



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Tuesday 4th April 2017 at the Council Hall, Charter Court, Vicarage Lane, Kings Langley.

Present: Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini (Vice-Chair), Button (Chair), De Silva, Jackson, Johnson, McLean, Morrish and Rogers.

Also Present: Mr Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council; County Councillor Richard Roberts; PCSO Ian Martin

1. Apologies for Absence.

1.1 Cllr Collins.

2. Declarations of Interest.

2.1 There were none.

3. Public Participation.

3.1 There were no members of the public present for this item.

4. Police Matters and Other Services.

4.1 PCSO Martin reported on the crimes recorded for March 2017, although these had not been made available to the Clerk in time for inclusion in these minutes.

4.1.1 PCSO Martin was pleased to report that the person responsible for the recent thefts of mopeds had been apprehended, although it may be that he had some accomplices.

4.1.2 There were 12 crimes reported in the previous month (February 2017)

4.2 The Corporate Communications Team Report February 2017.

4.2.1 The report was noted.

4.3 Neighbourhood Watch.

4.3.1 "OWL" Communications.

"OWL" reports / emails had been forwarded to Members.

4.3.2 Cllr Jackson reported that some new Businesswatch and Neighbourhood Watch signs had been produced and would be displayed shortly. Cllr Jackson also raised the question of the possibilities of CCTV in the High Street in the light of recent criminal activity. Cllr McLean responded that when he had previously raised this question with officers at Dacorum Borough Council he was told that the deployment of a single CCTV unit costs in the region of £60,000. He added, however, that he would seek the cost and possibility of a mobile unit. The Chair suggested that this issue be included in the Vision (Business) Group's remit.

4.3.3 Cllr Jackson added that she had been asked to help on the London Advisory Board.

4.3.4 There were further discussions regarding CCTV in the High Street. with the suggestions that individual businesses could consider their own. Cllr Jackson responded that there was a residential scheme using a "ring camera" (part of a door bell) being marketed and that this was currently being piloted in the Watford area.

4.4 Other Matters.

4.4.1 PCSO Martin reported that 16 cars had been ticketed in Rockcliffe Avenue.



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4.4.2 Cllr Anderson added that a recent Dacorum Borough Council survey in the Rockcliffe Avenue area showed a strong desire for additional restrictions on one side of Avenue Approach.

5. Hertfordshire County Council Matters (1)

5.1 Highways Matters

5.1.1 Members were reminded that Cllr Roberts was coming to the end of his 4-year term representing Kings Langley, with elections being in May.

5.1.2 Cllr Roberts reported that the utility works affecting Vicarage Lane should finish in time for the resurfacing works to begin around August 2017.

5.1.3 Regarding the “pinch-point” in Kings Langley High Street, Cllr Roberts confirmed that officers will be re-examining the issue.

5.2 Any other matters

5.2.1 Cllr Anderson expressed his concerns that the recently implement traffic calming scheme in Station Road (Three Rivers) would adversely affect Kings Langley because of drivers using the A4251 to avoid the humps.

Cllr Roberts left the meeting at this point and was thanked for his attendance and contribution.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) held on 7th March 2017.

6.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 7th March 2017 be adopted as a true record.

6.2 The Chair then signed the Minutes.

7. Matters Arising.

7.1 Cllr Jackson reported that the “village clock” was still not working properly and the repairers had taken the new parts away for adjustment. It was noted that, having just signed the cheque for the repairs, no further costs were expected.

7.2 It was noted that the campaign for a new hospital for South West Herts had reached the target required for a response from government. Cllr Angiolini added that the farmer, whose land had been earmarked by one aspect of the campaign was, understandably, very unhappy, especially as he appeared to have been the “last to know about it”.

7.2.1 Cllr Anderson suggested that there were much better sites that would serve all three areas (Watford, Hemel and St Albans), e.g. Bricketwood, and that these should be sought for a new hospital rather than continuing to spend on Watford General. There was further debate on the subject, concluding that there was much speculation and very few known truths.

7.2.2 Cllr Johnson reported that he had been contacted by former parish councillor, Peter McDonnell who wanted to get support from Members for the campaign.

8. Reports.

8.1 Standing Committees.

8.1.1 Planning & Licensing Committee.

8.1.1.1 Minutes of the meetings of 21st February and 7th March 2017, as approved by Committee on 21st March 2017.



8.1.1.2 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 17th January and 7th February 2017 be adopted as a true record.

8.2 Chair's Reports - no report.

8.3 Reports from Chairs of other Committees / Groups - no reports.

8.4 Clerk's Report / Action List - no report.

8.5 Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning.

8.5.1 No further matters

9. Finance Matters

9.1 Schedule of Payments for March 2017.

9.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the payment schedule for March 2017 in the sum of £12889.75 be adopted, and that the Clerk be authorised to issue the appropriate payments. The Chair then signed the schedule of payments.

9.2 Cllr Anderson reported that he had hoped to bring to this meeting the report to approve the Council's financial transfers and virements for 2016/17, but that this would now be presented to the May meeting. He also added that the review of the Council's Financial Regulations was also now due, and that this would be reported as soon as possible.

10. Dacorum Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council Matters.

10.1 Dacorum Borough Council.

10.1.1 Cllrs McLean and Anderson reported that the revised local plan would be issued for consultation shortly.

10.1.2 Cllr Rogers raised the local concern regarding the increase in Business Rates. This appears later on the agenda.

10.1.3 It was agreed that the no parking signs on the grass verges now needed to be removed so that Clean, Safe and Green could cut the grass.

10.1.4 Cllr Angiolini was happy to report that Dacorum Borough Council had acted efficiently to remove some fly-tipping that he had reported.

10.1.5 Cllr Morrish and Anderson reported their concern on the clearance of trees and shrubs between Rucklers Lane and Shendish. Although this had ceased, there was speculation as to the motives for it. It was agreed that it needed monitoring.

10.1.6 Cllr McLean expressed his concern regarding an increase in litter in Rucklers Lane which he believed to be coming from users of Phasel's Wood. He undertook to speak someone there.

10.1.7 Cllr Button reported that he had received a complaint that works had begun at 6:45 on a Sunday morning in Love Lane, which clearly should not be happening unless it is an emergency.

10.2 Hertfordshire County Council additional matters

10.2.1 There were none.



11. Members Items and Questions.

11.1 “Portfolios”

11.1.1 Geographical areas:

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| High Street area | Cllr Rogers |
| Coniston area | Cllr Jackson |
| Watford Road area | Cllr Johnson |
| Hempstead Road area | Cllr Collins |
| Abbots Rise area | Cllr Angiolini |
| Rucklers area | Cllr Morrish |
| Great Park area | Cllr Button |
| Blackwell Road area | Cllr De Silva |
| The Common, Vicarage Lane / Langley Hill | Cllr Button |

No specific issues to report

11.2 The Village Garden / Allotments (Cllr Johnson) (see report)

11.2.1 See report

11.3 Village Garden Working Party – 25th March 2017. Several volunteers had turned up and made some in-roads, but the size of the task to remove the ivy is huge. The Clerk reported that he and Cllr Johnson were discussing alternative methods of removal. See written report.

11.4 Litter picks (Cllr Johnson) – next litter pick – 30th April 2017.

11.4.1 See written report.

11.5 Rucklers Lane shrub / flower bed working group

11.5.1 Cllr Morrish suggested that to kick this off there should be a site meeting involving the interested parties, so it was agreed that he would arrange this and that the group should comprise of himself and Cllrs McLean, De Silva, Anderson and Angiolini.

12. Kings Langley Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

12.1 Transition in Kings (TIK)

12.1.1 Cllr Morrish reported that the High Street market was trying to attract more local art and crafts participants.

12.2 Parish Paths Partnership (PPP)

12.2.1 Cllr Morrish reported that it was the grant claim for the forthcoming year would be for lectern type display stands for the village map.

13. Vision Group.

13.1 Chair / Leader’s report

13.1.1 Cllr Jackson asked when the next meeting would be, to which Cllr Johnson responded that he would check and let members know.



13.2 Sub-group reports

13.2.1 Communication

See written report

13.2.2 Transport

Cllr McLean noted that parking enforcement opposite Moores' appeared to be active and working.

13.2.3 Local Environment

Cllr Angiolini was pleased to report that the "Eagle" car park had been cleared. Nothing further to report.

13.2.4 Local Business

Nothing further to report.

13.2.5 Recreation / Leisure

See report

Cllr Anderson asked Cllr Johnson whether there was enough help for the organisation of the "PuffaTen" to which he responded that there were not enough volunteers as yet and that any help would be appreciated.

14. High Street Surgeries

14.1 To consider the arrangements for the surgery of 15th April 2017.

14.1.1 The Clerk reminded Members that in previous years as this surgery was so close to the Annual Parish Meeting, it is usually cancelled. It was agreed that this should be the case this year.

15. Other Matters.

15.1 Business Rates

15.1.1 Several communications from local traders / concerned residents had been received and issued with the agenda as well as some being received directly by Members. The Chair asserted that, as the tax is fixed at a national level, there was very little that the Parish Council could do. Members were, however, concerned that it was a major issue for some of the local traders. Cllr McLean added that he had already recognised this and had responded by organising some assistance for some of the traders from officers at Dacorum.

15.2 Memorial for the late Graham Taylor

15.2.1 This item was deferred again until the Council heard from the family

15.3 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday 19th April 2017

15.3.1 The finer details for the evening were discussed and agreed.

15.4 Christopher Cox, VC Commemorations 30th April 2017

15.4.1 Details of the ceremony were shared. Cllr McLean, who would be conducting the ceremony, asked Cllr Button if he would make PA system available and to let him know whether it additional speakers could be connected and whether it had a CD unit.



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16. Any Other Business.

- 16.1 It was noted that Network Rail had removed many trees from the spinney adjacent to Ridgeway Close. The Clerk added that he believed that an officer from Dacorum Borough Council had placed a cessation order on the activity.
- 16.2 The Clerk reported that he had just ordered a further 60,000 dog litter bags, which suggested that the take-up had increased. There was some discussion regarding making a small charge or a donation, but this was dismissed.

Meeting closed at 9:18pm

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Appendix A - REPORTS.

Leisure Vision Group – April update

| Activity and action | Current Action | Ongoing Action | Contact | Notes |
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| Trim Trail | Possible sites identified in open space survey. | Awaits development of priorities. | Alan Johnson | Further action deferred until 2017-18. |
| Childproof gate for village garden. | Ivy to be cleared. | Quotes to be obtained. | Ann Johnson | Further action deferred until 2017-18. |
| Human sundial on Common. | Plan including timescale provided. | Quote obtained and Big Lottery Fund application being finalised. | Gerard Sheldon | Bid submitted to Big Lottery Fund. |
| Village history trail | Pamphlet to be developed identifying sites of interest. | Narrative written. | Alan Johnson | Now an Environment Group initiative with new map of Kings Langley. |
| Survey of social groups and clubs | Carry out survey identifying demographic and 'inside' or 'outside' | Survey completed. | Harold Taylor | Data being updated on social and sports clubs and organisations. |
| Survey of open spaces | Carry out survey identifying demographic and if 'used' or not. | Survey completed. | Alan Johnson | Proposal that document be uploaded to Parish Council website idc |
| Discussion with Sportspace Kings Langley | Discuss what can do to replace Sportspace KL. | 75% of their role gone with swimming pool. | Alan Johnson | Closed. |
| Over 50s Walking Football at Kings Langley Football Club (KLFC) | Herts FA and KLFC -potential of walking football Gaywood Park. | Initial discussions taking place. | Alan Johnson/Derry Edgar | Walking football initiative on hold. |
| Photographic competition | Draft rules and timetable agreed. | Draft rules circulated to councillors. | Alan Johnson/Chris Pettit | Entries closed. |
| Kings Langley Carnival | Carnival on 24 June 2017. | Theme of 'Harry Potter' agreed including fancy dress. | Alan Johnson/Gerry Angiolini/Bob McLean | Next meeting 3rd April 2017. Oral update can be given. |



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| Kings Langley Puffaten | Puffaten 18 June 2017. | Flyers being distributed to running clubs and at local running events. | Alan Johnson | Marshals being sought for course and finish area. |
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Village Garden spring clean and litter pick – April update

Fortunately the weather was warm and sunny, which lent itself to a wide variety of activities throughout the garden. Whilst one group removed ivy along the Watford Road side, another group spread a thick layer of wood chippings as a mulch to inhibit weed growth and a third group were pruning back years of undergrowth on the Church side of the garden.

Meanwhile John Morrish and Chris Cunningham headed off down the High Street, Dronken Lane and Green Park carrying out the monthly litter pick. There was a good deal of rubbish liberally sprinkled throughout all these areas, which kept them busy and the bags full. They both then returned for some gardening.

In the Village Garden the aim was not to clear the Garden of every unwanted weed, but to 'break the back' of what needs to be done over the rest of the summer. That said, the improvement not just on the day but over the last year, has been incredible.) However, it does mean the central part of the garden and the Church are more visible from the main road. It also means the garden itself will feel more welcoming to those attending the commemoration for Christopher Cox.

Grateful thanks to Alison and Peter Faulkner, Chris Cunningham, Keith Gower, Ann Johnson, Howard Button, Gerry Angiolini, Sandra Jackson, John Morrish, George Tucker, Paul Dunham and Alan Johnson.



KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

VISION: COMMUNICATION

Report for Full Council Meeting 4th April 2017

Facebook – Kings Langley Parish Council Page

This continues to be updated regularly, and both Paul & Beverley have access to add new information. Any Councillor can provide information they'd like to have added to the page. Please note, documents can't be uploaded but can be copied and pasted into the page, although they lose all formatting.

Pictures are easily added.

Events are created which I believe produce a reminder for those who have liked the FB page. These are shared on Kings Langley Matters FB Group generally more than once to help remind FB users.

Village Newsletter

It has been suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting is the place to highlight to attendees that a meeting will take place for any people interested in becoming a part of the newsletter working group. Councillors will recall from the Vision Group outcomes that there is a keen desire to have something like 'The Villager' still, but if volunteers don't come forward to get the idea off the ground then it won't move forward. Councillors just don't have the capacity to take on more work, and it requires more knowledge and experience than is available within the Council.

Proposal

To set a date for a meeting end-April/early May. Venue to be confirmed but the Parish Council rooms free of charge is what is hoped for. Advertisements for the meeting to be placed on Facebook, on KLPC noticeboards and website and any other forms of media as appropriate, for example, perhaps a mention on the flyer that goes to households regarding the Annual Parish Meeting.

Aim

To gather a working group of volunteers to look at the feasibility of producing a regular newsletter.

Meeting Objective

- To discuss possible options and gather opinions.
- To find a core group of at least 15 people who are prepared to take the project forward.
- To analyse what is required so that a newsletter can be produced.
- To recruit the necessary expertise either through a voluntary or pro bono working group.
- To assess the financial feasibility of such a project.
- To appoint a Chair at the inaugural meeting who would lead future meetings.

Councillors Derek Collins and Sandra Jackson have both indicated they are prepared to lead the initial meeting but neither has the capacity or required skills to be involved more than being facilitators where possible.

Sandra Jackson. 23 March 2017