

# **Langtoft Parish Council**

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3 April 2012 at Langtoft Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Roy Jackson (Chairman), Debbie Hallam, Derek Risk, Andy Halfhide, Yvonne McCulloch', Trish Garratt and Brian Branch.

In Attendance: Steina Bishop (Clerk), Rosemary Woolley (District Councillor), Kelham Cooke (District Councillor), Jim Haw (Internal Auditor) and 4 members of the public.

## **Public Forum**

Items raised were:

- A member of the public raised the issue of dog fouling. He stated that following the article in the grapevine that the bin at Black Bull Green is to be used for the facility of dog litter as per discussion with SKDC. Council confirmed that this is not the case and that no person should be placing their dog foul in this bin as it is in a childrens play area and the health issues that could be caught from this is. This matter is still ongoing and if this bin remains to overflow from dog foul then it will be removed.
- A member of the public raised an issue regarding "the declaration of interest" item that is on the agenda. He stated that at the last meeting (21 Feb) the Chairman should have stated his interest regarding the Hyde & Mossop charity at the start of the meeting and not during the Clerks Report. The chairman acknowledged the comment.
- A concern was raised by a member of the public regarding the budget for gritting and asked if the full amount had been used. This was confirmed and it was confirmed that the gritting contract was for icy conditions and not just when we had snow.
- Cllr Kelham Cooke confirmed that the current plans for 47 East End were still in the planning system and had not been withdrawn. However, the owner has been asked to resubmit his application with a smaller plot. It was also noted that there was no boundary security surrounding the property after it was requested from both council and building control at SKDC. Cllr Cooke with pass all relevant information to clerk and will inform clerk of any developments.
- Another member of the forum stated that 47 East End would benefit far greater from a more modest development; this was supported by all residents in the open forum.
- A member of the forum asked for the council's views on the new £25 fee for the emptying of the green bins. It was confirmed that unfortunately this was a plan from SKDC and not discussed with third parties.
- Cllr Branch raised a query with regards to the pruning of a tree on West End. He believed that with the village entering the Best Kept Village competition this year that

if any pruning were to take place within the village he would urge them to ensure that it is left tidy.

- A member of the forum asked that when the council make gift donations to any third party this must be done through their own funds. Clerk confirmed that through the S137 payments, it is legal for the council to spend an acceptable amount of money for this, providing it is agreed at full council.
- The chairman raised a concern with the amount of dogs that are exercised off their leads in the play areas. It must be noted that the council would urge dog owners to ensure they have their dogs on leads within these areas, also to ensure any children who walk their dogs are also aware of this.
- Works continue at both Black Bull Green and East End parks, however the council were asked to re site the basketball equipment from the pavilion to East End Park. The council would look at this but a member of the council stated that the reason it is at this area was because it was given through a grant and this was the original place requested to be placed. The council however, will look at this and enquire as to whether it would be financially viable and of benefit to the children who use the park at East End.

The open forum closed after 30 minutes at 7.35 pm.

### **Main Agenda**

#### **92/11 Chairman's Opening Remarks.**

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for their contribution.

**93/11 Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr M Thompson and Cllr A Hallam would be late. No apology had been received from Cllr C Larkman.

**94/11 Declarations of interest.** Cllr R Jackson and Cllr Y McCulloch both declared an interest for Hyde & Mossop raised in the Clerks Report.

#### **95/11 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (21 February 2012)**

The minutes were accepted by full Council.

Proposed: Cllr T Garratt Seconded: Cllr D Hallam

#### **96/11 Clerks Report**

The Clerk presented the report, which was accepted by the Council and it was noted:

- Confirmed that a notice had been placed in the latest edition of the Grapevine. The issue of dog fouling is an ongoing problem.
- 2 letters of complaint had been received regarding the area of land at the pavilion. Deeping Tennis Club had contacted the Clerk with regards to the fencing surrounding

the courts and requested funding to have these replaced. The other complaint was regarding Langtoft FC; the area beside the portacabin was very unsightly, there is also an ever increasing amount of litter around the football pitch. This land is the property of SKDC and all complaints will be forwarded to them for action. District Councillor Rosemary Woolley has an appointment with SKDC later this month and will raise these complaints at that time.

- There had been 5 planning applications since the last council meeting. Letter of support was received from a resident regarding the application relating to 48 East End. Cllr Woolley confirmed that the new planning officer, in charge of this application has been replaced and that the applicant has been asked for clearer drawings to support his application.
- A letter was received from the Langtoft Road & Fun Run committee asking they be treated with the same advertising criteria as other charities/organisations within the village. This was confirmed that they would be treated as any other charity.
- The council was approached with the request to lobby for fibre optic broadband for the residents and business owners at King Street Industrial Estate. Langtoft does now have fibre optic broadband, however, for business premises they must contact the provider themselves as they will be charged. Unfortunately, the council has no control over this matter.
- There has been an application request for a Councillor. The applicant will seek co-optation at the AGM.

- **Gardener**

It was noted in previous minutes that a suitable water carrier would be sourced for the council's gardener as he has to make several trips to the Cemetery to fill with water for the planters. Cllr Branch has confirmed he will ensure this is delivered.

- **Water Shortage** – Malcolm has asked if he will still be able to water the planters after the 5<sup>th</sup> April due to the hose pipe pan. This only affects domestic households using their taps, this will not affect using the water from the cemetery.
- **Grass Cutting Sign** – Malcolm is sourcing the sign for when he is carrying out grass cutting within the village, Clerk agreed to reimburse these costs.

8.20pm Cllr A Hallam joined the meeting and gave his apologies.

## **97/11 Finance & General Purpose Group Report**

The Council accepted the Finance & General Purpose Group Report and noted:

- **Financial Statement**

The total amount currently in all accounts is £13243.06

There is still a sum of £3500 to paid out of this financial year. These relate to the grass cutting contract, gritting contract, the consecration of the cemetery and the works carried out at Black Bull Green.

This will leave in the account a balance of £6880.97 by 31<sup>st</sup> March.

- **Hyde & Mossop**

The clerk presented the response from Mr Roffe regarding the request for an annual donation to the Hyde & Mossop charity. The group made the following recommendations:

1. That the council resolves to refuse an ongoing payment.  
Proposed: Cllr Halfhide    Seconded: Cllr Garratt    Majority voted
2. That the council resolves to decline making a donation at this time.  
Proposed: Cllr D Hallam    Seconded: Cllr Halfhide    Split vote
3. That the council resolves that future donations will be considered by council if they believe the need arises. E.g. insufficient funds for normal annual gifts.  
Proposed: Cllr Branch    Seconded: Cllr D Hallam    Majority voted

- **Savills**

A letter had been received from Savills Chartered Surveyors stating the increase in rent for the year 2012/13. This had increased from £140 to £160 per annum. A letter with this increase has been sent to the Langtoft Allotment Association and am now awaiting confirmation from them.

## **98/11 Internal Auditors Report**

Langtoft Parish Council Internal Audit Report Fourth Quarter  
1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

I have carried out a full audit of the financial records. All receipts are supported by relevant documentation and all payments supported by invoices/receipts which have been signed by authorized signatories as have all cheques and their counterfoils. The entries in the paying-in books and cheque counterfoils all accord with the bank statements.

The computerised spread sheet represents a comprehensive record of all income and expenditure together with a running bank balance which accords with the bank statements, as you will see from my bank reconciliation statement on page 3.

The final balance for the fiscal year, £13,180.72 does not include four outstanding invoices for works done during the final quarter totalling £5,662.92 which, in effect would reduce the final balance to £7,517.80.

Risk; the financial and other confidential documents are held by the RFO in the fire-proof safe and the computer is protected by an anti virus device. The improvements to the two

public parks, together with the insurance risk assessment recently carried out should ensure that our third party liabilities are covered.

General; the financial records and computer generated statements continue to be satisfactory and efficiently presented which enables auditing to be relatively straight forward.

The fiscal year opened with a balance of £17,572 and ended (allowing for outstanding invoices as referred to above) with £7,520 which reflects well on you all, councillors and clerk/RFO, in achieving your budget and the target balance of some £7,800.

**Cllr R Jackson then presented Jim Haw with a gift and gave thanks on behalf of all councillors for his work.**

### **99/11 Events Group Report**

Cllrs Hallam & Garratt and the Clerk attended a meeting at the school on 26 March 2012 to discuss Council support for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. The meeting was attended by Mr McCullough (Head Teacher) and Mrs Leadbeater (Member of the School's charity FOLS).

The outcome of the discussions was a proposal that the Council should provide funding for a celebratory medal for every child at the school, prizes for the school's planned 'crown' competition and the purchase of some bunting to decorate the playground. The school agreed that they would publicise that the Council have provided the medals and the prizes for the competition.

**The Council agreed these proposals and authorised the expenditure of £300 from the budget of £1,000 included in 2012/13 for the Jubilee.**

Proposed: Cllr Jackson      Seconded: Cllr A Hallam      All agreed

The PCC were planning to decorate the church with flowers for the Jubilee weekend and in response to the Council had asked for a grant of £100 to assist with their costs. They had also asked the Council to join in the event and decorate one of the windows. This would cost £25 for the flowers.

Discussions were continuing about the Pre-School and planned Art/Photography competition to be linked to the APM.

**The Council agreed the funds for the PCC and the Council's involvement. The Council also agreed a sum of up to £275 to cover the costs of medals for the pre-school children of the village and also prizes for the proposed Art Competition.**

Proposed: Cllr Jackson      Seconded: Cllr Branch      All agreed

**The APM is due on 22 May and the Council agreed to authorize the usual sum of £100 to cover the costs of refreshments for the event.**

Proposed: Cllr Jackson      Seconded: Cllr Branch      All agreed

### **100/11 Amenities Group Report**

It was noted that there had been no Amenities meeting since the last council meeting. However, there are works that need completing and these are to include:-

1. Notice boards at the Crossroads, East End park and Black Bull Green/Truesdale
2. Fencing and gate at Black Bull Green
3. Kissing gate at East End Park.

Cllr Jackson will arrange a work party.

### **101/11 Date of Next Meeting**

15 May – Annual General Meeting – Village Hall

22 May – Annual Parish Meeting – Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Steina Bishop  
Clerk to Langtoft Parish Council.