

Langtoft Parish Council
Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 September 2016
at Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Brian Branch (Chairman), Roy Jackson, Colin Larkman, Yvonne McCulloch, Derek Risk (vice-chairman), Mike Thompson, Lewis Trickey.

In Attendance: Heather Gilling (Clerk), County Councillor Peter Robinson, district councillor Rosemary Woolley, PCSO Michelle Laughton, and three members of the public.

51/16-17 Open Forum

Questions asked and matters raised by members of the public included the following:

- Concern at money being spent at cemetery on the covered seat, storage box, refuse bin, and proposed notice board. *These have been provided as a service to the community. The box keeps the watering can and containers tidy. The notice board feature include information such as cemetery regulations. The refuse bin is being emptied as part of Langtoft's regular collection.*
- Notes of the last meeting should not be adopted as minutes because the agenda was late in being publicised. *We will agree them as 'Clerk's notes.'*
- Queries regarding the budget/income and expenditure account of the Special Expense Area (playing field.) in particular cost of water testing and a surplus of fund. *This is an agenda item for discussion later as part of the Clerk's report.*
- Loose manhole cover West End/crossroads is a nuisance, particularly during the night. *This will be followed up with Highways.*

52/16-17 Chairman's welcome and remarks

The chairman welcomed all those present.

53/16-17 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Debbie Hallam. Cllr Andy Hallam had indicated he had been delayed and would be late. (Cllr A Hallam joined the meeting at 7.45 pm) District Councillor Woolley offered apologies on behalf of District Councillor Kelham Cooke.

54/16-17 Members interests

There were no declarations of interest.

55/16-17 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting on 28 June 2016 were approved. Notes of the meeting on 26 July 2016 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

56/16-17 Reports from County and District Councillors and Police

Because County Councillor Robinson needed to leave the meeting early he left the chairman with a message that work to create the passing places on New Road was due to begin shortly.

District Councillor Woolley reported on a number of matters:

- The proposed extension to the conservation area now included part of Barn Owl Close
- A decision was still awaited on the proposal to create a Mayoral Authority for Greater Lincolnshire. SKDC had disagreed with the proposal for a Mayor but welcomed the idea of stronger links with the other authorities in the county.

- The Boundary Commission had now made its final decisions regarding the new County council divisions. Langtoft would be part of Deepings East with effect from May 2017.
- SKDC is planning to buy back ex-local authority houses in order to increase stock. It is one of few district councils still building council homes.

57/16-17 Finance

The internal audit had been completed and the report of the internal auditor had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members noted that the internal auditor had signed the annual return, with qualifications. Her comments would be sent to the external auditor.

It was resolved to accept the internal audit, with thanks being expressed to the internal auditor for the work she had put in, and the helpful comments that had been made.

Members considered the annual return, but noted an error in the figures and the omission of details of the asset register.

Action: The Clerk was asked to amend the information, recirculate it and to contact the External Auditor.

58/16-17 Clerk's report

The Clerk's report included the following matters:

Langtoft Special Expense Area: Clerk had spoken with Richard Wyles, Corporate Finance Manager, at SKDC regarding the SEA and the matters that had been raised at recent meetings regarding maintenance etc. at the playing field. He is willing to attend a meeting of the Parish Council. Further matters regarding the SEA had come to light since the conversation which members wished to discuss. A copy of projected budget had also raised queries. **Action: Mr Wyles, together with the SKDC officer responsible for maintenance matters be invited to attend a site meeting to discuss the matter further, as it was the general view that the playing field facilities were used not just by Langtoft residents who did not contribute towards the facility.**

Development of 8 dwellings at Cloven Ends: Although this development is no longer subject to 'Section 106' the developer has indicated he is willing to honour the agreement to make a donation to the Parish Council towards playground equipment. **Action: The Clerk write to the developer to acknowledge this gesture.**

South Lincolnshire Fenlands Partnership: This organisation is interested in working with the Parish Council in respect of Pocket Park and would like to meet the Parish Council, and arrange a meeting to a local site (Willow Tree Fen) which they involved with to see the kind of work they are part of.

Action: The Clerk invite their representative to a future meeting and organise a visit to Willow Tree Fen. project.

VAT reclamations: The application for reclaiming VAT for 2015-2016 (£2,225.63) was ready for submission.

The submission for 2014-2015 (£945.82) was almost ready. There was still some outstanding information to be researched. **Action: The Clerk progress these as soon as possible.**

Street lighting 'transformation' project': Maps were distributed showing which residential roads would be affected by Lincolnshire County Council's scheme to turn off street lights at midnight. Street lights on the A15 will continue to remain on all night but will be converted to LED. The new arrangements are due to come into effect in November-December.

Temporary road closure: A small section of Meadow Road at its junction with New Road was due to be the subject of temporary closures at various dates during September and October in order that essential maintenance work be carried out.

Quotations for replacement of fencing East End Park: Two out of three companies invited to quote had replied but because there was a considerable difference between the two it was considered appropriate to seek a third quotation. **Action: The clerk to obtain a third quotation.**

Dates for parish council meetings: Dates had been provisionally booked up to February 2018. **Action: Confirm dates and also book the Village Hall for a 'meet the parish council' event on a Saturday morning in during May 2017.**

Miscellaneous correspondence: Correspondence had been received from local residents on the following matters:

- a) Condition of the grass verge outside 21-25 West End. This is exacerbated because cars park on the grass. **Action: Clerk to contact SKDC, providing photographs, to ask what action could be taken to improve the appearance and deter parking.**
- b) Cutting back of hedging in a section of Back Lane between Hyde Gardens and the A15 with potential detriment to a protected tree. It was considered the work carried out had not impacted on a protected tree but the Clerk was asked to find out which trees were covered by a TPO

59/16-17 Planning applications

Decision notices of approval for the following applications had been received:

S16/1077: Side and rear single storey extension, 31 Cloven Ends.

S16/1512: single storey rear extension, 47 The Rides.

Three applications had been received:

S16/0608: 47 East End. Very minor changes. Doesn't change our view on the overall application

S16/1800: two storey rear extension 8 Wheatfield.

S16/1914: rear extension, Stowe Corner, Stowe Road.

The latest applications had been circulated and comments were invited.

60/16-17 Parks

The Clerk had been copied into correspondence in respect of Pocket Park that notice was being served on the tenant farmer of the field alongside the park for acquisition of the strip of land needed for the footpath between the park and the village.

61/16-17 Meet the council/Remembrance event

Cllr Trickey reported on the provisional arrangements he had made in respect of a 'meet the Parish Council' event combined with stands and activities commemorating World War II. He invited

members to confirm the date – Saturday 29 October from 10 am until 2pm. **Resolved. This event be confirmed.**

It being 9.30pm Cllr Risk proposed and Cllr A Hallam seconded that standing orders be suspended in order that the meeting could continue.

62/16-17 Christmas at the Crossroads

Cllr McCulloch invited suggestions regarding the date of the Christmas at the Crossroads lights switching on ceremony. Normally it is held the first Monday of December, but if it was wished to coincide with the church's Christmas Tree Festival, as last year, it would need to be held on 12 December, which members felt was too late. It was also noted that the Waggon and Horses had offered to sponsor the tree. Therefore it might be appropriate to hold the ceremony on an evening when the Waggon and Horses was open so that refreshments could be served there afterwards.

63/16-17 Working Groups

Finance and General Purposes: Notes from the meeting on 25 August 2016 had been previously circulated. Actions were noted.

Events and Cemeteries: Cllr McCulloch had noted the grass on verge alongside the path to the cemetery had not been cut and reminded members that the hedge beside Anglian Water's pumping station remained untrimmed. **Action: Clerk to chase up these matters.**

Amenities: It was felt this group should be reinstated as there were a number of matters that it would be useful for this group to consider.

Resolved: Membership of this group would be Cllrs A Hallam, Jackson, Larkman, Thompson.

64/16-17 Exclusion of the press and public

There was no business under this heading.

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

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Tuesday 18 October 2016.

Addendum:

The notes of the meeting of Langtoft Parish Council held on Tuesday 6 September 2016 were approved subject to the following additions:

Minute: 62/16-17: Cllr McCulloch was asked to contact the Waggon and Horses to ask how they would like to be involved in the event and serve refreshments and to establish which date would suit them.

Minute: 63/16-17: Cllr McCulloch reported that the cradle seat and tyre seat were in need of replacement.