

Langtoft Parish Council

Clerk's Notes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16 October 2012 at Langtoft Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Brian Branch (Chairman), Derek Risk (Vice-Chairman), Andy Halfhide, Trish Garratt, Andy Hallam, Mike Thompson, Colin Larkman, Roy Jackson and Debbie Hallam

In Attendance: Steina Bishop (Clerk), Rosemary Woolley (District Councillor), Kelham Cooke (District Councillor) and PCSO Michelle Laughton with a Police Cadet. There were 6 members of the Public.

45/12 Police Update

PCSO Laughton updated the meeting on the activities in and around the Langtoft area. She went on to state that there have been several thefts in the area of diesel, mainly focusing around the quarry works. PCSO Laughton also wanted to advise all members of the Parish of Rogue Traders and Door to Door Sales People.

The Police will shortly be running their "Operation Lighthouse" scheme. This scheme reminds householders to keep lights on when the property is vacant and not be seen as a target for theft.

46/12 Open Forum

Items raised from Open Forum

Pocket Park – a member of the Parish queried the cost, ownership and viability of this project to all residents. Council advised that later in the agenda will be a presentation to Councillors with regards to the feasibility and timescales for this project.

Jubilee Asset – Council was asked if there had been any assets purchased for the Jubilee Celebrations this year. Council confirmed that nothing had been brought/installed for the purpose of the Jubilee.

Gritting Costs – Council were asked what the budget figure and current costs were for the Gritting. Cllr Risk confirmed that the Gritting cost for the last financial year had been taken out of this year's fund, due to the late submission of invoice. Therefore, the council could potentially have two gritting payments to pay for in this financial year.

Speeding – Council were asked if the village could use either the smiley face sign or a speed camera within the village. PCSO Laughton confirmed that these are on a rotation system and could potentially receive one or the other every 3rd week. PCSO Laughton will look into this and advise to the Clerk. The council were also asked if it would consider purchasing a speed sign, stating the speed you are travelling. Cllr Halfhide advised that this had been looked into a few years ago and that the Road Safety Partnership was keen to follow this through but they nor Highways would not carry the cost. **Action: Clerk to speak with Northborough Parish Council and Maxey Parish Council to ascertain how they received their speeding signs.** Cllr Risk confirmed that the County Council had neon signs available a few years ago and asked the clerk to speak with County Councillor Robinson. **Action: Clerk to speak with C Cllr P Robinson**

Traffic Light Installation Cost – Council were asked if a breakdown of cost for the traffic lights at the Crossroads could be obtained as the cost quoted by C Cllr Robinson at the last meeting was very high. **Action: Clerk to speak with C Cllr Robinson to enquire as to the feasibility of obtaining this breakdown.**

County Council Maintenance – A member of the Parish discussed the maintenance contract via Lincolnshire County Council and stated that it was not of a very high standard, although the village did achieve third in the Best Kept Village Competition. The Council took the opportunity to thank all residents and Malcolm Cullingworth (Council Gardener) for their hard work and input.

Open Forum finished at 7.3pm

Main Agenda

47/12 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked the District Councillor's for their attendance. The Chairman asked for all members to follow correct Standing Order Procedures and to refrain from talking above everyone else. When requesting to speak, this must be through the Chairman.

47/12 Apologies for Absence

C.Cllr Robinson, Cllr McCulloch & Cllr Allen sent their apologies. Cllr D Hallam advised the Clerk prior to the meeting that she would be late.

48/12 Declarations of interest

Chairman submitted Declaration of Interest under a heading on the Clerks Report relating to the Langtoft Players and Junior Players.

49/12 Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (4th September 2012)

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

50/12 Clerks Report on matters outstanding

Langtoft came third in the Best Kept Village competition and 3 representatives have been asked to attend the Presentation evening on 21st November. Recommendation from Council would be the Chairman, Cllr Branch, Malcolm Cullingworth and to ask a member of the Parish that has helped with maintaining the Village. Cllr Risk recommended a younger member of the Parish attend.

The notice board at the corner of Truesdale is still being heavily impacted by the overgrown hedge behind it. **Action: The Chairman will speak with householder to request the hedge be cut back.**

The bin at Black Bull Green Park has now been removed. Cllr Garratt queried as to why there were 2 bins at East End Park. Council confirmed that these bins were not heavily impacted by dog walkers and were used for the use of litter and therefore were easily maintained.

An email had been received from Langtoft Players, requesting the possibility of the Parish Council starting their meetings at a later time. **Council resolved that the Clerk contact Langtoft Players to ask for their reasoning prior to any decision from Council.**

An email had been received from a member of the Parish asking that in the absence of the website administrator that another member of the Council be permitted to update the website as necessary. Council agreed that if the need arises then the Clerk could action any updates.

Within the website report, a new resident had completed a feedback form saying that the website was well kept and full of useful information. Council thanked Cllr Risk for his efforts in maintaining the website.

51/12 Financial Matters

The Clerk read the report from the Finance & General Purpose meeting, held on 9th October. The current budget was presented with the current spend. The budget setting for 2013/14 and the precept planning will be discussed at the next Finance meeting in preparation for Full Council on 26th November.

The balances to date are £2440 and £8950. The second half precept is due to be paid this month.

2 quotes have been obtained and a 3rd is still required for the printing contract for the Grapevine for the forthcoming financial year. Cllr Halfhide confirmed that Key Print in Peterborough to be approached. The Clerk was also requested to obtain quotes for the grass cutting contract and the gritting contract. Council also requested to confirm the number on the electoral role against the current amount of grapevine copies printed. These findings will be presented at the next Finance meeting.

52/12 Planning Applications

There were no comments relating to the planning applications. However, Cllr Thompson requested that all planning applications comments are sent to the planning department with all Councillors being copied in. Suggestion from Council would be for the Clerk to produce a spreadsheet with all the planning applications and any decision notices. This would then be sent out as part of the Councils papers in preparation for full council.

8.20pm Cllr D Hallam arrived.

Cllr Garratt wanted clarification on Standing Orders in relation to decision making via email. **Action: Clerk to confirm Standing Orders**

53/12 Reports from External Bodies

The Clerk updated Council on behalf of C Councillor P Robinson.

Kevin Brumfield, Highways has confirmed that the 30mph sign on New Road will be moved South to cover the new development. This will be paid for by the Developers.

Complaint had been received regarding the blue posts on New Road and Meadow Road, which shows the locations of the proposed passing places, could prove a hazard for pedestrians – especially those walking dogs in the evening.

C.Cllr Robinson is also still pressing for action on the continuation of the cycleway south of the bypass, but without any visible signs of success as yet.

D.Cllr Woolley advised of the impending consultation on Wind Energy and also of Gravity Fields. The Clerk confirmed that to date no information had been received on either.

D.Cllr Cooke advised of signage that will be installed around the village regarding dog fouling and also update Council that at present there had been no change to the developments on 47 East End.

54/12 Reports from Groups

Events

The remembrance wreath needs to be organised with The Royal British Legion and to request that the Chairman lay the wreath. Council to resolve that £25 is spent. Proposed Cllr Halfhide, Seconded Cllr A Hallam and all agreed. **Action: Clerk to organise and pay for wreath.**

Christmas at Crossroads – This was arranged for 3rd December with the lights being switched on at 6.30pm followed by carols. Events requested the sum of £200. Proposed Cllr Thompson, Seconded Cllr A Hallam and agreed by all.

The Events Group requested that the Council contact the landowner regarding overgrown hedges on the footpath between the Waggon & Horses and the Cemetery. **Action: Chairman to speak with landowner.**

Large trees in cemetery – Some of the trees in the cemetery have overhanging branches that could be a safety issue. Suggested the Council considers getting a tree surgeon to give advice on how to proceed. **Action: Clerk to contact Tree Surgeon.**

Amenities

Cllr Thompson confirmed that there had been no meeting of the Amenities Group and that there are still works outstanding at Black Bull Green and East End Park. A working party will be arranged shortly to carry out these works.

Cllr Garratt advised Council that the pond at East End Park, now has a significant amount of water in it and under SKDC's policy on ponds in a play park, safety checks will need to be carried out. **Action: Cllr Thompson to investigate policies and procedures from SKDC.**

55/12 Pocket Park Presentation

Cllr Garratt & Cllr Jackson presented a report detailing the costs and timescales that this project would take. Council have not agreed nor disagreed with the proposals outlined and will arrange a meeting, to further discuss the best way to present this scheme to the residents of the Parish.

Cllr Jackson stated that the only agreement that Council would need to consider, is if Council were to purchase this area of land, would the Council want a lay by put in or a space for car parking. At this stage the Council agreed that a lay by would be the best option as it will not have a huge impact on the area, nor attract visitors from neighbouring towns and villages. **Action: Clerk to arrange meeting.**

Date of next meeting – 27th November 2012

Meeting closed at 9.30pm