

# **Langtoft Parish Council**

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5 April 2011 in the Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Jim Winstone (Chairman), Bob Cramp, Velma Denniston, Andy Halfhide, Andy Hallam, Debbie Hallam, Roy Jackson, Mike Thompson & Yvonne McCulloch

In Attendance: Derek Risk (Clerk). There were 12 members of the public present.

## **Public Forum**

The meeting commenced at 7pm with the open forum and items raised were:

- A query was raised on progress on cross-hatching at the A15 crossroads. It was noted that this was due to be discussed with Brian Thompson of LCC Highways later in the meeting. The outcome would be reported in the minutes.
- An attendee on the internet training course thanked Guy Porteous of Computers4U for delivering an enjoyable and informative course and the Council for arranging to run the course locally.
- A resident expressed concern about vehicles parking on the verges in front of John Griffiths and obstructing the view of cars leaving The Rides. It was more appropriate to raise specific instances directly with the police but the Council would raise the general issue at the next police panel.
- A request was made for dog waste bins to be provided in Back Lane as some dog owners were still not bagging the waste and taking it home for correct disposal. It was understood that it was not SKDC policy generally to provide these bins.
- Concern was expressed at the danger of falling branches from old trees alongside New Road. A request was made for them to be pruned but it was thought that they would be removed as part of the new affordable housing development.
- The Council was thanked for their work in getting SKDC to reduce the SEA rate for Manor Close playing fields.
- A query was raised about the attendance of District Councillors at parish council meetings. It was noted that they had attended for specific items but were not always able to attend due to other District Council commitments.
- There was a request for information on progress on the 47 East End site. The Clerk reported that he had been advised that there were still negotiations between the County Valuers and the Owners and it was not now likely to be considered by the SKDC Development Control Committee until May or June.

- A query was raised as to when the detailed precept and budget for 2011/12 would be on the website. The Clerk advised that this would be done by the end of April.

There being no further questions the open forum closed at 7.25 pm.

### **Main Agenda**

**167/10 Chairman's Remarks** The Chairman thanked the members of the public present for their contributions. He also noted that this was the last meeting of the current Council and wished to thank all Councillors for their support during his term as Chairman. He said that he would not be standing for re-election but extended his best wishes to the new Council to be formed on 9 May 2011. The meeting also noted that Councillor Johnson had resigned since the last meeting and expressed its thanks for her work over the past year

**168/10 Apologies for absence.** There were no apologies for absence from Parish Councillors. County Cllr Robinson sent his apologies to the Chairman and asked him to pass on his thanks to all the Parish Councillors for the work they had done over the life of the Council and sent his best wishes to the new Council.

**169/10 Declarations of interest.** There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

### **170/10 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (22 February 2011)**

The approval of the previous minutes was proposed by Cllr Denniston, seconded by Cllr A Hallam and agreed unanimously.

### **171/10 Discussion with Divisional Manager LCC Highways**

The Chairman welcomed Brian Thompson to the meeting and a number of topical items were discussed. Points noted for action by LCC were:

- To confirm LCC concurrence to the Parish Council's arrangements to use a private contractor to grit residential side roads in the village in snowy or icy conditions.
- To confirm LCC approval to the siting of 4 grit bins in the village for use by local residents.
- To arrange a survey of HGV traffic through the village.
- To remove the direction sign at the crossroads that encourages HGVs to use West End to reach the Industrial Estate rather than use the main roads.
- To implement the promised yellow cross hatching at the A15 crossroads.
- To progress the parking restrictions in West End.

The Chairman thanked Brian Thompson for attending the meeting and the constructive discussion.

## **172/10 Clerk's Report**

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

- LCC Highways have been advised of the Council's view that the mature trees should be retained and pruned and had requested more details of the new location for the samplings. It was agreed that a sketch diagram would be produced to send to the local Highways Manager.
- The Registrar for the Lincoln Diocese had advised that the remaining quadrant of the cemetery had not been previously consecrated. They would be supplying an application form to start the Consecration process and this would involve legal fees of up to £500 which had already been authorised by the Council.
- Associated Surfaces and Materials Ltd now expected to start the work on the replacement safety surfaces on 26 April. Notices would be put up to give advance warning of the necessary closure of a section of the park while the work is carried out.
- The advice on Dog Control Orders had been received from SKDC and this had been copied to Councillors along with a DEFRA leaflet. The first stage is to justify the need for a control order and then have a consultation process. The Clerk would draw up a checklist of what needs to be done.
- Drop-in sessions to assist with the completion of the 2011 Census forms as requested by the Census Co-ordinator had been held in the village hall on 21<sup>st</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> March but no one attended.
- The Clerk had contacted the families responsible for two of the tablets in the Memorial Garden where surrounds had been added without Council permission but the family of the third had still to be identified.
- The Clerk was authorised to place a quarter page advert in the Villages Advertiser for the coming vacancy for a Parish Clerk. The vacancy would also be advertised on the website and the notice boards.
- The Council noted the receipts and payments since the last meeting. Due to the delay to the East End Park work the year end cash reserves were now expected to be just over £17,000 but after allowing for the payment for the East End Park work this was still consistent with the assumptions made in setting the 2011/12 precept and budget.

## **173/10 Internal Auditors Quarterly Report**

Jim Haw was unable to be present but had produced his quarterly report to the Chairman. The meeting noted the satisfactory report and thanked Jim for his work during the year.

## **174/10 Amenities Group Report**

The Council accepted the Amenities Group Report and noted:

- The four new grit bins donated by Alan Black had been delivered and possible locations had been identified subject to approval by the new Council and LCC.
- That an area of land known as Pocket Park on the current Hansons site was, according to council minutes from the early nineties, to be gifted to the village once excavation had been completed and the area landscaped and maintained for five years. This was agreed by the than council officers and the company which at the time was ACR. This would be followed up with Hansons as the site would provide a wonderful amenity.
- The problem with the quotation for the replacement of the play surfaces had been considered and it was agreed that the Council would arrange to provide the skips for the removal of the scrap rubber waste at a cost of £240 plus VAT.

### **175/10 Cemetery Group Report**

There had not been a meeting of the Cemetery Group since the last meeting but the Council approved a memorial application providing that the angled tablet was mounted on a larger plinth.

### **176/10 Events Group Report**

The Council accepted the Events Group Report and noted:

- The Queens Diamond Jubilee event in 2012 needed wider support and resources than just the Parish Council and a letter would be published seeking ideas and support for residents.
- The progress on the Annual Parish Meeting and the Council agreed that all Groups should prepare a report for the event and the Chairman would give an opening welcome. A budget of £100 was agreed for the event.
- The Annual Parish Walk would be held on the evening of 15 June and a budget of £60 was agreed for refreshments at the end of the walk.

### **177/10 Planning Group Report**

The Council accepted the Planning Report and noted that there had been three new planning application and three planning decisions received since the last Council meeting.

### **178/10 Grass Cutting Contract .**

The Council considered the three quotations received and decided to accept the one from LMR Services on the basis of best value. The Clerk would advise the suppliers of the result and thank the two unsuccessful suppliers for their interest in the work.

### **179/10 Best Kept Village Competition**

The meeting RESOLVED:

“Not to enter the Best Kept Village competition this year as it required more forward planning, and at present the time and resources were needed on more important issues but it should be carried forward as an early agenda item for the new Council to consider for 2012.”

This was proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Cramp and agreed unanimously.

### **180/10 QEII Field Status**

The Council considered the correspondence from Fields in Trust and agreed that applications should be made for QEII status for both Black Bull Green and East End Park, but if only one was permitted then East End Park should take preference as the one most in need of improvement.

### **181/10 Bank Mandate**

To ensure that there was a smooth transition to the new Council, the meeting agreed to change the signatories on the HSBC accounts at the end of April 2011.

The meeting RESOLVED:

“With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 the signatories on the HSBC bank accounts would be any two of Cllrs Y McCulloch, J Winstone, R Jackson, M Thompson & D Hallam.”

This was proposed by Cllr Halfhide and seconded by Cllr A Hallam and agreed unanimously.

### **182/10 Future Meeting Dates**

The meeting noted that venues had been reserved for the following planned meeting dates for the coming year:

10 May - (First meeting of new Council & AGM) in School Hall

17 May - Annual Parish Meeting in Village Hall

5 July, 6 Sept, 18 Oct, 29 Nov, 10 Jan 2012, 21 Feb, 3 April, 15 May(AGM), 22 May(APM) all in Village Hall.

### **183/10 Retiring Members**

The continuing members of the Council expressed their thanks to those members who were standing down.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

Date of first meeting of new Council and AGM: 10 May 2011 in the School Hall

Derek Risk

Clerk to Langtoft Parish Council.