

## **Langtoft Parish Council**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 27 November 2018  
at Langtoft Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Andy Halfhide (Chairman), Brian Branch, Angela Brogan, Brian Brown, Andy Hallam, Roy Jackson, Yvonne McCulloch, Mike Thompson and Lewis Trickey.

**In Attendance:** Julian Tatam (Clerk), Jeannette Pearson (Grapevine Editor) County Councillor Barry Dobson, District Councillor Kelham Cooke, and no members of the public.

### **54/18-19 Open Forum**

The meeting began with the open forum at 7.00pm

In the absence of any members of the public, there was a discussion about the Grapevine including ways of updating the look of the publication, possibly introducing colour while reducing the net cost to the village. Cllr Brogan agreed to approach LCC Community fund for a grant to support Grapevine.

The Open Forum closed at 7.30 pm.

### **55/18-19 Chairman's welcome and remarks**

The Chairman welcomed the County and District Councillors.

### **56/18-19 Apologies for absence**

Cllr D Hallam: unwell Cllr Larkman: no news. District Councillor Trollope - Bellew

### **57/18-19 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr A Hallam – next door neighbour to planning application S18/2125

### **58/18-19 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting**

The approval of the revised minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr A Hallam and agreed unanimously

The approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 was proposed by Cllr McCulloch, seconded by Cllr Brogan and agreed, (with Cllr Trickey abstaining as he was absent from that meeting).

### **59/18-19 Report from County and District Councillors and Police**

District Councillor Cooke reported that:

A development of 25 affordable properties was commenced in Bourne today.

Lottery SK has so far raised £50k for local good causes.

The contract for SKDC to acquire the former Cummins site in Stamford should be signed shortly.

County Councillor Dobson reported that:

He is chasing up the flooding at the A15 crossroads

There was a productive meeting regarding the A15 corridor which included the two local MPs and Richard Davies from LCC. He was asked to obtain written confirmation that there is adequate space to install four way traffic lights at the A15 crossroads.

He was also asked to support our request for 'missing link' in the path to Penfield N.R. to be completed.

He was also asked to enquire if LCC Highways would grit West End and Stowe Road if the village provide a contribution. (East End is already part of the gritting route).

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Chairman's/initials/signature.....

There was no police representative present.

### **60/18-19 Clerks Report**

The Clerk's report had already been provided to the Councillors, including a log of communications.

Key points:

Consent has been obtained from SKDC to fell the dangerous willow at East End Park.

SKDC are no longer prepared to pay LPC to take over the grasscutting of the areas they own in the village.

The Clerk has liaised with SKDC planning and the proposed development of 174 houses at Elsea Park, Bourne requesting an S.106 contribution to traffic mitigation of the A15.

Ongoing discussions with Hansons and LCC about the rabbit issues at Penfield and the 'missing link' in the footpath.

### **61/18-19 Working groups**

#### **Finance and General Purposes:**

The report was circulated to the Councillors. Key points:

The 2018 – 19 payments are up to date and below budget but a reduction in the reserves of £6,800 is projected if the budgeted expenditure of £4000 on gritting and £2000 on Penfield takes place.

The 2019/ 20 draft budget indicates a further deficit of £6400 (based on the current precept), reducing reserves to just £3,000.

An inflationary increase of £700 in the precept is proposed, coupled with a cost reduction programme.

There was also a discussion of the potential traffic lights at the crossroads and the possibility of having to raise £200,000 at some point to pay for them.

#### **Events & Cemetery:**

The Memorial Bench was dedicated on 11<sup>th</sup> November. It was agreed that the old bench be moved to Black Bull Green. This will require some slabs to provide a sound base. The Clerk will ask the gardener/handyman to undertake this.

A proposal from Cllr Brogan that the 'Meet the Councillors' event be held jointly with a launch of Penfield N.R. was discussed. While this received support, it was decided that this should occur earlier in the year and a date of 18 May was proposed.

#### **Amenities:**

The only gritting quotation we hold is from last year's supplier but that is considered to be expensive. There followed a discussion on gritting and the consensus was to look for another supplier.

It was proposed that, given we have a budget of £4,000 allocated for 2018/19 we explore further suppliers in the next week with the intention of instructing them; proposed Cllr Branch, seconded Cllr A Hallam and agreed on a majority.

#### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

A motion to suspend standing orders to allow a further 20 minutes to discuss the remaining urgent business was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Trickey and agreed unanimously.

#### **Penfield Nature Reserve (Pocket Park):**

The path has been installed between the village and the park and a post and wire fence installed. It had been understood that this would be a post and rail fence; the Clerk was asked to investigate.

Regarding the 'missing link' in the path, Hansons have met their obligation be we are to pursue this with LCC Highways.

A plan showing the proposed dog walk routes (dogs on leads) has yet to be presented to the Council for their consideration.

## **62/18-19 Finance**

**Year to date accounts.** The accounts to 21 November had been circulated to all councillors, including all transactions to date.

The balances at that date totalled £27,710cr.

Payments are up to date with the exception of the mowing of the play parks as the invoice is still awaited.

The latest projection is for an annual deficit of £6800, reducing the year end reserves to £9400.

**A draft budget** for 2019 20 was presented under item 60 / 18-19. The precept will need to be agreed at the next Council meeting.

**Payment for Remembrance Day wreathes.** The purchase of wreathes was agreed at the last meeting so the Clerk was authorised to make the payment without a further motion.

## **63/18-19 General Data Protection Regulations**

A draft policy had been circulated to Councillors. After a brief discussion, a motion that we adopt the policy was proposed by Cllr A Hallam, seconded by Cllr Thompson and passed unanimously.

## **64/18-19 Correspondence:**

### **Emergency Text Alert System:**

LCC are launching a system for issuing emergency texts. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk be the contact points.

## **65/18-19 Council Administration**

### **Appointment of signatories to sign Pocket Park (Penfield) documentation:**

The Council's standing orders require that two Councillors sign legal documentation.

A proposal that Cllr Halfhide and Cllr Branch be appointed to complete the legal documentation was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed unanimously.

### **Appointment of Internal Auditor:**

Maralyn Robinson, the current internal auditor for Deeping St Nicholas and Deeping St James Parish Councils, is prepared to undertake the same role for Langtoft.

A proposal that we appoint Maralyn Robinson was proposed by Cllr Branch, seconded by Cllr A Hallam and agreed unanimously.

## **66/18-19 Other Matters**

There was a brief discussion of the recent meeting of stakeholder regarding re-development of the Playing Fields Pavillion. Progress is being held up while the issues around the current leaseholder are addressed.

Cllr Brogan has been looking into sources of external funds to support Council activities and presented her report. Councillors and groups are asked to bring their 'wish list' to the next Council meeting.

**67/18-19 Date of next meeting**

Next Full Council meeting: Tuesday 8 January 2019 at Langtoft Village Hall at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.