

Langtoft Parish Council

Notes of an Open Meeting of Councillors to replace scheduled Council Meeting on Tuesday
16th June 2015 in Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Brian Branch(Chairman), Derek Risk (Vice-Chairman), Yvonne McCulloch, Debbie Hallam, Andy Hallam, Roy Jackson, Tom Butterfield.

In Attendance: District Councillor Rosemary Woolley and 4 members of the public.

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

1. Open Forum

A member of the public welcomed the installation of the speed signs in Stowe Road and East End and asked what monitoring data would be available. It was noted that software had been provided to download data on numbers of vehicles and speeds to a PC. The process for doing this had not yet been completed but was being progressed. The data collected in this way would be published for residents in Grapevine & on Website.

It was pointed out that parking on the pavement in front of the cottage at the crossroads obscured the view of traffic from Deeping and was very dangerous. This has been raised before but would be reported again to Neighbourhood Police Team.

It was suggested that LCC Highways should be asked if the pedestrian lights at the crossroads could be set to operate automatically in peak periods to improve the flow of traffic exiting from West End and East End.

It was pointed out that the minutes of the 2014 AGM were missing from the website. This would be corrected.

A member of the public said that the poor response to the APM this year was probably due to the change of date. It was noted that attendance was also low in 2014 and the Council were looking at changes to the format to try to encourage more to attend.

Proof reading of Grapevine was raised. Cllr Butterfield offered to proof read future editions.

A member of the public also raised issues around the recreation area off Deer Park Road. These relate to Elderberry bush cuttings left in pathway and pruning of chestnut tree with TPO. District Councillor Woolley agreed to raise these with SKDC officers. There were also parking issues about parking obstructing views to access properties and the depositing of dog waste in residential waste bins. It was noted that some dog waste bins would be installed in the village shortly but only in three locations yet to be agreed.

A member of the public complained about the increased level of HGV vehicles using East End at all times of day. It was noted that this could be followed up by LCC Highways if registration numbers were collected. Also a further reminder to Hansons would be useful but if was thought to be mainly contractors rather than Hanson owned vehicles.

Action on points raised in open forum would be reviewed at next scheduled Council Meeting

Open Forum closed at 7.30pm

2. Chairman's Remarks

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

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Garrett, Halfhide, Thompson & Larkman. Also from County Cllr Robinson and District Cllr Cooke

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

5. Minutes of the meeting of held on 31 March & 12 May 2015

The notes of these meetings were discussed and some amendments proposed ready for approval at the meeting planned for 25 March.

6. Reports from County & District Councillors

D.Cllr Woolley reported that D Cllr. Cooke had been appointed to an IT position and that she had been appointed as Chair of the Communities Committee as well as membership of the South Fenland Partnership & Deeping Drainage Board. She also reported that there was to be a PR campaign to stop people putting sharp objects in waste bins. Residents may also be interested to know that they could join a citizens panel to provide feedback to SKDC on local issues and that a grant scheme was being started to assist qualifying residents with house repairs.

D Cllr. Woolley also said that they were chasing the enforcement officers to take action on the planning permission breaches at the site in New Road. They had not yet responded the letter sent by the Clerk.

7. Annual Audit Submission

Cllr Risk reported that he and Cllr Garrett were reviewing the papers prepared by the Clerk. This was not yet complete but at present there were no issues that would prevent the Council from responding positively to the 9 affirmations in the return. Documents to support two selected by the auditors would need to be sent with the return. The completed return would need approval at the meeting on 25 March.

8. Update on Speed Signs

Cllr Jackson confirmed that the two speed signs were now operational and he was working on being able to download the data via the Bluetooth link. The recent report that the battery of one needs re-charging would be investigated.

The passive signs would be located shortly.

9. Update on Pocket Park

Cllr Jackson reported that the contact at Hansons had now changed which may cause some further delays.

Adrian Winkley at LCC had confirmed that he was still progressing the outstanding issues with Hansons and that he hoped for some resolution in the current year.

10. Update on dog Waste Bins

As reported above 3 bins had been delivered and Cllr Jackson will email Councillors to arrange a working party to install them. The budget for the contract to empty the bins would be considered at meeting on 25th March.

Permission would be sought from LCC Highways to site one bin in Back Lane.

11 Updates from Other Groups

Cllr McCulloch reminded all that the village walk would take place on 17th June. The budget for the refreshments in the Waggon & Horses at the end of the walk had been approved at previous meeting

The meeting closed at 8.17pm

Date of Next Council Meetings

Special Meeting 25th June 2015

Scheduled Council Meeting 28th July 2015