Langtoft Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 31st March 2015 at Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Brian Branch (Chairman), Derek Risk (Vice-Chairman), Yvonne McCulloch, Andy Hallam, Debbie Hallam, Andy Halfhide, Elizabeth Allen, Mike Thompson, Roy Jackson & Colin Larkman.

In Attendance: Steina Bishop (Clerk), District Councillor R Woolley and 7 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7pm with the Open Forum.

170/14 Open Forum

The re-installation of the notice boards at the crossroads was raised and the chairman advised that he is waiting for a colleague to assist him with this. However, it is hoped with the warmer weather, will be installed in the very near future.

It was requested by a member of the parish that greater detail was given to the agendas and in particular on the action points from each heading.

Planning applications on New Road and Cloven Ends were discussed and a query was raised in regards to the access point for the new build on Cloven Ends/New Road. Members confirmed that the plans showed access would be via Cloven Ends.

Questions were raised regarding the installation of the speed signs, which Cllr Jackson and the Clerk both confirmed the current delay due to high demands and that the Council keep chasing the Road Safety Partnership for regular updates. This item is also listed under correspondence.

Question was raised about the progress with the Defibrillator and that Mr Cameron PM was aiming for each village/town to have at least 1 defib in place to provide emergency treatment for its residents. The current fundraising figure was requested but unavailable at the time and the scheme currently being used in John Lewis runs for a 3 month period, which is due to end at the end of May, at which point the Village Hall Committee will be able to ascertain any shortfall.

Cllrs were asked on the progress of Pocket Park, which was advised is still ongoing, although no handover date has yet been given.

A member of the Allotments Association asked for an update on the sign for the A15, which the Clerk confirmed is not possible as determined by LCC Highways. It was agreed that the Association should write to Highways directly.

The traffic volume within the village was discussed and in particular the increase of lorries, which was noted as Cemex lorries and curtain siders, the speed of these lorries was also discussed. A resident who works alongside the company in question will raise it at work.

Cllr Larkman commented on the condition of the road surfaces within the village.

A resident queried the ownership of the wall on West End, relating to one of the council properties, it was raised as the wall is in need of repair.

The laybys on New Road was raised as there had been no recent update, it was agreed that the Clerk should speak with Highways for an update. Action: Clerk to contact highways for an update on the Laybys.

7.30pm Prior to the conclusion of the open forum, Cllr Halfhide left the room to take a call.

Open Forum closed at 7.30pm

7.32pm Cllr Halfhide returned.

171/14 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked members in the open forum for their questions and comments.

172/14 Reports from County & District Councillors

D.Cllr Woolley gave apologies of behalf of District Councillor Cooke.

172/14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from County Cllr Robinson and District Cllr Cooke

173/14 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

174/14 To approve the minutes of the meeting of 17th February 2015

The minutes from the meeting held on 17th February were approved pending the agreed amendments. Proposed Cllr Jackson, Seconded Cllr A Hallam and agreed by all members, with the exception of Cllrs Garratt & Branch.

176/14 Funding of Village Projects

Cllr Garratt advised that this item was on the agenda due to the request from Mr B Woodthorpe and from LVHMC. Cllr Thompson advised that there had been no official approach from the Village Hall Committee in relation to the defib and therefore should not be discussed until a formal approach was made. Agreed by all members.

Mr Barry Woodthorpe had previously approached the Council in relation to funding and installation of a zip wire at East End Park. It had been agreed previously and discussed again at the Finance Meeting that the sum of £500 be given to Mr B Woodthorpe to assist the spend on the zip wire. Cllrs also advised that as a precaution, a 5-10% of the invoice should be retained until the item of play equipment was inspected and signed off. Action: Clerk to contact Mr Woodthorpe to advise of council decision and raise cheque for the sum agreed.

The donation from the County Councillors Fund, known as the Big Society Fund was discussed and it was agreed that County Councillor Robinson be approached in relation to the allocation of the sum received, which was £500. A question was raised that if the sum given to any particular project then why was the money given to the Parish Council. Action: Chairman to speak with County Councillor Robinson

175/14 Action points from previous meeting

Actions from the previous meeting were updated by members.

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7.40pm Cllr Halfhide returned.

176/14 Planning Applications

There had been no new applications since the last meeting.

177/14 Reports from County & District Councillors

District Councillor Woolley advised that she had investigated the complaint regarding Lime Close and advised that the grass cutting contract was just coming in to force and she would forward the comments from a resident to Lyn Lord at Glendale.

It was also noted that the District Council will be operating a Community Fund which will enable match funding up to the sum of £10,000 for local groups/organisations.

District Councillor Woolley wished everyone the best of luck in the forthcoming elections. The Chairman thanked her for her comments and also wished her luck.

8.15pm Cllr Jackson left the room to take a call.

178/14 Correspondence

Members read the correspondence list and asked the Clerk to report on all outgoing emails/correspondence.

179/14 Finance & Clerks Report

Members confirmed that these had been read and no comments were made.

180/14 Reports from Events, Amenities and Pocket Park

The report from the Events group was noted and the recommendation from the group was to enter the Best Kept Village Competition. Proposed Cllr Allen, Seconded Cllr D Hallam and agreed by majority vote, with 1 abstention.

The report from the Amenities group was noted and the recommendations that came from the group was to purchase the 3 dog bins as agreed at the meeting on 17th February, There were several proposals put forward and ClIr Jackson advised that a contractor has been sourced at a cost of £50 per month, he is still to ascertain the frequency of emptying. ClIr Garratt proposed to purchase the dog bins and give Amenities up to the sum of £600 to look at various contracts, to suit the council's requirements. ClIr A Hallam seconded, agreed by majority vote with ClIr Jackson & ClIr Larkman not voting.

The item of the speed signs was discussed and proposed by Cllr Thompson that Amenities take over the organisation of the speed signs, seconded Cllr A Hallam and all agreed. Action: Clerk to email RSP and copy council members.

Cllr Jackson has been in talks with SKDC in relation to the ownership of Manor Way playing fields and confirmed that the current SEA is £12000 and the costs are in the region of £5500, therefore a breakdown of expenditure is to be discussed with SKDC.

A discussion took place regarding village signs at the entrances to the village, it was agreed due to time constraints to be placed on the May agenda.

In relation to Pocket Park, Cllr Jackson advised that there had been no further updates since the previous council meeting and it was proposed that the Chairman, with the help of the Clerk write to LCC and Hanson, to ascertain their position. All members thanked Cllr Jackson for his work on this item.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting 18th May 2015