

Langtoft Parish Council
Notes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 26 July 2016
at Langtoft Village Hall

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

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

36/16-17 Open Forum

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

- Concern that the village roads were littered with straw
- Why was the agenda for the meeting placed on the noticeboards late. *This was due to the indisposition of the clerk.*
- Can there be more information of topics to be discussed on the agenda. *We have already increased the amount of information contained on the agenda.*
- There has not yet been an update on the special expense area, which has increased this year, and there are a number of matters of concern including poor standard of grass cutting. Could the appropriate officer be invited to a parish council meeting. *The clerk has been attempting to speak to the officer. We will invite him to a future meeting.*
- The request to list payments in the notes has not been actioned. *We will action this.*
- Is there going to be a public meeting regarding the extension of the conservation area. *This has not been considered but we have a conservation officer attending the meeting this evening.*

The Open Forum closed at 7.25pm.

37/16-17 Chairman's welcome and remarks

In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman took the chair and welcomed all those present.

38/16-17 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Brian Branch (chairman), Andy Hallam, Debbie Hallam.

39/16-17 Members interests

There were no declarations of interest.

40/16-17 Minutes

Because of absences at this and the previous meeting there were insufficient councillors present to be able to approved the notes of the last meeting as minutes so it was resolved to defer this until the meeting on September 6th. In the meantime the notes would be published in draft form on the website.

41/16-17 Reports from County and District Councillors and Police

District councillor Woolley reminded members that consultation on the proposed devolution for Lincolnshire closed on 8 August. Questionnaires were in the recently delivered SKDC magazine and County News. Consultation of the revised local plan was due to close on 5 August.

42/16-17 Extension of Langtoft Conservation Area

The vice-chairman welcomed Kerry Walmsley, Assistant conservation Officer, South Kesteven District Council to the meeting. It was resolved to suspend standing orders so that members of the public could put questions if they wished.

Kerry Walmsley handed round copies of the Langtoft Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan review document and explained that SKDC aimed to update conservation areas about every five years, working to Historic England guidelines. Having looked at the historic character of Langtoft it was considered appropriate to extend the boundary of the conservation area of East End, and also to incorporate more of West End. It was not necessarily picking up listed buildings, but incorporating buildings which contributed to the overall character of the village. She noted that 47, East End, and its associated buildings which had been in a poor state of repair were now being renovated.

Topics raised during a questions and answer session included:

Why is John Griffiths' garage included in the conservation area? *Because it is within the historic core of the village.*

Do trees have preservation orders? *Not necessarily but notice has to be given so the worthiness of the tree can be checked.*

Some buildings are described as 'positive unlisted' what does this mean? *These are buildings which contribute to the overall character or appearance.* (Since the meeting Ms Walmsley has emailed a more detailed profile.)

What happens about repairs to walls, satellite dishes, and features, such as the village shop fascia that seem out of character. *It depends what permissions may have been granted in the past.*

The session closed at 8.20pm with all present being invited to put any comments in writing before 8 August 2016.

The vice-chairman thanked Ms Walmsley for a very helpful presentation.

43/16-17 Finance

The clerk reported that she had been in touch with both the external and internal auditor to keep them updated on preparations for both audits.

Cllr Thompson questioned why details of financial transactions had not been circulated prior to the meeting. The clerk replied that she had them available and could present a verbal report. It was resolved that details of financial transactions should be circulated prior to the meeting.

44/16-17 Clerk's report

The clerk had not produced a written report as matters dealt with since the last meeting fell within specific headings on the agenda.

Cllr Thompson requested that the clerk produce a list of correspondence and actions in order that members could monitor progress. This was agreed.

45/16-17 Planning applications

Since the last meeting a decision notice in respect of a single storey side and rear extension at 31 Cloven Ends, had been received. This application had been granted.

46/16-17 Parks

Reports of the annual inspections of play equipment at Black Bull Green and East End Park had been circulated. The majority of the equipment had been categorised as 'very low risk' or 'low risk'. It was reported that the support at the foot of the slide at East End Park was badly corroded and needed

Langtoft Parish Council

Page 2 of 3

Chairman's initials

repair. **Action: the clerk was asked to contact Fenland Leisure which has previously carried out remedial works to arrange a repair.**

There were discussions also regarding moving one of the SKDC litter bins at the crossroads back to Black Bull Green. **Action: The clerk was asked to progress this.**

47/16-17 Further 'meet the parish council'/remembrance event

Cllr Trickey suggested that a further 'meet the parish council' event could be held linked to Remembrance Day, with World War I and II artefacts, photographs and perhaps a children's painting competition to encourage interest. The event could also involve other organisations represented in the village. **Action: The clerk asked to check availability of the village hall on Saturday 12 November.** The matter to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

48/16-17 Christmas at the Crossroads

Cllr McCulloch presented a report setting out suggestions for the format for this year's Christmas at the Crossroads lights switch on. Last year this was combined with an event in the church which was decorated for its Christmas Tree festival. This year the Christmas Tree festival would be a week later and the parish council would probably wish to hold the Christmas at the Crossroads event earlier. It was noted that the landlord of the Waggon and Horses had expressed an interest in sponsoring the event and it was considered further information needed to be obtained and the matter discussed again at the next meeting.

49/16-17 Updates from working groups

Events and cemetery: Cllr McCulloch reported that the notice board for the cemetery had arrived and was awaiting installation, along with the refurbished gates.

The parish council would, as usual, be providing flowers for a display in church for the harvest festival service. It would also arrange a wreath for the Remembrance Sunday service.

The annual parish walk, postponed from June, would now take place on 7 September.

Amenities and Highways: Under this heading the clerk was asked to inquire when remedial works identified during the parish 'walk about' with the area highways engineer would be undertaken.

Finance and General Purposes: This group had not met since the last parish council meeting.

50/16-17 Exclusion of the press and public

There were no matters under this heading.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Tuesday 6 September 2016.