



KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2019 at the Council Hall, Charter Court, Vicarage Lane, Kings Langley.

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

Also Present: Mr Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council.

1. Apologies for Absence.

1.1 None.

2. Declarations of Interest.

2.1 None.

3. Public Participation.

3.1 Ruby Lewis spoke regarding item 14.5 on the agenda.

3.1.1 2020 is the Hertfordshire of Culture. A copy of an email from Ruby had been included with the agenda. She is a local artist often working with Hertfordshire County Council and Dacorum Borough Council and would like to involve the Kings Langley community, particularly the schools, in a project to decorate the toilets in Dronken Lane with various subjects and historical topics.

3.1.2 Cllr McLean responded that the local "Repair Shed" had been given permission to explore the use of the toilets. He agreed to exchange contact details so that the two initiatives could be coordinated and developed.

3.1.3 Cllr McLean added that it might be nice if Ruby could incorporate some of her work at the carnival next summer, and she agreed to explore this.

4. Police Matters and Other Services.

4.1 PCSO Ian Martin was unable to be present but had provided the following information on the 9 crimes recorded in September, as follows:

Reported Crime	Incidence	Details
Burglary - other	2	Beechfield – garage broken into Hempstead Road – Inspired Café – containers at rear (attempt)
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1	London Road – number plates
Damage or destroy - £5k	2	Barnes Lane – damage to windscreen of vehicle Rucklers Lane – damage to windscreen of vehicle
Theft from shop	1	High Street – Kings Langley Eyecare – spectacle frame
Drug related	2	Barnes Lane – cannabis Rucklers Lane – cannabis
Other crimes	1	Action fraud - £18,000 con for "repairs" to roof
Total	9	



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- 4.1.1 Cumulative and average data was also provided.
- 4.1.2 There had been 10 recorded crimes in the previous month (August).
- 4.1.3 The reports were noted.

4.2 Neighbourhood Watch.

- 4.2.1 Cllr Hubberstey reported that the latest scam involved obtaining bank details under the pretence of refunding money to Thomas Cook customers.

4.2.2 "OWL" Communications.

- 4.2.2.1 No further reports.

4.3 Other Matters.

- 4.3.1 None.

5. Hertfordshire County Council Matters (1).

5.1 Highways Matters.

- 5.1.1 Cllr Roberts was unable to be present.

- 5.2 Cllr Hubberstey asked if there was any news on the proposed works to improve the Rucklers Lane junction. Cllr Morrish undertook to ask his contact at Hertfordshire County Council.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) held on 3rd September 2019.

- 6.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2019 be adopted as a true record.

- 6.2 The Chair then signed the Minutes.

7. Matters Arising.

- 7.1 Cllr Rogers raised an issue he had with the minutes of the meeting of 4th June 2019 (agreed at the meeting of 2nd July 2019, in which Minute 9.2.1 stated:
"Cllr Anderson had provided a paper showing estimated CIL receipts from the two possible phases of the development of Rectory Farm, possible projects on which to spend it and an explanation. He stressed that the ideas were purely concepts for general discussion at this stage. Other ideas were discussed, including a play area in Rectory Farm and the path in the village garden. Cllr Rogers suggested that a small group might be set up to formulate this further. However, it was accepted that further consideration should form part of the budget process. Meanwhile, the Chair suggested, Members should be formulating their ideas in advance."

Cllr Rogers felt that this implied that he supported discussions about CIL money derived from building in the Green Belt, which, in fact, he was totally against.

- 7.1.1 The Clerk responded that Cllr Rogers did actually make the suggestion as stated, but he repeated his assertion that he was totally against the idea.
- 7.1.2 Cllr Anderson responded that he felt it was proper that the Council should discuss this in the possibility that developments in the Green Belt are forced upon the Parish in order to plan how best the village could benefit.



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- 7.1.3 After further exchanges, Cllr Anderson suggested that they should agree to disagree.
- 7.1.4 Cllr Button added that any future discussions on the allocation of CIL receipts should encompass the Parish and Neighbourhood Plans.

8. Reports.

- 8.1 Standing Committees.
 - 8.1.1 Planning & Licensing Committee.
 - 8.1.1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20th August and 3rd September 2019 were adopted as a true record.
- 8.2 Chair's Reports.
 - 8.2.1 No report.
- 8.3 Reports from Chairs of other Committees / Groups.
 - 8.3.1 Gardens' Competition – Presentation evening Friday 18th October.
 - 8.3.1.1 Cllr Angiolini reminded Members of the usual format and the need for help in setting up (from 6pm). He added that this years' charity was the Waterways Experience.
 - 8.3.2 Christmas Lights Event – Saturday 30th November.
 - 8.3.2.1 The Clerk reported that the usual stage would not be available because it needed repairs that the supplier was not able to do. Alternatives were being sought but will likely cost more.
- 8.4 Clerk's Report / Action List.
 - 8.4.1 No report.
- 8.5 Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning.
 - 8.5.1 The Clerk reported that he had purchased £60 worth of winter bedding plants for the High Street troughs, which the warden had emptied because they were well past their best. These would be removed and planted elsewhere when Sunnyside are ready to plant them up in accordance with the arrangements made with them earlier in the year.

9. Finance Matters

- 9.1 Schedule of Payments for September 2019.
 - 9.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the payment schedule for September 2019 for £12,937.12 respectively be approved, and that the Clerk be authorised to issue the appropriate payments.

- 9.1.1.2 The Chair then signed the schedules of payments.

- 9.2 Examination and signing of the Council's Bank Account Statements (as at 31st August 2019).

- 9.2.1 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 the above date were:

Current Account:	£5,000.00
Reserve Account:	£153,359.05
NS&I Investment Account:	£45,176.06



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- 9.3 External Audit for the year ended 31st March 2019.
- 9.3.1 The Clerk reported that the audit had identified a typographical (transposition) error in a brought forward figure in the financial statement.
- 9.3.2 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the external auditor's letter, report and certificate be accepted.

10. Dacorum Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council Matters.

- 10.1 Dacorum Borough Council.
 - 10.1.1 Cllr Johnson reported that recent debates had included the Clinical Commissioning Group, Universal Credit and the Luton Airport expansion proposals.
 - 10.1.2 Cllr Anderson reported that the Borough would be planting 1000 by the end of the next calendar year, but that this would not include Rectory Lane (for which there has been some pressure) because of the potential damage to drains and services.
 - 10.1.3 Item 14.2 (Car Parking in the Village) was brought forward as it was a Borough matter and the remaining members of the public present were interested in it.

Cllr Anderson introduced this item. In preparation for the Borough's review, he and Cllr Johnson had been surveying usage of the car parks and a summary of the results had been circulated. There were many issues involved in trying to get the best for the village including charging to try to reduce overstaying (including commuters) to try to increase footfall, but it was complicated. Further, it had very recently transpired that a covenant on The Nap car park, which prevented charging, still had another 10 years to run. This raised the question of whether it was feasible to introduce charging in the Langley Hill car park only and the many issues related to this.

Cllr Angiolini stated that he was against charging as it would put people off shopping in the village and would also hit those who worked here.

Cllr Hubberstey responded that he had surveyed every shop and that there was overwhelming opposition to charging, and that many cited the lack of enforcement as being the main problem.

Members were concerned that charging would damage business.

Cllr Morrish suggested that the Council should await the outcomes of the consultation on Transport and the High Street which it is intending to commission. In view of all of the above, it was proposed (Cllr McLean), seconded (Cllr Morrish) and AGREED that Kings Langley Parish Council's view is that there should be no change to parking charges in Kings Langley, and that Cllr Anderson should convey this to Dacorum Borough Council.

- 10.2 Hertfordshire County Council Matters (not requiring the presence of Cllr Roberts).
 - 10.2.1 None.

11. Members Items / Reports and Questions (not included elsewhere).

- 11.1 Parish / Neighbourhood Plan Reports.
 - 11.1.1 Neighbourhood Plan (Cllr Morrish)

Cllr Morrish agreed to produce a definition of timescales. He reported that a "One-Drive" documentation storage area was being created and that the consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation was still on-going.
 - 11.1.2 Parish Plan – Environment Group (Cllr Button)

Cllr Button reported that the group had some new members and that the current



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short-term activities were covering, recycling – leafletting and re-usable cups. Later there would be consideration of a re-appraisal of the possibility of a hydro-power scheme at Toovey’s Mill.

11.1.3 Parish Plan – Leisure Group (Cllr Hubberstey)

Cllr Hubberstey reported that our current website would not be able to support the initiative to manage contacts and community events in the way his group envisaged and that the list he had produced in excel was already out-of-date. He added that his visit to see “Tring Together” might produce some ideas to help progress this.

11.1.4 Parish Plan – Transport Group (Cllr McLean)

Cllr McLean had nothing to report at this stage, except an item in Part II.

11.2 Geographical Areas Reports

11.2.1 Abbots Rise area (Cllr Angiolini)

Cllr Angiolini was delighted to report that the potholes in Abbots Rise had at last been repaired.

11.2.2 The Common, Vicarage Lane / Langley Hill / Great Park (Cllr Button)

No issues

11.2.3 Hempstead Road areas (Cllr Collins)

Cllr Collins reported that flooding was still occurring outside Miller and Carter.

11.2.4 Blackwell Road area (Cllr De Silva)

No issues

11.2.5 London Road area (Cllr Hubberstey)

Cllr Hubberstey reported that **he did not know if** Cllr Roberts had ~~not~~ walked the area as he had promised, that the roots rupturing the pavement was a real concern, and that the hedge along “West Side” needed cutting back again. On the latter point, the Clerk was asked to contact the owners.

11.2.6 Watford Road and Coniston Road areas (Cllr Johnson)

Cllr Johnson reported Watford Road outside Wayside Farm had flooded in the recent rains, and into the front gardens opposite. There had been a presentation of the proposed development at the top of Coniston Road; he had not seen many objections. Cllr Rogers added that he had received emails expressing concerns that the land there was once used as a tip.

11.2.7 Rucklers area (Cllr Morrish)

Cllr Morrish was pleased to see the new bench that the Council had installed for the elderly using the bus service. Cllr McLean reported that there had been some recent spillages in the road.

11.2.8 High Street area (Cllr Rogers)

No issues

11.3 Village Garden (Cllr Johnson)

11.3.1 Cllr Hubberstey reported that organising volunteers to help in the garden was a bit of a challenge.

11.4 Litter picks

11.4.1 The next litter pick is scheduled for the 27th October, and would be the last this year.

11.5 Other items.

11.5.1 Human sundial.

Cllr Johnson reported that Cllr Roberts had agreed to contribute £600 towards the project and that the Carnival Committee would be granting £200.



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12. Kings Langley Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

12.1 Transition in Kings (TIK).

12.1.1 Nothing to report.

12.2 Parish Paths Partnership (PPP).

12.2.1 Nothing to report.

12.3 Kings Langley Community Association.

12.3.1 Cllr Rogers introduced Jenny Perman and Martin Noyes from the Association. There was some discussion regarding publicity for events and activities, which the Clerk stated he would not be putting on the Council's website, and suggested that the Association should make more use of its own and of Facebook. The Association had submitted a request for financial support for the installation of a defibrillator, which would be on the next Council agenda.

12.4 Others.

12.4.1 None.

13. High Street Surgeries.

13.1 The next surgery was scheduled for 19th October.

14. Other Matters.

14.1 Remembrance Services 2019

14.1.1 Remembrance Service – Sunday 10th November:

a) Remembrance Sunday arrangements / Timetable / Refreshments

It was noted that this service would now revert to its 3pm time.

It was RESOLVED that the Council would contribute up to £70 towards the cost of the refreshments.

b) To approve the cost of a wreath for this event and the RAF service in September and a donation to the Poppy Appeal

It was RESOLVED that the Council would make a total payment of £150 as a donation towards the Poppy Appeal and in payment for wreaths.

14.1.2 Remembrance Day Monday 11th November

It was noted that this would now revert to its normal arrangements. The Clerk added that Fr. McDonald would be attending.

14.2 Car Parking in the Village – Car Parks and Charging (Cllr Anderson)

14.2.1 This item had been dealt with in 10.1.3, above.

14.3 Emergency Tree Work – update

14.3.1 The Clerk reported that he had submitted a planning application for the works to the Tulip tree and, having reworked the costings after further on-site discussions with Bartlett's to agree the essential safety works, was now awaiting quotes.



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- 14.4 Dacorum Environmental Forum (papers previously circulated).
14.4.1 The Clerk had included this item to gauge whether Members felt that the Council should become more involved. It was agreed that it should be given further consideration and that the Clerk and Cllr Anderson would attend its next meeting.

- 14.5 Public toilets collaborative arts project
14.5.1 This was dealt with under 3.1, above.

15. Any Other Business.

- 15.1 Cllr Johnson reported that the Carnival Committee had given £6,200 to local charities etc.
15.2 Cllr Rogers questioned the continuation of the item for Charter Court solar panels. This was a budget topic.

16 Exclusion of the Public – the following resolution was passed:

That, in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Order 17(q), under schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended to schedule 12(A) by the Freedom of Information Act 2000, in the view of the special and/or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

PART 2

17. Procurement
17.1 The Council's recent attempts to procure consultancy for a study of transport and the High Street had presented some difficulties in progressing tendering arrangements in order to comply with its Financial Regulations. Cllr Anderson offered an alternative which would involve employing procurement consultants to assist in this. This would involve a fee of £850. After some debate,

It was proposed (Cllr Anderson), seconded (Cllr McLean) and RESOLVED that the Council engages eXeeding Limited to assist in its procurement of consultants for the abovementioned study.

18. Finance Briefing
18.1 In view of the lateness of the hour, this item was postponed until the next meeting
19. Budget 2020-21.
19.1 Initial considerations (Cllr Anderson).
19.1.1 This item was also postponed until the next meeting
19.2 Proposed bus shelter outside the Kings Langley Service Club.
19.2.1 Members were asked considered whether the Council should contribute towards the cost of this which might expedite its installation after several years delay. The Clerk was asked to find out what it would look like.

Meeting close at 21:42