation affecting the council's website compliancy and data protection are new expenditure areas as well as potential community works which may be required to supplement decreases in DDC and KCC funded services. Healthy parish council reserves will allow some unallocated reserves to be used to supplement the proposed budget, balance income being derived from the precept and VAT expenditure refund.

The precept tax base (the number of Band "D" equivalent properties in Langdon) for 2020-21 is 242.8, compared to last year's figure of 236.07. This is partly due to the additional housing at Long Hill Lane in East Langdon. Using this increase has allowed the parish council to set the parish Band "D" council tax at £62.21 as last year (0% change) whilst raising a precept of £15,104. The shortfall in the £18,200 budget figure being met from reserves (£2,085) and the predicted VAT refund (£1,000). Based on the above information a proposal to set the precept demand at £15,104.59 was considered.

Resolution 20-01/03: To set the annual precept for the financial year 2020-2021 at £15,104.59

Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr S Willett

Resolution approved unanimously.

The Parish Precept Demand Notice for £15,104.59 was authorised by the Chairman and Clerk ready for delivery to Dover District Council. Details of the 2020-21 budget and precept are in Appendix A and the parish council website.

Grants to Local Organisations. Application Notices will be placed in parish notice boards and on the website inviting parish organisations to apply for a grant of up to £250. Details are on the parish council website or from the clerk.

9. PLANNING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DOV 19/01199

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As Amended)

Proposal: Erection of a front porch extension.

Location: The Old Stable, East Langdon, CT15 5JF

Comments: No objections. The works would enhance the existing building.

DOV 19/01528

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As Amended)

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear and side extension (existing side extension and rear conservatory to be demolished)

Location: Windyridge, Wheatsheafe Lane, Martin, CT15 5LN

Comments: No objections. The proposal would enhance the existing property

DOV 19/01061

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As Amended)

Proposal: Conversion of barn to include infill of open sides to north and west elevations, creation of 2no. openings, erection of partitions to form WC's, erection of timber decking and extension to form kitchen

Location: Solton Manor, Solton Lane, East Langdon, Dover

Comments. The Parish Council strongly objects to the application in its current form and recommends refusal. Further comments to be added to previous comments already sent to DDC planning department in response to application DOV 19/1060.

DECISIONS BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

None received to date.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

To date only Guston Parish Council have shown any interest in collaboration.

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Lengthman's Report.

Pot holes reported to KCC have been quickly filled in. From 1st January Dover District Council will be taking over maintenance of their street lighting and begin converting to LED systems. Clarification is being sought on the procedure to report street light fault under the new DDC system. Keith Watson at DDC is responsible for the conversion and Cllr M Bates is requesting the LED conversion schedule dates.

East Langdon Parish Hall

Nothing to report.

Langdon Playing Field

The Hip Hop play equipment has been re-installed following a warranty replacement claim.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Carols on the Green 18th December: This community event was well attended, raising £100 for the Demelza House charity.

Commonwealth Day 9th March 10.45 – 11.00am: Local residents are invited to attend this annual parish community event at East Langdon Green to mark the annual flag-raising and confirmation reading. It is hoped that children from Langdon Primary School will again participate in the event.

Data Protection: A new agenda heading to be included as a standing item.

Dog fouling in Martin Mill: Cllr J Watson had received reports of dog-fouling in Station Road. The DDC Dog Warden patrol will be notified.

Brexit Friday 31st January: A flag will be raised at East Langdon Green to mark the leave date.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary parish council meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 17th February 2020 in East Langdon Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Appendix A				
Langdon Parish Council Budget and Precept 2020-21				
Agreed 20th January 2020				
	Budget 20/21			
Clerk Employment costs	2700		Key	
Clerk Expenses	200		New Category	
Clerk Broadband	180			
Computer back up service	60			
KALC Subscription	280			
Subscriptions ARCK/KPFA/CPRE	160			
Insurance	270			
Chairman's Allowance	100			
Audit	150			
Newsletter	500			
Training Course Fees	700			
Training Course Travel	400			
Conference Fees	200			
Conference Travel	100			
Playing Field Insurance	1500			
Playing Field Inspection	200			
Playing Field maintenance	2500			
E/L Village green works	400		Allocated Reserves Headings 2020-21	
Post Office Support	260	Additional Maintenance	£	1,500.00
Community orchard maintenance	250	Parish Celebrations	£	800.00
Graveyard strimming E.L.	250	Neighbourhood Plan	£	1,000.00
Graveyard mowing W.L	250	Village Hall Fund	£	1,700.00
Village signs	250	Community Support Fund	£	1,000.00
Grants Village Organisations	500	Youth Project	£	300.00
Devolved Contingencies	500	East Langdon Plant Donation	£	309.00
Phone boxes enhancement	200	West Langdon Green Works	£	500.00
Village halls fund	500	Climate Change	£	500.00
Noticeboard maintenance	300	Tree Planting	£	200.00
Community projects	300	War Memorial Project	£	-
Community Celebrations	500	Play Area grant residual	£	802.00
Traffic Management	500	Allocated Reserves Subtotal	£	8,611.00
Section 137 Payments	200			
Election Fees 2019	200			
Council Meeting Premises hire	240	Precept Calculation		
West Langdon Village Green man	500	Tax Base (No. Band "D" equivs)		242.8
Parish Benches (5)	300	Band D CT Charge		£62.21
Website Redesign and Hosting	1000	Precept Raised	£	15,104.59
War Memorial Maintenance	200			
E/L Green Tree Memorial Seat	400	Income Sources		
TOTAL	18200	VAT and Interest income		£1,200.00
		Reserves top-up		£1,895.41
		Precept		£15,104.59
Budget requirement	£18,200.00	Income Total 2020-21		£18,200.00