

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL
East Langdon Parish Hall
on Monday May 15th 2023 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr C Shaw (chair), Cllr A Minns, Cllr J Watson,
 Cllr Sylvia Laidlow-Petersen, D Willett (clerk).
 KCC Cllr S Manion, DDC Cllr M Bates and 3 members of the public.

The chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first session of the recently elected parish council.

1. ABSENCES and APOLOGIES

Cllr Barbara Price-Stephens. Absence and apology accepted. Resolution 23/05/01

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr C Shaw (Item 14) Finance – Microsoft Monthly subs, Khickster Ltd reimbursement.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE YEAR 2023-2024

Election of Chairperson. Nomination Cllr C Shaw

Proposed: Cllr A Minns, **Seconded:** Cllr J Watson

Resolved that Cllr Chris Shaw be elected chairperson of Langdon Parish Council for the forthcoming year (Resolution 23/05/02).

Cllr Shaw signed the declaration of Acceptance of office as chairperson.

Election of Vice Chairperson. Nomination Cllr A Minns

Proposed: Cllr C Shaw, **Seconded:** Cllr J Watson

Resolved that Cllr Antony Minns be elected vice chairperson of Langdon Parish Council for the forthcoming year (Resolution 23/05/03).

4. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILLORS

The four elected councillors present at the meeting signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as witnessed by the Clerk.

It was agreed that Cllr Barbara Price-Stephen could complete the declaration at the June meeting assuming she was well enough to attend. (Resolution 23-05/04)

5. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Resolution (23/05/05): KALC representatives - Cllr C Shaw, Cllr A Minns.

The election of councillors to other organisations will be considered at the next meeting when all seven councillor seats should be filled.

6. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

To be completed by elected councillors and returned to DDC.

7. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

The Clerk will advertise the two unfilled councillor seats by public notice on 19th May for 14 days. Application forms to be filled in and returned to the clerk by 9th June.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The Pond at Church Farm Mews, East Langdon

A proposal was presented by 3 members of Church Farm Mews (East Langdon) inviting the Parish Council to consider leasing the pond for a 30 year period from the Church Farm Mews Management company for a peppercorn rent of £1 pa. It was suggested that the pond

is seen as a community asset and a feature of the village green area. The parish council will consider the proposal and respond in due course, probably after inviting comments from Langdon residents as any restoration works would have implications for the parish budget.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 17th April 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman.

Proposed: Cllr J Watson

Seconded: Cllr A Minns

(Resolution 23-05/05)

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 24th April 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman

Proposed: Cllr A Minns

Seconded: Cllr C Shaw

(Resolution 23-05/06)

10. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Martin Mill parking

An email will be sent to George Paterson, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager, southeastern railway, to continue the discussion on the station car park charges and on-street commuter parking.

Vegetation overhanging footpaths

Westside hedges have been cut but likely to need further trimming back in order to restore the original width of the pavements. The issue of hedge management will be discussed with our Dover area KCC Highways manager.

New Defibrillator for Martin. Martin Marvels community group has raised some money towards a new defibrillator. The parish council has registered interest in a new defibrillator and cabinet from the London Hearts charity. The purchase price after subsidy is £1195 ex VAT.

West Langdon Chapel. The grass in front of the chapel site will continue to be included in the village green mowing schedule, the cost being covered by the parish council.

11. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Nothing to report

12. REPORTS

KCC Councillor S Manion

Cllr Manion congratulated the councillors being elected to the new parish council. KCC has launched a public exhibition on Dementia during Mental Health Awareness week 15 – 21 May, show-cased event at Detling. KCC trading standards have been actively pursuing illegal tobacco selling. KCC is strongly opposed to the proposed London ULEZ zones which would include some Kent postal areas.

DDC Councillor M Bates

See Appendix A

13. CORRESPONDENCE

KCC 21 April Scam Alerts: Roofing Criminals Active, Government Alert Reminder, Spray Foam Insulation scam and more

DDC Dover District Council Local Plan Examination
Town/Parish Council Disclosable Pecuniary Interest Forms

KALC KALC Spring and Summer training
KALC NEWS MAY 2023
Kent Plan Tree - Call for Sites

Join KALC for our Post Election Dynamic Councillor Learning Events
 Help with testing a new Highways Reporting Tool
 Join KALC and Breakthrough Communications for our "Managing Difficult People and Conversations" online module
 FREE Royal Forestry Society Workshop 17th May - Bridge, Canterbury
 NALC Chief executive's bulletin
 NALC NEWSLETTER
 STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2023
 South East Employers April News letter

14. FINANCE

Resolution 23-05/07: Approval of payments

Chq No.

1380	Microsoft Monthly Sub charge – PC emails payee CB Shaw	10.80
1381	Khickster Entertainment Ltd - Party Balance payee CB Shaw	252.00
1382	Trevor Oku Grass cutting East Langdon Green	£30.00
1383	Groundworks UK Neighbourhood Plan Grant underspend refund	£1404.00
1384	Rebecca Jarvis Coronation Expenditure Refund	£49.75
1385	Campaign for the Protection of Rural England annual subscription	£36.00

Proposed Cllr A Minns
Seconded: Cllr J Watson.
Resolution carried

Receipts

NatWest Bank Interest 2nd March 2023 – 31st March 2023 £32.60

15. **Proposal: To complete a Certificate of Exemption certifying the parish council as exempt from a limited assurance review for the accounting period 2022-2023.**

This proposal was withdrawn as the parish council's gross income was just over £25000 in financial year 2022-23. The external audit will automatically be a limited assurance review.

16. REVIEW OF FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Review and approve the council's policies for:

Resolution 23-05/08: a) Standing Orders (previously circulated)

Approved as read

Resolution 23-05/09: b) Financial Regulations (previously circulated)

Approved as read

Resolution 23-05/10: c) Risk Assessment (previously circulated)

Approved as read

Resolution 23-05/11: d) Statement of Internal Control (previously circulated)

Approved as read

Proposed Cllr A Minns, Seconded: Cllr J Watson. Carried unanimously

Bank Account Authorised Signatories: Annual Check with NatWest plc to be confirmed and updated at the June meeting.

- 17. PLANNING**
PLANNING APPLICATIONS
 None received

DECISIONS BY DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

CON/20/01171/F

Land At Church Farm Vicarage Farm Road West Langdon Kent
 Condition 3 - Materials 21-Apr-2023
 COAPP (approved)

- 18. LANGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**
 End of year report and grant expenditure sent to Groundwork UK.
 27th June next public “Policies” workshop meeting in the parish hall.
- 19. DATA PROTECTION REPORT**
 Laptop provision for councillors and council business email addresses to be discussed.
 Secure backup service for the clerk’s laptop renewed with Cantium Business Systems.
- 20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
 Jim Miller of West Langdon reported that the West Langdon pond and gullies had been cleared by the Kent Highways contractor.
- 21. NEXT MEETING**
The Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm Monday June 19th 2023 in East Langdon Parish Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Signed..... Date.....

Appendix A

Monthly Report from DDC Cllr M Bates

MEETING REPORT FOR EAST LANGDON PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 15.05.23

THE ELECTION

Firstly, both of us would like to congratulate you all on your return to your positions on the Parish Council and look forward to working with you on the issues which remain and those that will invariably appear over the next four years. We would also like to thank all those within the district who voted for us and returned us to the District Council. It is our pledge to continue to pursue your interests and we will not disappoint you.

For us the results of the DDC election were a disappointment. The result meant that Labour now has 17 seats, Conservatives 14 and there is one Independent who has apparently already declared that he will vote with the Labour Party. For the two of us it means we will no longer hold executive positions within the Cabinet although we may be asked to continue our roles as shadow members. However, that will not prevent us from continuing to work on your behalf as ward members and to ensure that the issues which matter to you are relayed back to the decision makers and that they respond appropriately.

The next steps will be the appointment of a new Leader, most likely to be Councillor Kevin Mills, and a new Cabinet. The composition of the core council committees such as Licensing, Planning and Overview and Scrutiny will also have to be decided and Councillors appointed to them. Decisions on these are being considered and they will be formalised at the first meeting of the Full Council on 17th May. The probability is that the new council will not mark an immediate change in direction as the budget for the forthcoming year has already been agreed and there was a considerable degree of consensus within the two parties on the capital projects which are ongoing or about to start. Any significant changes are therefore unlikely to appear until later in this year when they start to consider the budget for 2023/24. We suspect that they may try to impose charges on rural car parks, and they have a manifesto commitment to bring waste services in house.

LOCAL ISSUES

None