

Langtoft Parish Council

Clerk's Notes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4 September 2012 at Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Brian Branch (Chairman), Debbie Hallam, Andy Halfhide, Yvonne McCulloch', Trish Garratt, Mike Thompson, Andy Hallam, Colin Larkman, Roy Jackson and Elizabeth Allen.

In Attendance: Steina Bishop (Clerk), Rosemary Woolley (District Councillor), Peter Robinson (County Councillor) and PCSO Chris Clarke. There was 1 member of the Public.

34/12 Police Update

PCSO Clarke updated the meeting on the activities in and around the Langtoft area. There had been a theft from a Garage in Langtoft and a few neighbour disputes. On the whole Langtoft has not had many problems with Crime.

PCSO Clarke also thanked the Council for the contribution in the Grapevine and confirmed that more people within the area are using the 101 number.

PCSO Clarke also confirmed that parking on the opposite side of the road to a junction is not an offence but to park on the same side as a junction is.

35/12 Open Forum

Sarah Castley, LVHMC stated that there was an issue with the last edition of the Grapevine and that not all the dates were accurate in the Dates for the Diary Section. The numbers club had also not been updated. **The Clerk will ensure that the next edition is fully updated.**

Main Agenda

36/12 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked the County & District Councillor's for their attendance. The Chairman also requested that the County and District Councillors items on the agenda be brought forward to item 4 on the agenda. All members of the Council agreed.

37/12 Apologies for Absence

Cllr D Risk sent his apologies as he was on holiday...

38/12 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda. The current Disclosable Pecuniary Interest document is now displayed on the website. The Clerk read the following statement so members of the public are aware of the changes to the Code of Conduct.

“Cllrs must make a verbal disclosure if they are aware they have a relevant DPI, unless the DPI is already on the register or the member has notified the Clerk to put on the register. If a Cllr is aware of a DPI in any matter, they may NOT participate in any discussion or vote unless they have a dispensation. If a Cllr feels that a member of the public may get the impression that they may have a financial interest/or may benefit then they can say “there may be an appearance of bias so will abstain/leave the meeting/not partake in the vote etc”

39/12 Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (3rd July 2012)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed: Cllr R Jackson, Seconded Cllr A Hallam and agreed by all members.

40/12 Reports from External Representatives

C.Cllr Peter Robinson explained that the financial pressures on the County Council continued unabated, and were unlikely to ease for the next couple of years..

Turning to local issues:

Stowe Road/King Street junction. Highways had explained that for a “Stop” sign to be placed at a junction, a case had to be made on the basis of visibility and the speed of traffic on the main road. The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership assessment of the junction had failed to show the required lack of visibility or a sufficiently consistent high speed of cross traffic. The letter sent to Cllr Robinson by the resident of the house on the junction had been forwarded to Highways, and as a result another monitoring on speed would be made.

Traffic lights on Langtoft A15 junction. Highways estimated a cost of up to £300k to design and install a set of traffic lights on this junction. It was highly unlikely that such a sum would be available in the current financial situation.

Gritting of King Street. The death of the woman PC last year had focused attention again on the possible inclusion of King Street on the County Council main strategic winter gritting list. Mr Dan Hiblin’s letter drawing attention to the possible “micro climate “ arising from the lakes around the southern stretch of King Street had also been sent on to the Road Safety Partnership. The present situation is that King Street will remain as a secondary gritting route – on the grounds that traffic can use the A15, Deepings bypass and A1625. Cllr Robinson had suggested that the Stowe Road to A1625 should be gritted to facilitate access to and from the King Street Industrial Estate, but he had not gained agreement.

The Extension of the Cycleway south to Towngate. Cllr Robinson reported that this extension was still firmly on the Highways programme of work. Progress had been halted, however, by difficulties arising from the finding of services beneath the intended route on the eastern verge. The alternative of placing the cycleway on the western verge was now being investigated.

Action Points: Clerk to write to Lincolnshire Road Safety Group/Highways requesting the cycle path be completed on the left hand side of the road, heading towards Towngate.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways to further investigate the safety restriction on Stowe Road/King Street.

Action: C.Cllr Robinson to confirm with Highways when the last Archer Survey was carried out and the results of that survey.

Action: Clerk to contact Highways to request any information that may be relevant to the village.

D.Cllr R Woolley first gave her apologies from D.Cllr K Cooke.

D.Cllr Woolley confirmed that the meeting at 47 East End had proved fruitful. When asked if there had been a report, it was stated that D.Cllr K Cooke was appointed lead on the meeting. However, D.Cllr Woolley will contact D.Cllr Cooke for a report. This will be forwarded to the Clerk.

D.Cllr Woolley confirmed that there had been no further details regarding wind energy within the County but would update the Clerk once these are available.

41/12 Clerks Report on matters from previous meeting

Dog fouling signs are on order. **Action: Clerk to investigate whereabouts.**

Transfer of Funds. Clerk had not transferred funds due to the next precept being sent in October. All council members agreed this was ongoing as and when required to transfer.

Council agreed to amend the current Insurance Policy to include the gates and fencing at the Cemetery. The premium increase would be £40. Proposed Cllr Thompson, Seconded Cllr A Hallam. All agreed.

Clerk has investigated the possibility of a move to the Melton Building Society but due to restrictions placed recommended to Council to stay with HSBC. All members agreed to continue with current banking procedures but to review at the next AGM. **Action: Clerk to carry forward to AGM, May 2013.**

Langtoft is through to the Final stages of the Best Kept Village Competition. **Action: Clerk to forward list of all villages involved in the competition and the list of finalists.**

Longhurst Development and SKDC had asked Langtoft Parish Council for ideas regarding the street naming of the new development off New Road. Suggestions had been put forward prior to full council. After a lengthy discussion the name that will be presented Longhurst and SKDC was Gibbs Hill (Close/Road). All voted – split vote, Chairman carried the final vote. **Action: Clerk to advise relevant parties of the Councils decision.**

The Clerk presented information regarding the Compulsory Pension Scheme, Cheque Signatories Legislative Reform Order and the Local Government Finance Bill. All these details are available on the internet for persons who may be interested.

The Clerk advised that there had been no meetings of the Groups during the month of August. Cllr McCulloch confirmed that the Parish Walk will be taking place on Wednesday 12th September.

The Clerk advised that no written report had been received from the External Auditors and that the only information requested from them had been the name of the new Chair. **Action: Clerk to display closure notice and advise full council once this had been received.**

The current financial standings in both accounts as of 4th September were: £4227.45 in the main account and £8948.93 in the Business Manager Account.

Cllr Jackson had informed the Clerk that the notice board on West End is being heavily impacted by the overgrowing hedge that sits behind it. **Action: Clerk to write to the homeowner requesting it be cut back.**

Due to the number of complaints that have been received by the Clerk reference the dog bin at Black Bull Green, the Clerk would like the permission from full council to have it removed. This was proposed by Cllr Halfhide, Seconded by Cllr A Hallam and agreed by all. **Action: Clerk to contact SKDC to request them to return their bin at Black Bull Green park. Notice in Grapevine to state that this bin has been removed and the reasoning behind it.**

The current editor of the Grapevine is unable to continue doing this and Council agreed that the position needs to be re-advertised. **Action: Clerk to put vacancy on notice boards and in the next edition of the Grapevine.** Cllr Halfhide discussed the cost, as per Internal Audit report from 2011/12 and requested that Council agree to tender for the forthcoming financial year's Grapevine Printing. **Action: Clerk to obtain 3 individual printing quotes.**

The Clerk advised that there is still the need to appoint an Internal Auditor. Council agreed to advertise the vacancy and requested the Clerk approach other Clerks within the area to carry out the internal audit for the forthcoming quarter. This item is to be carried forward to next full council. **Action: Clerk to advertise vacancy and approach other Clerks.**

Correspondence (not covered above) – Article from Groundwork's Lincolnshire regarding bespoke and free training courses, thus relating to green spaces.

Cllr Thompson had been approached by a resident on The Rides who was trying to ascertain the owner of a small piece of land adjoining her property. SKDC advised that this would probably be land remaining from the original build. **Action: Clerk to write to resident advising of the council's findings and advise where she may be able to contact.**

Cllr Garratt spoke to Council regarding the parking on the green space, on Aquila Way. **Action: PCSO Clarke to investigate parking and Clerk to write to SKDC.**

42/12 Planning

Decisions received – S12/1730 Single storey extension - 18 Wheatfield – Approved Conditionally
S12/1761 Single storey rear extension – 54 East End – Approved Conditionally

New Applications – S12/2150 – Single Storey Rear Extension, 1 Reedman Close

43/12 Pocket Park – Cllr's Garratt & Jackson updated the Council on the meeting held with Brian Chapman, Land & Planning Manager, Hanson's on 30th August. It was agreed that the Councillors involved would make representations to Full Council at the meeting in October.

44/12 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 16th October at 7pm, Langtoft Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.33pm