

**Langtoft Parish Council**  
Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18 October 2016  
at Langtoft Village Hall

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

In Attendance: Heather Gilling (Clerk), district councillors Rosemary Woolley, and Kelham Cooke and 15 members of the public.

**65/16-17 Open Forum**

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

- Is it possible to have a list of trees in the village subject to preservation orders. *The clerk will make inquiries.*
- Various issues regarding litter bins at the crossroads. *The clerk will make inquiries with SKDC.*
- Issues regarding dogs being allowed in areas where children play. *The clerk will look into this matter and report to the next meeting, with input from SKDC.*
- Storm drain at Stowe Road. Dredgings are left on the bank. This is unsightly. *This is common practice to enable any creatures to return to the water. We can contact the Drainage Board.*
- New Road passing places. Have not put in the number anticipated. *We will follow this up with Lincs County Council.*
- Grass cutting not been done very well. *Langtoft may wish to consider arranging for grass to be cut and reimbursing cost.*
- Joining the A15 at the crossroads continues to be a problem – especially at peak times. *Consider asking County Councillor to invite appropriate cabinet member to visit and view the problems experienced.*
- Query about specific planning application. *Not received notification as yet. When we do it will be considered as per our approved procedures.*

N.B. A resident who had not had the opportunity to ask all her questions was invited to email her questions in order to receive a written reply.

The Open Forum closed at 7.35 pm.

**66/16-17 Chairman's welcome and remarks**

The chairman welcomed all those present.

**67/16-17 Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence.

**68/16-17 Members interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

**69/16-17 Minutes**

Notes of the meeting on 6 September 2016 were approved as minutes with the addition of amendments submitted by Cllr McCulloch.

**70/16-17 Reports from County and District Councillors and Police**

District Councillor Cooke reported that SKDC would be voting on the Lincolnshire devolution proposal and would probably vote against because members didn't feel there were sufficient benefits. He offered support in investigating matters regarding dogs using public areas in the village.

#### **71/16-17 Finance**

Internal audit: The clerk reported that she was making arrangements for the internal audit for the half year ending 30 September 2016 to be conducted.

External audit: The updated external audit document had been circulated and members were satisfied the information was now correct.

**Resolved: The audit documents of the 2015/16 accounts, including the annual governance statement and accounting statements be approved and the document be submitted to the external auditor.**

The financial statement showing the latest transactions had been circulated.

#### **72/16-17 Clerk's report**

The Clerk's report included the following matters:

Pocket Park footpath: The Clerk had been copied into e-mail correspondence between Lincolnshire County Council's representatives and Hanson's. There appeared to be disagreement over the standard of footpath and fencing to be provided between the village and Pocket Park Shaw. There was also a reference to the parish council would accept maintenance liability for the path but there had not a direct request. **Action: The Clerk prepare a full report on the current situation for the next meeting.**

East End fence replacement: A further quote has been received. There had now been three quotes and the possibility of a fourth. **Action: The Clerk bring details of all the quotes to the next meeting.**

Offer of tree saplings: A local resident had offered the parish council some oak and walnut tree saplings. **Action: The Clerk accept this kind offer with the parish council's grateful thanks.**

Emptying of black bin at the cemetery: This still is not being emptied. **Action: The Clerk to continue to pursue this matter.**

Meetings with SKDC regarding the special expense area meeting, also the Fenland Trust.

There was a discussion on how to proceed with meeting SKDC regarding the SEA. It was felt that a site meeting would be appropriate to be followed by inviting the appropriate SKDC officers to a meeting of the parish council in the New Year.

**Action: The Clerk to follow up the initial inquiries made.**

#### **73/16-17 Planning applications**

A decision notice had been received in respect of:

S16/1800: Two storey extension, 8 Wheatfield. Approved.

Applications received:

S16/1930: First floor side extension and conversion of existing garage to study, 32 Westfield Way. Previously circulated – no objection.

S16/2163: Two storey side extension, Manor Barn, Manor Way. – no objection

#### **74/16-17 Proposed removal of BT phone box**

The clerk reported that a letter had been received from SKDC regarding removal of phone kiosks that received little use. The kiosk at West End had been used only twice in the past year. There was an option for the Parish Council to buy the kiosk and perhaps use it for community purposes. The general view of members was that it should be removed but it was agreed the matter should be referred to the 'Meet the Parish Council' event on 29 October in order to gain the views of residents before responding to SKDC.

#### **75/16-17 Meet the council/Remembrance event**

Cllr Trickey updated members on progress of the 'Meet the Council' event to be held on 29 October which would be supported by a number of organisations including the Royal British Legion.

He proposed that a donation be given to the Royal British Legion to acknowledge its support. This led to a discussion as to whether it was appropriate or legally permissible to make such a donation, and whether it would set a precedent in respect of making donations to other organisations.

A proposal to make a donation, if permissible was carried by 7 votes to 2.

A proposal that the donation, if permissible, should be £100, was carried by 7 votes to 2.

**Action: The Clerk was asked to establish whether such a donation was permissible and if so the donation should be £100.**

#### **76/16-17 Christmas at the Crossroads**

Cllr McCulloch reported that the event had been arranged for Thursday 1 December. Further contact needed to be made with the landlord of the Waggon and Horse who had offered to sponsor the tree. Cllr McCulloch appealed for members to help with stewarding the event and to ensure the area was coned off to keep people away from the main road.

#### **77/16-17 Condition of storm drain, Stowe Road**

This matter had already been discussed during the Open Forum. **Action: clerk to contact Drainage Board to see if any action could be taken.**

#### **78/16-17 Updates from working groups**

Amenities group: This group had met on 11 October and agreed terms of reference to be the same as previously.

Repairs had been carried out to the swings at East End Park. Cllr D Hallam congratulated Cllrs Thompson and Jackson for resolving this matter quickly and asked for this to be recorded in the minutes. **All agreed.**

The group recommended placing a 'child friendly' litter bin in the play area at Black Bull Green. Various designs were circulated and it was agreed the teddy bear was the most appropriate.

**Action: The Clerk place an order for a teddy bear bin.**

The group had discussed the grass-cutting and gritting contracts and felt these needed further consideration and recommended a meeting with the current contractor.

**Action: The Clerk was asked to provide copies of the current contracts.**

Events and Cemeteries group: Cllr McCulloch circulated a copy of this year's Christmas card which featured a wintry scene of Pocket Park.

Cllr McCulloch recommended that a donation of £25 be offered to the Royal British legion for the wreath to be laid at the Remembrance Day service. **All agreed.**

**79/16-17 Exclusion of press and public**

There were no matters under this heading.

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 29 November 2016.