

# <u>MINUTES</u> of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 at the Council Hall, Charter Court, Vicarage Lane, Kings Langley.

- Present: Cllrs Button (Chair), Angiolini (Vice-Chair), Anderson, Collins, De Silva, Jackson, Johnson, McLean, Morrish and Rogers.
- Also Present: Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council; County Councillor Richard Roberts; PCSO Ian Martin
- 1. <u>Election of Chair</u>
  - 1.1 Cllr Button opened the meeting by welcoming those present. He then called for nominations for the election of the Chair for the forthcoming year. Councillor Button was nominated by Cllr Angiolini and this was seconded by Cllr Anderson. There were no other nominations.
  - 1.2 It was, therefore, RESOLVED:

That Cllr Button be appointed Chair of the Council for the forthcoming year.

1.3 Cllr Button thanked his fellow Councillors for their support, and in particular he thanked and congratulated Cllr McLean for all that he had done during his term of office. The other Members present added similar sentiments.

At this point the Chair presented Mr Neil Ashley with his award and certificate for winning first prize in the Council's 2017 photography competition, for which Mr Ashley thanked the Council.

- 2. <u>Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.</u>
  - 2.1 It was agreed that Cllr Button would sign the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office within the next few days.
- 3. <u>Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Members.</u>
  - 3.1 The Clerk explained that this was a standing item on the agenda of the Annual Meeting for any newly-elected Members, but that, in this case, there were none.
- 4. <u>Election of Vice-Chair.</u>
  - 4.1 It was proposed, by Cllr Anderson, seconded, by Cllr McLean, and RESOLVED:

That Cllr Angiolini be appointed Vice-Chair of the Council for the forthcoming year.

- 5. <u>Apologies for Absence.</u>
  - 5.1 There were no absences.

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#### 6. <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

6.1 There were none (although Cllr Anderson's and Cllr McLean's Personal Interest in matters relating to Dacorum Borough Council is acknowledged).

#### 7. <u>Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies</u>

7.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the following appointments be made for the forthcoming year:

- a) Hertfordshire Association of Parish and Town Councils (HAPTC) None.
- b) Kings Langley Community Association None. However, Cllr Collins would continue to be a member, although not directly representing the Council.
- c) Kings Langley Local History & Museum Society Cllrs Anderson and De Silva.
- d) Kings Langley Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service Committee Cllr Angiolini.
- e) CPRE, The Hertfordshire Society Cllr Rogers.
- f) The Kings Langley Carnival Committee Cllrs Angiolini, Johnson and McLean. Cllr Button would also be available to assist in various activities.
- g) Transition in Kings (TIK) Cllr Morrish.

#### 8. Appointment of Planning & Licensing Committee

- 8.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:
  - a) To appoint a Planning and Licensing Committee until the next Annual Meeting of the Council, in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders.
  - b) That the Committee, in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders, be given the delegated authority to express the view of the Council to the relevant Planning Authority with regard to applications for planning permission, licensing applications and associated matters.
  - c) That Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini, Button, De Silva, Johnson, McLean and Rogers, plus any Member who may be seconded from time to time to ensure that a meeting is quorate, be appointed to serve on the Committee in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.
  - d) That Cllr Angiolini be appointed Chair of the Planning and Licensing Committee to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders.
  - e) That Cllr De Silva be appointed Vice-Chair of the Planning and Licensing Committee to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders.
- 9. <u>Appointment of Personnel Committee</u>
  - 9.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

#### a) To appoint a Personnel Committee until the next Annual Meeting of the Council in

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accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders.

- b) That the Committee, in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders, be given the delegated authority of the Council to take decisions on all personnel matters, with the option of referring to the Council itself any matter upon which it, the Personnel Committee, chose not to make a decision.
- c) That Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini, Button and McLean be appointed to serve on the Committee in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Orders until the next Annual Meeting of the Council. It was noted that the Chair (Cllr Button) and Vice-Chair (Cllr Angiolini) are ex officio members of this Committee.

#### 10. Inspection of Leases and Title Deeds

10.1 The Chair inspected, on behalf of the Council, correspondence from the Council's Solicitor confirming he held the Title Deeds for the Village Garden, Sunderland's Field Allotments and Charter Court, Vicarage Lane and the licence for land outside the (former) Royal Mail Sorting Office on behalf of the Council.

#### 11. Additional Working Groups

- 11.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:
  - a) To appoint a Twinning Working Group until the next Annual Meeting of the Council and that its Members be Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini, De Silva and Johnson.
  - b) To appoint a Community Award Working Group until the next Annual Meeting of the Council and that its Members be Cllrs Angiolini and Button.
  - c) Not to appoint an Environment Working Group as its activities are being covered under the Vision initiative.
  - d) To appoint an Assets and Risks Working Group, to consider assets, property, allotments, insurance etc. and that its Members be Cllrs Angiolini, Button and Johnson.
  - e) To appoint a Vision Working Group.

#### 12. Joint Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service / Kings Langley Parish Council Christmas Lights Festival Committee

12.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

The Kings Langley Parish Council representatives to serve on the Joint Christmas Lights Festival Committee until the next Annual Meeting of the Council be Cllrs Angiolini and Johnson.

- 13. <u>Village Gardens' Competition.</u>
  - 13.1 Cllr Angiolini confirmed that the judging for the competition would be Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup>. He added that this date had been agreed with Terry Simmonds, the judge from the sponsors, Garden Scene.
  - 13.2 It was agreed that the organisers should be Cllrs Angiolini and Johnson.

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#### 14. <u>Public Question Time</u>

- 14.1 Several residents of the Vicarage Lane area were present who wished to express their concerns regarding various traffic issues. Mr Robert Neil Davies spoke on behalf of those present.
- 14.1.1 Mr Davies explained that a group of residents had undertaken a survey of all residents of Vicarage Lane and its side roads which covered:
  - speeding
  - repeated damage to the road surface
  - damage to vehicles and property
  - difficulty parking or joining the flow of traffic
  - safety of pedestrians especially elderly and schoolchildren
  - lack of parking, which causes overspill in to the cul-de-sacs
  - occurrences road rage & foul language of drivers
- 14.1.2 No solutions were included in the wording of the questionnaire but respondents were invited to suggest their preferred solutions. Copies of the questionnaire and illustrated results were handed out.
- 14.1.3 The Chair invited Cllr Roberts to respond, who thanked the residents for their submission and suggested that the best way forward would be a public meeting where the appropriate Highways engineers could attend. He undertook to pass on the residents' submission and to make arrangements for the meeting. It was agreed that the survey and results would be circulated by email.
- 14.1.4 Cllr Roberts added that the resurfacing works in Vicarage Lane were due to start in August, the delay being caused by utility works scheduled in both Vicarage Lane and Langley Hill.
- 14.1.5 Cllr Anderson expressed his support for the residents' initiative.

#### 15. Police Matters and Other Services.

15.1 PCSO Martin provided details of the 15 reported / recorded crimes for April 2017, as follows:

Reported Crime	Incidence	Details
Burglary, other	2	Garages, Waterside
		Kings Langley Primary School – no entry
		gained
Theft of Motor Vehicle	2	Red Lion – found crashed
		Hempstead Road – tracker traced to Essex
Damage or Destroy <£5k	2	Abbots Rise – windscreen
		Shendish Edge – car "keyed"
Theft from shop	2	Texaco service station – alcohol
		Spar – loaves of bread (6)
Theft, other	2	Rose & Crown – tables & chairs (garden)
		Shendish Manor – theft from room
Drug related	2	Cannabis
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Other crimes	3	Facebook
		Handle stolen goods
		Service Club - Assault
Total	15	

- 15.1.1 There were 20 crimes reported in the previous month (March 2017)
- 15.1.2 Members considered and noted the report.
- 15.2 Corporate Communications Team Reports.
- 15.2.1 The report for February 2017 was noted.
- 15.3 Neighbourhood Watch
- 15.3.1 "OWL" Communications.
- 15.3.1.1 Members had been provided with copies of the "Owl" reports as appropriate.
- 15.3.2 Cllr Jackson reported that there some new Neighbourhood Watch signs soon to be erected, that there were 14,250 members of the "Owl" system, and that, following the AGM, she was reappointed Chair of the Dacorum district Neighbourhood Watch.
- 15.4 Any other matters
- 15.4.1 Cllr McLean commented that there appeared to an increase in the number of scam telephone calls: he had recently had four.
- 16. Hertfordshire County Council Matters (County Councillor Roberts)
  - 16.1 Updates on Highways matters (Cllrs Button & Jackson / Cllr Roberts)
  - 16.1.1 Cllr Roberts reiterated that a new hospital would not be built on Wayside Farm.
  - 16.1.2 Cllr Roberts reported that he agreed with a resident's complaint that the white lines at the bottom of Vicarage Lane had disappeared and needed re-doing, so he had raised this with the appropriate people. Cllr Anderson commented that it appeared that the white lining on the Junction 20 roundabout had been re-done, but added that, sadly, there was still no signage on the bridge itself, which he felt would be very helpful. Cllr Roberts responded that that was not within Hertfordshire County Council's control.
  - 16.1.3 Cllr Roberts acknowledged that blocked drains continued to be an issue and Cllr Button added that those in Barnes Lane have not been cleared.
- 17. <u>Minutes of Previous Meetings of the Council (4<sup>th</sup> April 2017).</u>
  - 17.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 20176 be adopted as a true record.

17.2 The Chair then signed the minutes

#### 18. <u>Matters Arising</u>

18.1 Minute 10.1.6. Cllr Mclean reported that he had contacted Phasels Wood regarding the increase in litter in Rucklers Lane that he believes is emanating from there.

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#### 19. <u>Reports</u>

- 19.1 Standing Committees
- 19.1.1 Planning & Licensing Committee meeting(s) minutes of 21st April 2017 for adoption.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meetings of 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017 be adopted as a true record.

- 19.2 Reports from the Chairs of other committees / groups
- 19.2.1 There were none.
- 19.3 Clerk's Report for April 2017.
- 19.3.1 No report.
- 19.4 Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning
- 19.4.1 Cllr Jackson asked if the warden could clean the street name plate at Rectory Lane.
- 19.4.2 Cllr Angiolini asked if the warden would be available to help at the carnival, especially in setting up in the morning.
- 20. <u>Financial Matters</u>
  - 20.1 Schedule of Payments for March (additional) and April 2017.
  - 20.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the list of accounts for March 2017 (additional) in the sum of  $\pounds$ 1,229.61 and April 2017 in the sum of  $\pounds$ 10,067.30 be adopted, and the Clerk be authorised to issue the appropriate payments.

- 20.1.2 The Chair then signed the payment schedules.
- 20.2 Examination and signing of the Council's Bank Account Statements (as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017).
- 20.2.1 The Chair examined the Council's bank account statements and signed a statement to that effect on behalf of the Members that the balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 were:

Current Account:	£5,000.00
Reserve Account:	£34,777.92
NS&I Investment Account:	£44,640.44

- 20.3 Income and Expenditure Statements 2016-17.
- 20.3.1 Members considered and noted the reports as at 31st March 2017, which had been provided with the agenda, and the statement to that effect, was signed by the Chair.
- 20.4 Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Control Systems.
- 20.4.1 Members considered the requirements of the above after the Clerk had provided background information, in particular the regular reporting of financial / control reports.

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It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- a) The review of the effectiveness of the Council's Internal Auditor had been satisfactorily carried out:
- b) The review of the Council's control systems had been satisfactorily carried out and that it was considered to be adequate, robust and efficient.
- 20.5 Accounts 2016-17 Virements and Fund Transfers.
- 20.5.1 Cllr Anderson asked that this item be deferred in the light of some changes in the accounts, which was agreed.
- 21. Dacorum Borough Council, Hertfordshire County Council and Other Authorities Matters.
  - 21.1 Dacorum Borough Council
  - 21.1.1 It was noted that there was still a lot of rubbish in the bottom of the bins in the High Street. The Clerk responded that he had asked Dacorum Borough Council if someone could clear them, but he did not receive a very helpful response and he felt that it should be escalated via the Council's two Borough Councillors. Cllr Anderson suggested that the Clerk tries again, and it was also suggested that, perhaps, a Parish Councillor attended to demonstrate the problem, for which Cllr Angiolini volunteered.
  - 21.2 Hertfordshire County Council
  - 21.2.1 Updates on Highways matters (Cllrs Button & Jackson / Cllr Roberts)
  - 21.2.2 No updates.
- 22. <u>Members Items.</u>
  - 22.1 Portfolios.
  - 22.1.1 Geographical areas.

a) Cllr Rogers announced that he would soon be organising a meeting of those interested in resurrecting the Kings Langley Chamber of Commerce.

b) Cllr Collins reported that the footpath in Havelock Road was in a poor, uneven state where tree roots had erupted through the tarmac creating a tripping hazard. He also reminded the meeting that he had asked whether a rubbish bin could be placed by the bus stop opposite Taylors Tools. This item was on the Clerk's to-do-list.

c) Cllr Morrish reported that he had discovered that the scheduled resurfacing work in Rucklers Lane was only for the area of the cul-de-sacs.

- 22.2 The Village Garden
- 22.2.1 Cllr Angiolini suggested that there should be another ivy-clearance working party, which Cllr Johnson agreed to see if he could organise.
- 22.3 Litter picks
- 22.3.1 The next litter pick was scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Johnson would be in charge.
- 22.4 Rucklers Lane shrub / flowerbed working group.
- 22.4.1 Cllr Morrish suggested that to move this forward, a group of Councillors should meet on site and he suggested the 9<sup>th</sup> May at 6:30, which was agreed.

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#### 23. Kings Langley Parish Council Representation on Outside Bodies - Members Reports.

- 23.1 Transition in Kings (TIK)
- 23.1.1 No report.
- 23.2 The Parish Paths Partnership
- 23.2.1 Cllr Morrish reported that he had applied for a grant for this year to install two lecturnstyle map holders for the new village map. These would be installed on The Common and near one of the canal bridges.
- 23.3 Others
- 23.3.1 There were none.
- 24. <u>Vision Group</u>
  - 24.1 Steering Group
  - 24.1.1 Cllr Johnson proposed that there should be no further meetings of the Steering Group and that all reports should come directly to this meeting, especially as much of it was being duplicated. This was agreed.
  - 24.2 Sub Groups
  - 24.2.1 No reports
- 25. <u>High Street Surgeries</u>
  - 25.1 The next surgery was scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> June, and this would be attended by Cllr Morrish and Johnson.
- 26. <u>Other Matters</u>
  - 26.1 Memorial for the late Graham Taylor.
  - 26.1.1 It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mrs Taylor, delivering the book of condolence, and letting her know that the Council would like to commemorate Graham's life and connections with the village in some way, and asking her if she had any preference for how this might be done.
- 27. <u>Any Other Business</u>.
  - 27.1 Christopher Cox Commemorations
  - 27.1.1 Members agreed that the deposits paid by The Clerk and Cllr Anderson for the visit to Achiet le Grand, should be repaid as they were unable to attend.
  - 27.1.2 The Clerk, Administrative Assistant and Warden were commended and thanked for their efforts in the success of the ceremony in Kings Langley. Cllr McLean added that, in his role and Mayor of Dacorum, he would be sending thank you letters.
  - 27.2 Cllr Collins reminded Members of the up-coming meeting at the Community Centre for Dementia carers. He also asked whether it would be possible to use the village garden for a charity function, to which Members agreed. The Clerk suggested that he should check that there would not be a clash with a wedding or Christening.

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- 27.3 Cllr McLean reported that, in his capacity of Mayor, he had attended the funeral of Ira Cox, a long-standing member of the community.
- 27.4 Cllr Morrish asked for a progress report on the replacement of the Council's website. The Clerk responded that there had been little progress, especially as the presentations from a designer that had been engaged to do the work, had been "disappointing. It was agreed that, to help the Clerk, the previous investigative work carried out by Cllr Rogers would be re-issued and re-examined by those interested.
- 27.5 Cllr Morrish asked whether the Council could produce name badges. It was agreed that Members would submit photographs so that these could be produced. Cllr Anderson undertook to help with this task.
- 27.6 It was noted that the next period of WW1 commemorations will be in 2018 to mark the end of the war.
- 27.7 Cllr Anderson commended Cllr McLean on a "fantastic" job in his year as Mayor of Dacorum, in which he had really "put Kings Langley on the map". Everybody agreed.

Meeting closed.

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