

Langtoft Parish Council

Clerk's Notes of Meeting held on Tuesday 7th January 2014 at
Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Brian Branch (Chairman), Derek Risk (Vice-Chairman), Debbie Hallam, Elizabeth Allen, Trish Garratt, Andy Halfhide, Yvonne McCulloch, Roy Jackson and Andy Hallam.

In Attendance: Steina Bishop (Clerk), Cllr Rosemary Woolley (District Councillor). There were 3 members of the public.

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

One member of the Open Forum expressed concern with both the condition and the amount of traffic travelling through Back Lane. The sign showing no access off Hyde Gardens had turned, which needs to be rectified by Highways. A discussion took place regarding implementation of bollards or gate on Back Lane. It was suggested by Cllr D Hallam for the residents to write to Highways at Lincolnshire County Council, which will be supported by the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk to email Highways regarding the sign and to discuss restrictions on Back Lane.**

It was suggested by a member of the parish to cancel the Grapevine as it had been delayed in being sent out before Christmas. The Vice-Chair advised the open forum members that this was an item on the agenda and no comments would be made at this time.

A member of the public asked why the Parish Council were increasing the precept for the forthcoming year 2014/15. The Chairman read the notes from the meeting held in November to reassure the member that the increase was justified after being held over for the previous 2 years.

Open Forum closed at 7.30pm

104/13 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked all members for being present and asked that all future meeting be kept crisp and in order. The Chairman wished Cllr Larkman best wishes for a speedy recovery.

105/13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from C.Cllr Robinson, D.Cllr Cooke, Cllr Larkman, Cllr Thompson and PCSO Laughton

106/13 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

107/13 To approve the minutes of the meeting of 26th November 2013

The minutes from the meeting held on 26th November were approved by all members and signed by The Chairman. Proposed Cllr Garratt, Seconded Cllr Halfhide and agreed by all members, with the exception of Cllr A Hallam who was not present in November.

108/13 Grapevine

Chairman respectfully asked that each Member take a couple of minutes each to make their suggestion of the future of the Grapevine. Cllr Halfhide confirmed that he had tried contacting the current Editor but had received no response.

All members agreed that the Grapevine should be compiled in house, with the current Editor continuing to contribute to editorials.

It was noted that the Clerk will contact all current advertisers to explain the situation and prepare refunds if required. It was also agreed that the Clerk contact the current Editor to advise of the new procedure, followed by a formal letter. **Action: Clerk to contact advertisers and the current Editor.**

A group was formed to enable the Grapevine to be ran more effectively which consists of the Clerk, Cllr D Hallam and Vice-Chairman Derek Risk.

109/13 Reports from County & District Councillors

D.Cllr Woolley advised of two projects currently being undertaken by South Kesteven District Council.

1. The Business Support Programme: SKDC 4Business is being funded by SKDC and delivered in partnership by Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce. It offers free face to face impartial information, advice and support for both new and small businesses. Some of the support available includes business planning and confidential advice, ways to increase profitability, access to specialist workshops etc. For more information call 0300 300 0030 or via the website

www.skdc4business.co.uk

2. A small business loan scheme is now in operation across SKDC. It is designed to help businesses expand and grow in a number of ways eg increase staff meet financial demands etc. If a small business requires funding to top up its own investment and agreed bank loan the District will lend up to £10,000 to help the business grow. SKDC should not exceed a third of the total funding required and a fixed interest rate will be applied to a maximum of 3 years. The offer is open to any independent business employing less than 50 employees.

For further information call the Economic Development Team on 01476 406080 or via the website under Small Business Loan Scheme. **Action: Clerk to ensure both articles are in the next edition of the Grapevine**

110/13 Clerks Report

The Chairman asked if all members had read the Clerks report and wished to make any comments. The Clerk requested that quotes be obtained to repair the headstone in the Cemetery. This was confirmed by the Chairman and all members and to report at the F&GP meeting in February.

Cllr Garratt asked the Clerk to investigate the progress of repairs on Stowe Road.

Action: Clerk to source quotes for cemetery repair and speak with Highways regarding Stowe Road.

111/13 Recommendations from Events, Amenities & Pocket Park Group

Events

There had been no meeting of the Events Group since November 2013

Amenities

There had been no meeting of the Amenities Group but Cllr Jackson confirmed that he was in receipt of quotes for repairs to both Black Bull Green and East End Park. These would be presented at the Finance & General Purpose Meeting in February.

Pocket Park

Cllr Jackson asked the Clerk if any response had been received from C.Cllr Robinson. As no response had been received, the Clerk was asked to make contact and report back. **Action: Clerk to email C.Cllr Robinson**

Cllr Jackson advised members that the grit bin at Black Bull Green was full with dog foul. Recommendation from Cllr Halfhide was to lock the bin until it was necessary to gain access. Cllr Halfhide will purchase 2 locks and secure the bin.

Cllr McCulloch requested repairs be carried out on all notice boards as previously discussed at meetings. The Chairman confirmed that he will speak with the land owner on Truesdale regarding cutting the hedge to prevent the notice board moving further forward. It was agreed that the notice board at the Crossroads and on East End needed work carrying out on them but cannot be done until the weather gets warmer. **Action: Chairman to speak with landowner on Truesdale Gardens. Chairman to also repair notice boards as soon as is reasonably viable.**

112/13 Date of next meeting

Events Group	14 th January
Pocket Park Group	15 th January
Grapevine Group	15 th January
Finance & GP	11 th February
Full Council	18 th February

The meeting closed at 8.30pm